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SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION PRODUCES TOP CROP

Winners of 2013 City of Ryde Spring Garden Competition were praised for their creativity, hard work and sustainable gardening practices at a Gala Event last night (Thursday 24 October) at Eden Gardens, North Ryde.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Roy Maggio, who presented the awards, said: "While the creators of the winning gardens and sites are singled out for special praise, all entrants can be proud of their efforts. Their dedication in creating these beautiful places is a gift that the whole community can enjoy."

This year's competition attracted a record fifty nine entries, showcasing an abundance of talented gardeners in our community.

The most hotly contested category with eight entries was in the Bushcare section, representing the work of around 138 volunteers. Five of the Bushcare groups are part of the Council's Bushcare Program and three work independently to Council.

Commenting on the high standard and presentation of the entries, garden judge Meredith Kirton said: "2013 was a tough year for gardeners with warm and dry conditions over the winter months. Despite the challenges, they proved that you can still create a beautiful space to work, play or live in that brings joy to others and up lifts the soul."

To see photos of the winning entries in the City of Ryde 2013 Spring Garden Competition go to www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/springgardencompetition

The City of Ryde thanks sponsor Eden Gardens North Ryde and Sam the Paving Man for their generous support of the 2013 Spring Garden Competition.

City of Ryde Spring Garden Competition 2013 Winners and Place getters

Most Beautiful Large Garden
Winner: Marina and Harry Haralambous
2nd Patricia Pelly
3rd James Foster
Highly Commended Vanessa Grinter

Most Beautiful Small Garden
Winner: Rae and Annalissa Roy
2nd Adrienne Hick
3rd Jan Aiello
Highly Commended Catherine Popescu

Most Beautiful Courtyard/Balcony

Winner: Judy Thomson

2nd Barbara Ford

3rd The late Shirley Lynch

Highly Commended Jane Corrigan

Best Edible Garden

Winner: Bernadette and John Douglas

2nd Julie Jardine

3rd Carmelo Raffaele

High Commended Bernard Russell and Jimmy Shaw

Best Children's Garden

Winner: Sarah Yep

2nd The Grandchildren of Barbara Ford

3rd Aaron Pease

Best School Garden

Winner: Kent Road Public School

2nd West Ryde Public School

3rd Truscott Street School

Special Mention for commitment and encouragement of children with special needs -

Deborah Cunneen Ryde Secondary College

Best Pre-School Garden

Winner: St George's Pre-School

2nd Goulding Hill Pre-School

3rd St John's Pre-School

Most Beautiful Commercial Garden

Winner: Calvary Retirement Ryde

2nd Living Choice Leisure Lea Gardens 3rd Northern Suburbs Memorial Gardens

Best Bushcare Site

Winner: Pryor Park Bushcare

2nd Meadowbank Park Bushcare

3rd (equal placing) Friends of Darvall Park/Friends of Lane Cove National Park Special Mention for long term commitment to Bushcare and willingness to share knowledge and enthusiasm – Werner Klarenaar Lambert Park/Brush Farm

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