

NEWS RELEASE **ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT** MAKING MEMORIES FOR A LIFETIME

From: Rockford Park District -

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Park District Announces Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition Results

The Vikings in Black team of Svenhard Skupien, Bjorn Skupien and Thorfinn Skupien won the 26th Annual Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition with their sculpture of "Pocahontas".

The winning team was honored at the competition's awards ceremony on Saturday, January 28 at Sinnissippi Park in Rockford, Illinois. Eight state teams, 15 high school teams and one exhibition team (last year's winning team) participated in the January 25 - 28, 2012 event.

Other Awards Included:

- Second Place - Mayor's Award (tie): "7, 8, 9...", Sculpted by The Band of Misfit Boys team comprised of Scott Triplett, Dan Berry and Keith Pliml.
- Third Place - Rockford Park District Award (tie): "Bridge Over Trolled Waters", Sculpted by The Slacktastic 4 team, comprised of Andy Skupien, Nathaniel Branch and Sable Matula.
- People's Choice Award: "Pocahontas", Sculpted by Vikings in Black team, Sven, Bjorn, and Thorfinn Skupien
- Committee's Choice Award - Patricia "Pat" Hayes Parks Award: "Elusive" Sculpted by Tat2 Crue team, comprised of Nikki Schultz, Tiffani McCann and Andrew Wirth.

High School Division Awards:

- 1st Place – "There's No Pizza Like Snow Pizza" sculpted by Rockford East High School, comprised of Luzanna Kowalczyk, Aurora Macek, Gavin Barlow and Shanton Staten. Advisor: John DeRango.
- 2nd Place – "Elephantine Love" sculpted by Keith Country Day School, comprised of Jeannie Maeng, Angela Martinez, Philip Pernacciaro and Ke Tang. Advisor: Lori Walsh.
- 3rd Place – "1987 – 2011" sculpted by Pecatonica High School, comprised of Daniel Byl, Seala Hite, Anne Johns and Eric Morgensen. Advisor: Eric Donaldson.
- Linda K. White Spirit Award – "1987 – 2011" sculpted by Pecatonica High School, comprised of Daniel Byl, Seala Hite, Anne Johns and Eric Morgensen. Advisor: Eric Donaldson.



ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT

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- Committee's Choice Award – “Well That's Sno' Good” sculpted by Belvidere North High School, comprised of Allyce Angel, Spencer Gedwill, Ryan Helgerson and Noelle Nespor. Advisor: Edith Obenchain.
- Artists' Choice Award – “There's No Pizza Like Snow Pizza” sculpted by Rockford East High School, comprised of Luzanna Kowalczyk, Aurora Macek, Gavin Barlow and Shanton Staten. Advisor: John DeRango.
- People's Choice Award - “Elephantine Love” sculpted by Keith Country Day School, comprised of Jeannie Maeng, Angela Martinez, Philip Pernacciaro and Ke Tang. Advisor: Lori Walsh

The three-member state teams work 3½ days on a five-ton 6' x 6' x 10' block of snow to create frozen works of art; the four-member high school teams work 2 ½ days on a 4' x 4' x 6' block of snow. Sculptors can not use power tools or props (other than the snow) to hold up the pieces, nor may colorants be added.

The Illinois Snow Sculpting competition is hosted by the Rockford Park District. Sponsors of this year's event include ABC Catering, Chicago Rockford International Airport (RFD), Deli Italia, Holiday Inn Express, MashUp Restaurant, Rasmussen College, R.A. Seaton Contractor Services, Rock River Water Reclamation District, S&S Cartage, Scandrol Construction, Stockholm Inn, WIFR-TV Channel 23, William Charles Construction and Winnebago County Highway Department.

For more information about this event, visit www.snowsculpting.org, or call the Rockford Park District at 815-987-8800.

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