



September 19, 2022

Open Air Farmers Market + At The Dole Mansion
401 Country Club Road
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Dear Open Air Farmers Market + At The Dole Mansion,

On behalf of American Farmland Trust and the Farmers Market Coalition, it is our pleasure to inform you that Open Air Farmers Market + At The Dole Mansion has placed 1st in Illinois in the **2022 America's Farmers Market Celebration**. Congratulations! We hope this recognition will help your market continue to thrive for many years to come. Please keep this letter as official documentation of your final standing.

Since 2008, the America's Farmers Market Celebration (AFMC) has highlighted the important role farmers markets play in communities across the nation while celebrating the vendors, staff, and volunteers that make markets happen week in and week out. In 2022, more than 125,000 votes were cast in the AFMC and supporters visited markets.farmland.org more than 1.25 million times from June 20 – Sept. 19, 2022. Through it all, your market came out on top as one of America's favorite farmers markets.

We invite you to publicize this achievement by contacting local media, reaching out to your partners and supporters via email and social media, and displaying the custom America's Farmers Market Celebration winner's badge included with this letter on your website and promotional materials. If you'd like assistance with media outreach, please let us know and we'd be pleased to help.

Most importantly, we'd like to express our sincere gratitude for the hard work everyone associated with Open Air Farmers Market + At The Dole Mansion puts in to ensure your community has access to fresh, nutritious food produced by local farmers and artisans. It's important work that we know is not always recognized. We are continually inspired by the impact and ingenuity of farmers markets like yours. Keep up the great work!

Sincerely,

Greg Plotkin
Director of Digital Communications
American Farmland Trust

Hannah Fuller
Communications Manager
Farmers Market Coalition