



## What Would They Say? Tell Us! You Could Win \$500.00!

1. To enter the competition you must register online at [www.greattowns.org/ITWCT/register](http://www.greattowns.org/ITWCT/register) by **Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020**.
2. You must register for Great Towns, Inc. to be able to communicate with you over the next few weeks when you are doing research and conducting interviews to include in your essay. **The deadline for the essay to be turned is Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. You may submit your completed essay by email, or it can be snail mailed. It must be post-marked or time-marked by MIDNIGHT. Sorry, no exceptions.
3. To begin your essay first **choose ONE of the three historic buildings** to be your subject.
4. The buildings are as follows:
  - a. ① The Stanley Brothers Building at 301 S. Main St.
  - b. ② Farmers National Bank Building, aka Keever's Sheridan Hardware at 500 S. Main St.
  - c. ③ Issachar Church building, 501 S. Main St.
5. Your essay should be between 1,500 and 2,000 words long. Use a 12-point standard font and double-space your text.
6. Please cite **ALL YOUR SOURCES** whether internal or external (i.e. interviews and research) using MLA style.
7. You need not tell the entire history of the building, but include some interesting facts and include these topics:
  - a. When was the building built and what is the style of architecture?
  - b. What was the building used for originally and at various points in time? (Be specific in your reporting. Did anything of historical significance happen here?)
  - c. Name THREE recognizable architectural features of your building using newly learned terms to identify them. (For example: gable windows, portico, Eastlake carved doors, etc. For books that can help you identify special features ask your librarian to see the books and pamphlets provided by Great Towns, Inc. and Indiana Landmarks.
8. You may learn more about the building by going to the **Assessor's Office at the Hamilton County Courthouse in Noblesville**, by interviewing older townspeople or relatives who can share facts and/or anecdotal stories about the building and people who worked or lived there, and by searching through old newspapers, yearbooks, photo albums, scrap book, etc. Every building has many stories to tell—so try to **play detective** and uncover as many as you can!

9. After you have a grasp on the history of the building start thinking about *tomorrow—in other words—the FUTURE*. Your essay must also include your ideas for preservation. For example, if the building has been overly modernized, would different windows make the building look more like it did when it was new? Do you have recommendation for paint, awnings, signage that may be more in keeping with the character of the architecture? Your essay must include:
  - a. Your recommendations for historic preservation of the building.
  - b. Aside from the business or entity that may be housed there now, what OTHER use or kind of business could be there?
  - c. What kind of businesses would you like to see in Sheridan?
10. Use your imagination and be as descriptive as possible. **There are no limits!**
11. As you write your essay *THINK VISUALLY!* Collect images, if you can, or take some photos because if your essay is selected as a Finalist, you will choose a “Video Partner” to help you turn your ideas and essay into a video that will be seen by the WHOLE TOWN! You could be famous!
12. A team of judges will select up to four Finalists for the essay competition. Each will receive their choice of a new Smartphone or significant cash prize. The Finalists will be announced at a public event where each will read his or her essay. The next step (over the following three months) will be for the Finalists to choose their partner (from school) and to write and produce their video.
13. A team from Great Towns, Inc. will provide guidance to help you make the best videos possible!
14. The videos will be shown at various sites in Sheridan and the public will be invited to vote for their favorite ideas. Who knows? Someday your vision may become reality!
15. The “People’s Choice” winning team and their two adult chaperones will receive two complementary nights at a famous historic Victorian Bed & Breakfast, **The Nestle Inn, in the heart of thriving Massachusetts Avenue historic district in downtown Indianapolis**. They will also receive a custom-designed historic neighborhoods tour provided by Indiana Landmarks and each will receive a **\$500.00 Scholarship to the higher education institution of his/her choice!**

**Good Luck**

**We can't wait to hear how these historic buildings  
speak to you !**



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