



City of Park Ridge's Historic Preservation  
Commission  
announces its first  
"Saving Places that Matter to You"  
poster contest

Did you know that the Pickwick Theatre was recently designated Park Ridge's first official local landmark? We are proud of its history – and that of many places in our city. May is Preservation Month and in that spirit we're pleased to invite your third grade students to enter our first-ever "Saving Places that Matter to You" poster contest.

The fact is, our places play a huge role in telling our community's story. So we'd like students to share, in poster form, how they feel about our local places – a house that's been part of a family for generations, a school that children have attended for decades, a church, a favorite shop uptown or the Pickwick, for example.

Please read and follow all the contest rules carefully so that all posters/drawings will be eligible.

- Winning entries, which will be announced in June, will be displayed in prominent locations in Park Ridge throughout the month.
- Winners and their families will be invited to attend an awards ceremony at the Historic Preservation Commission's meeting on Wednesday, June 1, at City Hall. Details will be forthcoming.

### Poster contest rules

- Entry is open to all third grade students in the community.
- The poster drawing must relate to the theme "Saving Places that Matter to You" and should include a building in the city that you feel is important.
- **The finished poster must be no larger than 11" x 14."** Designs should be submitted on quality poster illustration board or heavy paper. Crayons, markers or color pencils only should be used. Those larger than 11" x 14" will be disqualified.
- Only one entry per child will be allowed. Parents/sponsors are limited to verbal assistance only. All drawings must be an individual effort and be free-hand originals. No traced pictures please.
- Each poster must have the contestant's name, school, address, telephone number, and family e-mail address clearly printed on the entry form and attached to the back of the poster to be eligible. Also, please include the name of the student's school and his/her hobbies and interests.
- All entries **MUST** be postmarked by **XXXX**. All entries become the property of the City of Park Ridge once submitted.
- Criteria for judging include creativity and how well the poster expresses the contest theme "Saving Places that Matter to You."

**For more details and for entry forms, go to [www.parkridge.us](http://www.parkridge.us).  
If you have any questions please contact XXXXX.**

## **Please note**

The winning poster(s) may be offered for public display or publication at some time during or after the contest. This poster becomes the property of the City of Park Ridge and may be reproduced.

The only information that will be released is your child's name, school and grade.

## **Historic preservation resources**

[preservationnation.org/resources/teaching-preservation/](http://preservationnation.org/resources/teaching-preservation/)  
[architeacher.org/teachers/teachers-lessons2a.html](http://architeacher.org/teachers/teachers-lessons2a.html)  
[teachinghistory.org/teaching-materials/teaching-guides/24264](http://teachinghistory.org/teaching-materials/teaching-guides/24264)

### **Why teach preservation?**

The places in our community link us with our past and help us understand who we are. It's not just that history happened – it's that it happened here. And the difference between simply reading about history and actually visiting a place where history happened is immense.

#### **What makes a place worthy of preservation?**

Older buildings embody our history, and that's one reason why it's important to save them. But that isn't the only reason.

Many older buildings are important – and worth preserving – simply because they're good to look at. They are “a gift to the street” whose style, textures, materials, and charm (and maybe even eccentricity) enrich and enliven their surroundings. These buildings are worth saving because our communities would be less interesting, less attractive and less distinctive without them.

Other buildings are worth saving because they have plenty of good use left in them. Innovative examples of “adaptive use” can be found everywhere. Factories have been turned into convention centers, train stations reborn as restaurants, mills converted into shopping centers, office buildings transformed into apartments and on and on. This process is good for the environment – the ultimate form of recycling.

*Source: “Why Teach Preservation?” By Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The entire article originally appeared in the History Channel's “Save Our History Educator's Manual.”*