

Le Mars Youth on Main Street Program

Youth on Main Street is offered to students at Le Mars Community and Gehlen Catholic Schools during their Junior year. It is sponsored by the Le Mars Chamber of Commerce Main Street program and the City of Le Mars Historic Preservation Commission. The mission of Youth on Main Street is to educate, inform and empower the students about the history of Le Mars with special focus on the downtown business community.



2014-2015



2015-2016



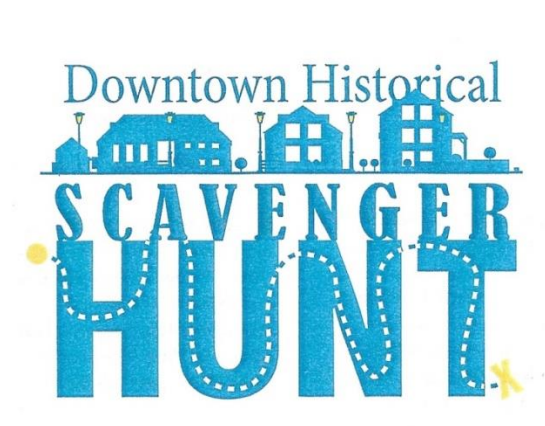
2016-2017

Becky Klohs, Malayna Hanks, Kaitlyn, Norfolk, Chloe Evans, Summer LaPato, Rich Zietlow

The curriculum includes architectural walking tours, Public Art walking tours, second floor housing tours, research, speakers (history buffs, business people, research people), and each year's group is expected

to complete one tangible project in the downtown that will enhance the community. Some of the completed projects include:

Ice Cream Days® Scavenger Hunt



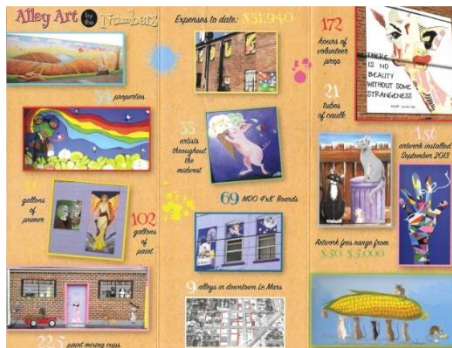
Cross the Plymouth Street and continue until you see a painting of a pig eating ice cream. Look at the building on your left.

8 At the time of construction this building cost around \$55,000. Many local newspapers called this an elegant structure. This building was a site of entertainment for the people of Le Mars. The first floor contained the post office and a dry goods store. The second floor was an auditorium, and the third was leased to the Masonic fraternity for lodging purposes.

9 How many pillars are holding up the awning of the present day building? _____

Continue on Plymouth Street and cross Central Avenue until you find a blue ice cream cone with children holding hands. Stop in front of this building.

Alley Art Walking Tour Brochure



Olson Center Banners



The Youth on Main Street program is unique in Iowa and has been featured at conferences hosted at the state level by the Main Street Iowa program and the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office.

Some comments from students who have completed the program include:

- “There really is a lot more interesting history to Le Mars than just the way we got our name.”
- “Be proud of our history...share it with others.”
- “Really appreciate our home town.”
- “Youth on Main Street has changed the way we see the world and value our heritage.”

The program is led by Becky Klohs and Rich Zietlow.