

DICKENS DIARY

Official Newsletter of the Riverside Dickens Festival ♦ Volume 20 - Issue 2

2018
Festival
Feb. 24 - 25

Silver Jubilee ♦ 25 Years of Wit & Wisdom

ju - bi - lee, a special anniversary of an event, especially one celebrating twenty-five or fifty years of a reign or activity.

In 1992, Joan Patton, Carolyn Grant and The Friends of the Library board conceived the idea of a three-day festival. After a year and a half and hundreds of hours later, the Riverside Dickens Festival was born on a hot Saturday afternoon in September 1993 on the downtown library lawn. And, in 1994, Riverside Dickens Festival, Inc. was established as a nonprofit organization.



Joan Patton & Carolyn Grant



Douglas Broyles - early Dickens

Why Dickens? Charles Dickens was the most influential and famous writer of the 19th century. He made a difference in changing society and making a better world in which to live. The festival would highlight the library and encourage reading, promote literacy and enjoyment of the dramatic and cultural arts by the general public.

Over the years, through the dedicated work of hundreds of volunteers and the generous financial contributions of individuals, businesses, the city and county the festival has grown to a Friday night kick-off at Mr. Pickwick's Pub Night, 2 full days of activities on Saturday and Sunday with Mr. Fezziwig's Ball on Saturday night and ending on Sunday evening with the Evensong musical program.

In addition, events are carried out throughout the year including performances by Mr. Dickens and Mr. Poe, and essay and drama activities in local middle and high schools; participation in the annual Festival of Lights and the bi-annual Long Night of Arts and Innovation; Tales from the Victorian Crypt; and, of course, visits from our friend and gifted performer Gerald Charles Dickens, great-great-grandson of the esteemed author himself.

So as the 2018 Riverside Dickens Festival approaches, plan to join in the celebration, our Silver Jubilee, a special anniversary indeed marking 25 years of Dickens' wit and wisdom.

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February 24 & 25, 2018
Historic Downtown Riverside on the Pedestrian Mall
between University Avenue and Eleventh Street

**Riverside Dickens Festival
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2017 - 2018**

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Dickens Diary is published three times a year by the Riverside Dickens Festival, Inc., at the address below. Editorial submissions and queries may be sent there. We reserve the right to edit submissions.

Reporter - Kathy Wright
Editor - Marsha Loveridge

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P. O. Box 113
Riverside, CA 92502-0113
info@dickensfest.com

For more information on the Festival
visit our website today!
www.dickensfest.com
This is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit
organization, EIN:33-0617090

*President's Message
by Doug Grant*

I am very excited about the 25th festival to be held on February 24-25, 2018 in Historic Downtown Riverside. We are active all year long with the two-day festival as our grand finale.

Nikola Tesla and Thomas Edison, 19th century inventors that affected how we live today, along with many other of your favorite authors will be with us to celebrate our 25 years. The fashion shows, costume parade, informative lectures, a book discussion and much more await you.

Returning this fall is a favorite event: **Tales from the Victorian Crypt IV** on October 13 and 14 at the Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery. Get your tickets early as this event always sells out.

On November 13 and 14 Gerald Dickens, the great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens returns for the 9th time during which time he will perform *A Christmas Carol* and *Doctor Marigold*. Gerald will also perform *A Christmas Carol* at Poly High School courtesy of Altura Credit Union.

In the coming months, through the generosity of the Downtown Business Council of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and individual sponsors **Meet Mr. Dickens** and **Meet Mr. Poe** performances will take place at local middle schools. And, in addition Meet and Greets at Barnes & Noble and dance lessons for Mr. Fezziwig's Ball at the Goeske Center will take place.

You'll see us strolling in costume during the Festival of Lights throughout December. Who does not like Dickens characters dressed up in their Sunday best top hats and hoop skirts?

As you can see there is something for everyone! I hope to see you all at this fall's events and at the 25th Festival.



Sponsors



Meet and Greets

Join us at Barnes & Noble Booksellers at the Galleria at Tyler in Riverside from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. the first Saturday in October, November, December, January and February.

Visit with representatives of the Riverside Dickens Festival, dressed in Victorian attire and learn more about the festival's activities. Come join us!

October 7, 2017

November 4, 2017

December 2, 2017

(Support our Bookfair this weekend, too!

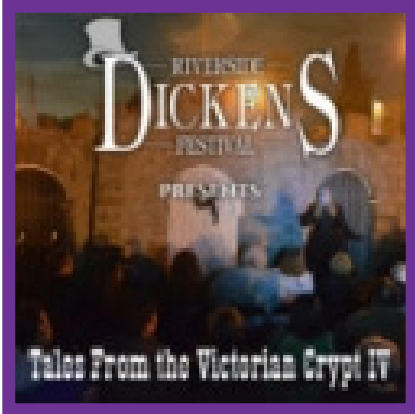
See coupon on page 10.)

January 6, 2018

February 4, 2018

Tales from the Victorian Crypt IV

Two Nights by Popular Demand



The Old West will come back to life—more or less—
during the fourth annual

Tales from the Victorian Crypt event.

Clear the streets for the sunset showdown when Code of the West re-enacts haunted history with a spectral shoot-out. Hear untold tales from the days of saddles and six-shooters when restless spirits tell their unsettling stories: a cache of cursed gold; a hanged man bent on revenge; a murdered saloon girl demanding justice from beyond the grave; and, even a colonel in gray dabbling in black magic.

Authors Ambrose Bierce and Edgar Allan Poe will be there to make sure that you don't get much sleep that night.

The Old West is still with us and there's lots of unfinished business. They don't call them "ghost towns" for nothing.

October 13 & 14, 2017 • \$25.00

6:00 p.m. Vault Opens • 7:00 p.m. Show Begins

Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery

14th and Pine Streets • Riverside

Tickets available at www.dickensfest.com

**This event will sell out quickly so order your tickets
NOW!**

THEY DON'T CALL THEM GHOST TOWNS FOR NOTHING!



Nine Times to Riverside

Gerald Dickens returns to perform his one-man shows

Riverside is an early stop for Gerald Charles Dickens on his 2017 U.S. tour. A great-great-grandson of the literary master, Charles Dickens, Mr. Dickens will perform for the public and for local high school students on November 13 and November 14, 2017.

Inspired by the life and works of his great-great-grandfather, Gerald Dickens began performing his one-man shows with a theatrical performance of *A Christmas Carol* in 1993. Since then he has written and performed *Mr. Dickens is Coming!*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Sketches by Boz*, *Sikes and Nancy*, *Top Hole!* and *Doctor Marigold*.

He regularly performs in major theatres and arts centers as well as in hotels, stately homes, libraries, festivals, schools and colleges both in the United Kingdom and the United States. 2017 marks the ninth time Mr. Dickens has appeared in Riverside.

This year, Mr. Dickens will perform the much beloved and universally known favorite, no matter the time of year, *A Christmas Carol* on Monday, November 13 at First Christian Church and at Poly High School in the morning on Tuesday, November 14. On Tuesday evening he will perform *Doctor Marigold*, a perhaps lesser known but moving tale also at First Christian Church. To purchase tickets for the evening performances, use the order form in this issue of the *Dickens Diary*, visit www.dickensfest.com or call (951) 781-3168.

Special thanks to Altura Credit Union for its very generous sponsorship of the high school performance. Opportunities for additional sponsorships are available. Please contact Becky Foreman at Beckyjforeman@gmail.com.

[Mr. Dickens' performances are produced by Byers' Choice LTD, makers of the nationally-known Carolers and Kindles figurines, located in Chalfont, PA. For more information on Mr. Dickens' 2017 tour calendar, visit www.byerschoice.com.]



Copyright Ian Dickens

Our volunteers are Indispensable!

As an all-volunteer nonprofit organization we need your help. If you have an interest, lots of energy, a talent or skill and some time to give, we need you.

If you want to help with the planning committees and/or with the various activities during the festival, please contact us NOW!

Contact us on our website at www.dickensfest.com or call and leave a message at (951) 781-3168.

Don't miss these two heartwarming Dickens tales performed by Gerald Charles Dickens

A Christmas Carol—Dickens' beloved and heartwarming story of redemption has defined how Christmas is celebrated around the world for over 100 years. In Gerald's adaptation of this classic tale he plays over 30 characters using his vocal and physical talents to bring each scene vividly to life. Gerald's performance of ***A Christmas Carol*** has received standing ovations the world over.

Monday, November 13, 2017 • 7:00 p.m.

First Christian Church

4055 Jurupa Avenue • Riverside, CA 92506

\$40.00 per person

\$25.00 for students with ID and children under 12

Includes performance followed by refreshments and book signing.

Doctor Marigold—In 1865 Dickens wrote ***Doctor Marigold's Prescriptions***, a short story, which turned out to be one of his most popular Christmas time readings. The doctor is a market Cheap Jack (itinerant hawker of cheap goods), named in honor of a doctor who assisted at his birth. On the surface he is a trader with a rapid sales-patter, but underneath there lies a story both moving and heartbreaking. Gerald's performance of ***Doctor Marigold*** is a first for Riverside's audience.

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 • 7:00 p.m.

First Christian Church

4055 Jurupa Ave. • Riverside, CA 92506

\$40.00 per person

\$25.00 for students with ID and children under 12

Includes performance followed by refreshments and book signing.

SPECIAL RATES—ATTEND BOTH NIGHTS AND SAVE \$10.00

Both performances at \$70.00

Students with ID and children under 12 at \$40

Ticket order form on the last page

PLEASE NOTE: [Mr. Dickens will be available to sign books and gifts following the performances. While all photographs, audio and video recordings are prohibited during the performances, photos are permitted and encouraged at the signings.]

2018 Festival Preview

Planning is underway by various committees to ensure that the 2018 festival is full of activities that are both entertaining and educational. Here are a few you can count on as they have been booked as of this printing.

Lectures by Prof. Michael Cohen from UCLA; Miranda Butler, graduate student at UC Riverside; and, Richard Foss, Victorian food and drink expert.

Educational Environments including No Idle Hands, East India Social Society; Rogue Privateers, Nostrabobos, the Great Graphologist; Professor Gallivan, Phrenologist; Orange Empire Railway Museum; California Writers Club; and, Kenn Kimberling, Blacksmith.

Performances by Bob's Yer Uncle, Merry Wives of Windsor, Brassworks and Code of the West.

Authors include Charles Dickens, H.G. Wells, Mark Twain; and Edgar Allan Poe.

Special Guests include Queen Victoria and the Royal Family; Mr. Pickwick; and Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig.

London Marketplace vendors include Off Kilter Kilts; the Welsh Baker; and Kansas Mercantile.

Play *Great Expectations: Before the Ball*

Fashion Shows are titled "Family Fortunes" and "Travelers' Checks"

And more:

Oliver's Alley; Costume Parade; Hyde Park Corner; Ye Olde Book Shoppe; Evensong, Royal Victorian Tea Room & Music Hall



Great Expectations is the featured book for 2018

Great Expectations, Dickens' 13th novel was written in serial form between December 1860 and 1861 appearing weekly in Dickens' Weekly Journal. Containing autobiographical elements, *Great Expectations* is called his "darkest work" by some and was well received by Victorian readers. Today, it is still one of his most popular novels and is considered to be the masterpiece of his work by some.

For additional information about *Great Expectations* visit David Perdue's *Charles Dickens Page* and the *GRAD Newsletter* on the festival website at www.dickensfest.com.

Check www.dickensfest.com in December for announcements about our book discussion, which will be held in the weeks just before the festival.



The Royal Victorian Tea Room & Music Hall



Mr. Treacle Returns to the Royal Victorian Tea Room & Music Hall

The Royal Victorian Tea Room & Music Hall will be the venue for Mr. Treacle and his colorful cast of characters. "A Dickens of a Time: Una Famiglia Drammatica," created by Christopher Marsh (AKA Mr. Treacle) is sure to please guests while they are enjoying a delicious afternoon repast of homemade delicacies.

Make your reservations early.
First Congregational Church
2054 Mission Inn Ave., corner of Lemon St.
(Just a short walk from the main festival location)

Saturday, February 24, 2018: 11:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 25, 2018: 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

\$25.00 per person

Reservations available December 1 at www.dickensfest.com



Get Ready for Mr. Fezziwig's Ball



Join in the fun at our monthly dance classes!

First and Third Sundays each month

2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Goeske Center • 5257 Sierra Street
(near Streeter Avenue behind Sears)

Riverside, CA 92504

\$5.00 per class (cash only please)

Learn the Quadrille, Polka, Waltz, Schottische and more
along with dance etiquette for ladies and gentlemen.

Riverside Dickens Festival Scholarship

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT ATTENDING
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

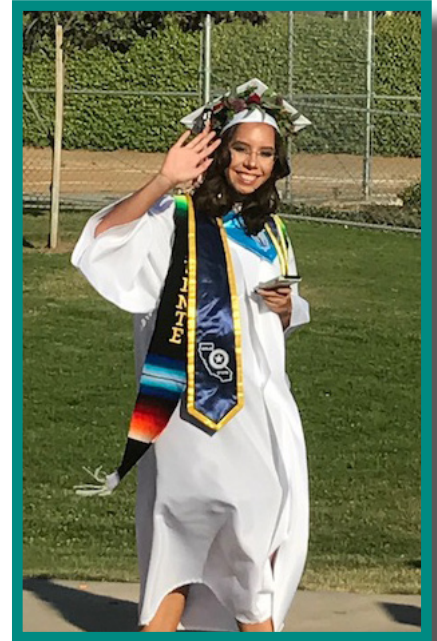
Marina Rose Kaye, a 2017 graduate of Riverside Polytechnic High is the recipient of the Riverside Dickens Festival Scholarship. Marina will receive \$500 toward her first year of expenses at California State University at Northridge.

Marina is a pre-film major and plans to graduate in less than four years to collaborate on film projects in Los Angeles. In a recent letter to the Board of Directors, Marina wrote, "My goal is to promote and encourage diversity in the industry. Thanks to you, I am one step closer to that goal!"

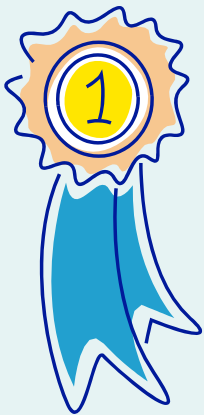
Further, Marina wrote, "Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me."

Riverside Dickens Festival is pleased to support Marina in this small way to attain her educational goals. Perhaps one day, she will answer the call to volunteer at the festival!

Congratulations, Marina!



Calling all Middle and High School Students and Teachers!



You can participate in the 2018 essay contests!
\$100, \$50 and \$25 prizes will be awarded to
first, second and third place winners!

Essay contest rules for middle and high school students and teachers in public and private school in Riverside and San Bernardino counties are now available on the festival website.

Middle school students will respond to prompts regarding *A Christmas Carol* and high school students will respond to prompts regarding *Great Expectations*.

Go to www.dickensfest.com. Click on Educational Outreach.

Three simple ways to support the Riverside Dickens Festival

Sign up for one or all of these programs and a donation will be made to the festival.

Provident Bank's Community Partnership Program:

Over the years, Provident Bank has awarded more than \$12,000 to the festival! Anyone who banks with Provident Bank may designate Riverside Dickens Festival as their preferred organization to receive a donation from the partnership program. Annual donations are from Provident Bank, NOT your account funds. Call (951) 782-6177 or go to www.myprovident.com to sign up today. It's SIMPLE!



Ralphs Community Program: Do you have a Ralphs Rewards card? To enroll in this generous program go to the Community Contribution page at www.ralphs.com

and click on "enroll". Follow the prompts to register your card with Riverside Dickens Festival using NPO number **93799**. Every trip to Ralphs will help the festival. It's SIMPLE!

Amazon Smile: Every time you make an online Amazon purchase you can help the festival. Go to <http://smile.amazon.com>, select Riverside Dickens Festival to support. When looking at an item to purchase you will see "Eligible for Amazon Smile". Log on to Amazon.Smile whenever you go to the website. It's SIMPLE!



Travis Wilson as Mr. Poe

The very talented Travis Rhett Wilson will appear as Mr. Poe during Riverside's **Long Night of Arts and Innovation on October 12 in Historic Downtown Riverside.**

The performance titled "**Dream within a Dream: the Spectre of Edgar Allan Poe**" is sure to engage the audience as Mr. Wilson is a very credible and persuasive actor.

The event is free to the public. Don't miss it.

Long Night of Arts and Innovation

Thursday, October 12, 2017

5:00 p.m. to Midnight

2018 Hotel Rates

RESERVE EARLY!

A limited number of hotel rooms are available to festival goers at special rates subject to change, plus local and state tax. Parking fees may apply. Reservations must be made by the dates indicated for each hotel.

Guests should contact the hotel directly as indicated, identifying themselves with the Dickens Festival Group.

Marriott Riverside at the Convention Center
3400 Market Street • Riverside, CA 922501
(951) 784-800

\$120.00 USD per night

Applicable dates: 2/23/18 to 2/25/18

Last day to book: 2/2/18

On-line reservations click on [BOOK YOUR GROUP RATE FOR RIVERSIDE DICKENS FESTIVAL](#)

Hyatt Place
3500 Market Street • Riverside, Ca 92501
(951) 321-3504

1-888-Hyatt-HP,

mention Group Code:G-DKNS

Or online at

http://riversidedowntown.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-DKNS

\$139.00 USD per night

Applicable dates: 2/23/18 to 2/25/18

Last day to book: 2/9/18

Bookfair Supports Dickens Festival

Please support our annual Bookfair Fundraiser by shopping at any Barnes & Noble (even online) on December 2nd and 3rd.

The Riverside Dickens Festival will get a percentage of what you spend!

Here is how it works:

Simply make a purchase at any Barnes & Noble locally, nationally or online using this Bookfair code: **12206595**.

Make sure that the cashier knows you are supporting the Dickens bookfair. Shop for books, CDs, DVDs, calendars, educational toys and games and gifts for the holiday season while benefitting the Riverside Dickens Festival! It is that simple!

This year, December 2nd is also Educator Appreciation Day. Any educators of pre-K through 12th grade will get a 25% discount and their purchase will still count towards the bookfair!

Questions?

Call (951) 358-0899

Barnes & Noble

3485 Tyler Street

Riverside, CA 92503



**Supporting
Riverside Dickens Festival
Saturday, December 2, 2017
Sunday, December 3, 2017
Barnes & Noble
3485 Tyler Street
Riverside, California
Code #12206595**

**Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase.
A percentage of the new sale will be contributed to your
school/organization. Please use code # for online purchases.**

The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, magazine subscriptions, video games, purchases made at cafes owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion may not be eligible for Bookfair sales. Institutional discounts may not be applied.

See BN.COM/bookfairs for more details and to shop online.



The Riverside Dickens Festival is made possible through grants, sponsorships and donations.

Your contribution is very much needed, appreciated and tax deductible.

The Riverside Dickens Festival is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, EIN: 33-0617090.

Please mail your contributions to: Riverside Dickens Festival, Inc. • P. O. Box 113 • Riverside, CA 92502-0113

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐

Card number: _____ Expires: _____ CVV: _____

*We Need Your
Contribution*

Thank you to the following supporters of our 2018 Festival.

If your name isn't here, you can support the 2018 Riverside Dickens Festival
by mailing a tax deductible check to

P.O. Box 113, Riverside, CA 92502-0113. (See form on page 10)

The Riverside Dickens Festival, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3)
non-profit organization, EIN:33-0617090.

City of Riverside • Riverside Arts Council - InlandArts.com
Riverside County Supervisors • Provident Bank

Altura Credit Union - Amazon Smile - Sally & Chuck Beaty - Cindy & Daniel Bendshadler
Virginia Blumenthal - Geraldine Bowden - Selina & Phil Bremenstuhel - Steve Campbell
Amy & Richard Cardullo - JoAnn & Don Coble - Marie-Jo & Michel Coclet
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Mary Schaefer - Susan & Rich Simonin - Roberta & Bruce Spieler - Scott Taber
Taylor's Appliance - Sally Thompson - Christiane Verdonck
Jan & Al Wainscot - Donna & Dick Wing

Dickens Goes Electronic!



In addition to visiting us on our website, <https://www.dickensfest.com> please Like us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Riverside-Dickens-Festival/274454625903022> or Follow us on Twitter, <https://twitter.com/DickensFest>.

To help save trees and due to the high cost of printing and continuously rising postage rates, the *Dickens Diary* will be sent via e-mail and published in a downloadable format online at the Festival website, www.dickensfest.com.

Readers whose e-mail addresses are already on file and those who are sent to us subsequent to this announcement will receive their *Dickens Diary* online only. If your e-mail address has changed or you want to join our e-mail list for the first time, go to www.dickensfest.com and join at the bottom of the home page.

Alternately, those who wish to continue receiving a hard copy of the *Dickens Diary* in the U.S. Mail can do so by sending a check for \$6.00 payable to the Riverside Dickens Festival, along with your name and address to:

Riverside Dickens Festival • P. O. Box 113 • Riverside, CA 92502-0113

Gerald Dickens Order Form



Please see page 4 and 5 for more information

The Riverside Dickens Festival Proudly Presents Gerald Dickens • November 13 and 14, 2017

Ticket includes refreshments and book signing following each performance. While all photographs, audio and video recordings are prohibited during Mr. Dickens' performance, photos are permitted and encouraged at the signings.

Mr. Dickens' performance is produced by Byers' Choice LTD, makers of the nationally-known Carolers and Kindles figurines, located in Chalfont, PA. For more information on Mr. Dickens' 2017 tour calendar, visit www.byerschoice.com.

Free parking is available.

Please join us at one or both of these very special performances.

To purchase tickets, visit www.dickensfest.com or Provide your information on the form below and mail your check or credit card information to: Riverside Dickens Festival, PO Box 113, Riverside, CA 92502-0113

November 13 Performance: Adult Tickets (\$40) _____ Student Tickets (\$25) _____ Total \$ _____

November 14 Performance: Adult Tickets (\$40) _____ Student Tickets (\$25) _____ Total \$ _____

Both Performances: Adult Tickets (\$70) _____ Student Tickets (\$40) _____ Total \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Name: _____

Address (Street, City, ZIP) _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address _____

Check enclosed _____ Credit Card (circle one) VISA MC Discover

Card No. _____ CVV _____ Expiration Date _____

www.dickensfest.com www.byerschoice.com