



## Media Release

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## Explore the world of Dickens with a walk on Brock St. this December

Kingston Frontenac Public Library invites you to have the best of times during the What the Dickens Walk on Brock Contest!

Why Dickens? In May 1842, near the end of his North American tour, Dickens and his wife Catherine stayed at Daley's Hotel at King and Clarence Streets for three days. While in Kingston, Dickens visited Fort Henry, Kingston Mills and the Rideau Canal, and Kingston Penitentiary.

"Kingston, now the seat of government in Canada, is a very poor town rendered still poorer in the appearance of its marketplace by the ravages of a recent fire," he wrote. "One half of it appears to be burnt down, and the other half not to be built up."

You can read about the tour in his book [\*American Notes\*](#); chapter 15 includes his time in Kingston.

The Downtown Kingston! [Business Improvement Area](#) What the Dickens on Brock event, happening this December, commemorates that long-ago visit. KFPL is participating through this fun contest open to all adults. Perhaps you'll discover — or re-discover — a favourite Dickens novel!

From Dec. 10 through Dec. 20, pick up an entry form from the Central Branch at 130 Johnson Street or download and print a copy from <https://bit.ly/WalkOnBrock>. Visit the eight participating downtown businesses on or near Brock Street and look for the Charles Dickens book cover and quotation in each window. Signs will be posted with the information facing outward onto the street for your convenience.

Fill in the "Title" blank on the entry form for each participating business, and include your name and contact information. While participating in the contest, please observe all masking and physical distancing rules in effect.

Drop off your completed entry form no later than 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 30 at the Central Branch, using either the ground-floor service desk or the outdoor book drop. Correct entries received by the deadline enter into a January draw for one of four \$25 gift certificates from Novel Idea Bookstore (limit of one prize per household).

Thank you to the Friends of Kingston Frontenac Public Library for sponsoring contest prizes!

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