Schedule for Dickens Symposium, 13-15 July 2012
(last updated June 21, 2012)

Thursday, July 12

(Optional Dickens in Lowell community events)

5:30 PM Dedication of 140-foot long Great Expectations mural on Merrimack Street in downtown Lowell

6:30 PM Film screening of David Lean's Great Expectations at the Pollard Memorial Library in downtown Lowell

Friday, July 13 (Boott Events Center, Lowell National Historical Park)

8:45 AM - 10:30 AM Registration, Continental Breakfast with Coffee/Tea, and early bird viewing of "Dickens and Massachusetts" exhibition

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Panel 1: Early Dickens, part one
Chair: Rob Jacklosky
Joanna O'Leary, “Two for One?: Twins and the Anxieties of (Re)Production in Dickens”
Robert Heaman, “The Artist Figure in Early Dickens”
Jeffrey Jackson, “Private Homes and Public Houses: The Two Pasts of Barnaby Rudge (1841)”

12:00 PM - 2:30 PM Bag lunch and optional activities (register with us in advance for these activities)

12:30-1:30 Dickens Walking Tour of Lowell, begins at National Park Visitor Center and ends at Boott Mill complex where the Symposium is held (led by Lowell National Historical Park ranger)

1:30-2:15 Dickens on the Line interactive labor history workshop at the Tsongas Industrial History Center in the Boott Mill complex

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM Panel 2: Early Dickens, part two
Chair: Robert McParland
Jerome Meckier, “Chuzzlewit’s Mr. Bevan Reconsidered.”
Iain Crawford, “’A giraffe . . . forced into a flower-pot’: Dickens and Martineau on America.”

4:00 PM "Dickens and Massachusetts" exhibition viewing at Boott Gallery
5:30 PM Opening Reception Cocktail Party with Light Fare at the historic Allen House (UMass Lowell south campus)

**Dinner is on your own tonight (participants can sign up to eat at one of our featured local restaurants, and we will make a reservation for your group)**

Optional *Dickens in Lowell* community event:

7:30 PM FreeVerse! presents "Night of a Thousand Voices: A Charles Dickens Experience," local youth participating in a poetry workshop share their interpretations of Dickens's characters in this lively and fun show (downtown Lowell)

**Saturday, July 14 (Boott Events Center, Lowell National Historical Park)**

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Registration and Continental Breakfast with Coffee/Tea

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Panel 3: Works from the late 1850s
Chair: Joel Brattin
David Bordelon, "The Radicalization of the Workers: *Hard Times* in Nineteenth-Century America"
Goldie Morgenthaler, “Fanny Dorrit and the Glittering Stage: Economics and Dance in *Little Dorrit*”
Judith Wilt, “‘Ernest in Town and Jacques in the Country’: *A Tale of Two Cities* and Oscar Wilde”

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Break

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM Panel 4: *Bleak House*: 1852-53
Chair: John Murray
Andrea Nienstedt, “Designing Women: *Bleak House*, The Heart of Mabel Ware, and Transatlantic Textual Exploration of Female Identity in the 1850s”
Lindi Smith, "Vampires of Chancery: *The Confessions of an Attorney* and *Bleak House*"
Susan E. Cook, “Re-Visioning Dickens: Phiz and the *Bleak House* Illustrations”

12:15 PM - 2:00 PM Bag lunch and optional activities (register with us in advance for these activities)
12:30-1:30 *Dickens Walking Tour of Lowell*, begins at National Park Visitor Center and ends at Boott Mill complex where the Symposium is held (led by Lowell National Historical Park ranger)
12:15-2:00  *Victorian Picnic and lawn Games*, a community event being hosted by the Whistler House Museum of Art (participants who choose this event will eat lunch provided at the park instead of the bag lunch provided at the Symposium; please note that the community event runs from 12:00-3:00)

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM  Panel 5: *David Copperfield*: 1849-50  
Chair: *Lauren Matz*  
*Robert Tracy*, “Treating Mr. Dick: Aunt Betsey as Analyst”  
*David Smith*, "'The Willin' Mind': Negative Capability in *David Copperfield*"  

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM  Coffee Break

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM  Panel 6: *Our Mutual Friend* (1864-65) and London  
Chair: *Elizabeth Bridgham*  
*Anita Fernandez Young*, “The Literary Dustman: Perspectives on the Value of Education in *Our Mutual Friend*”  
*Daniel Tyler*, “Enchanting London: Dickens and the Written City”

Optional events for Dickens Symposium attendees only (must pre-register):

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  *Dickens Wine Tasting*, taste some of the types of wines Dickens likely enjoyed; wines selected based on research by our hosts at Market Street Market in downtown Lowell (cover charge)

7:30 PM  *Dickens Dinner*, come enjoy a buffet dinner and cash bar, and toast the Inimitable in his 200th year (Lower Locks Room, UMass Lowell Inn and Conference Center--our official Symposium hotel)

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**Sunday, July 15 (Boott Events Center, Lowell National Historical Park)**

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM  Continental Breakfast with Coffee/Tea

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM  Panel 7: Sundry Dickens  
Chair: *Natalie Cole*
Robert Sirabian, “Dickens’s Christmas Play and the Game of Life”
Akiko Takei, “Alcott’s Rewriting of Dickens in Little Women”

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Break

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM Panel 8: Historical and Biographical Perspectives
Chair: Natalie McKnight
Kit Polga, “The Throat of Old Time: Dickens’s Visits to Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1842 and 1868”
Lillian Nayder, "'He has a Moustache'; or, 'Earth Will Not Hold Us Both': Charles Dickens and the Problem of Fred"

Officially, Panel 8 concludes the Dickens Symposium, but for those who wish, several optional activities can be enjoyed during that Sunday afternoon (more information about other events will be forwarded as we hear about them):

12:30-1:30 Dickens Walking Tour of Lowell, begins at National Park Visitor Center and ends at Boott Mill complex where the Symposium is held (led by Lowell National Historical Park ranger)
2:00-3:00: steamship historian Christie Jackson (Old Sturbridge Village) will deliver a free, public lecture on Dickens's Britannia trip (New England Quilt Museum).
Ongoing: Exhibitions and displays at Lowell National Historical Park, New England Quilt Museum, and American Textile History Museum

PLEASE NOTE: This schedule may be subject to change. Thank you very much, and we look forward to seeing everyone in Lowell in July!