

ST. ANDREW'S ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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Cleveland, OH 44103

Telephone; 216.391.2632; Fax; 391.6141

August 4, 2009

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Mr. Felton Thomas Jr.. Director
Cleveland Public Library
325 Superior Avenue, N.E.
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear Mr. Felton:

The purpose of this letter is call your attention to the competent, friendly, and resourceful staff on board at the Sterling Branch. I have had the opportunity to discuss and share plans for becoming the voice of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in the community at large.

I was welcomed by Carolyn Neal, Kyle Williams, and Marvin Benton who responded affirmatively when I solicited their support in effort to present finance education workshops to residents in the Central area. They are truly representative of what community resources should be in effort to improve the quality of education and health here in Cleveland.

Once more, I felt the strong need to remind you in writing as I did during our brief introduction and conversation on that occasion when Dr. Sanders paid a visit to the Sterling Library.

I am looking forward to another conversation as we grow in our efforts to become a stronger voice in the area. I can be reached by calling the church office or by leaving a message at 216.371.3324.

Cordially,



Johnny Williams

Program Coordinator

The Dickens Fellowship

(Founded 1902)

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Felton Thomas
Director, Cleveland Public Library
325 Superior Avenue NE
Cleveland
Ohio OH 44114
USA

18 August 2009

Dear Felton Thomas

I have just returned from an extended visit to the USA and Canada, visiting several Dickens Fellowship branches, and, of course, attending the 104th Dickens Fellowship conference, hosted by the Cleveland branch.

From a great many wonderful experiences and impressions, the visit to *The Inimitable Boz* exhibition at Cleveland Public Library on 3 August stands out as a memorable combination of hospitality and scholarship. We were welcomed most warmly by Holly Carroll, and we very much enjoyed the contributions and company of Jean Collins, Amy Dawson, Tim Phillips, Steve Capuozzo, Doug Westerbeke, Rhonda Green, and other very helpful and friendly library staff.

Members of our Fellowship were overwhelmed by the range of subjects covered by the exhibition, by the variety of aspects of 19th century social history which were presented, and above all by the tremendous *zest* for the subject matter evident in every display. The whole exhibition was a real delight, and carried lightly an amazing amount of background research.

It is interesting to speculate how many other libraries and institutions across the US could stage a Dickens-based exhibition, using material from their collections which rarely gets into the public eye. There may not be many who could match the standard of the exhibition currently running at the Cleveland Public Library, but I am hoping that, working through other branches of the Dickens Fellowship across America, we may persuade some other institutions to bring out their 'Dickens treasures' in celebration of the bicentenary year in 2012. If you have any advice on how we might go about this, I would be extremely pleased to hear from you.

In the meantime I would like to send sincerest thanks to you for your support for this exhibition, and to congratulate you on the professionalism and enthusiasm of your staff, in particular Jean Collins and, of course, Kathy Broz, who, as founder of the Cleveland Branch of the Dickens Fellowship, was ultimately responsible for our presence in Cleveland in this, their 25th anniversary year.

We hope the exhibition will be a great success and that borrowings of Dickens's works will soar!

With thanks and all good wishes.

Joan Dicks
Joint Hon Gen Secretary, The Dickens Fellowship