

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARRIOTT FRANKLIN HOTELS TAKES GUESTS BACK IN TIME FOR A "DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS" *Two Marriott Hotels invites guests to explore historic downtown Franklin's Victorian Era Christmas event.*

Franklin, TN – Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" has become one of the quintessential Christmas stories, and now two Marriott hotels gives guests a chance to meet the beloved characters in person while enjoying a very special Christmas event in historic downtown Franklin, Tennessee.



The <u>Courtyard Franklin Cool Springs</u> & <u>Residence Inn Franklin</u> <u>Cool Springs Hotels</u>, along with the rest of historic downtown Franklin, get into the holiday spirit with "<u>Dickens of a</u> <u>Christmas</u>," an annual celebration of Dickens' Christmas story. The Victorian Era comes to life as carolers and costumed revelers stroll the charming streets of downtown Franklin. Visitors are encouraged to take part in exciting activities, including horse-drawn carriages, Victorian-inspired snacks, and meeting characters from Dickens' novel, including the unselfish Tiny Tim Cratchit and his family, the miserly Mr. Scrooge, the ghost of Marley, and even Father Christmas.

Getting to the celebration is easy for guests staying at the Marriott Franklin Hotels. Guests can either take a quick car ride or, to get into the spirit of yesteryear, they can hop on the Franklin Trolley, located at the corner of the Courtyard Franklin Cool Springs Hotel. The quick trolley ride will drop guests off right in the center of all the Victorian-era Christmas cheer.

Taking place December 8-9, 2012, the "Dickens of a Christmas" celebration is a 27 year tradition for historic downtown Franklin and one that should not be missed. The 15-block area of downtown has flourished under the protection of the National Register Historic District, and the charming downtown area is popular year round but truly shines during the Christmas season.

With comfortable guest rooms just moments away, the Marriott hotels in Franklin are a perfect place to rediscover the meaning of the season. Experience Charles Dickens' classic tale brought to life and book a stay at either the Courtyard Franklin Cool Springs Hotel or Residence Inn Franklin Cool Springs Hotel today.

About the Courtyard Franklin Cool Springs Hotel

Just a short drive from Nashville, the Courtyard Franklin Cool Springs Hotel welcomes guests to relax and unwind in a welcoming atmosphere, inspired by attentive staff, spacious guest rooms and thoughtful amenities. Connect to complimentary wireless Internet access throughout the hotel. Grab a bite to eat at the recently revitalized Bistro, serving freshly prepared food for breakfast and dinner, or toast the day with an evening bar. Freshly brewed Starbucks® coffee give a much-needed kick start in the mornings, or find an adrenaline rush at the on-site fitness center, featuring Cybex cardio equipment and free weights. Guest rooms provide plenty of privacy and comforts, including a pullout sofa, thick mattresses, and soft linens. For more information about this hotel, visit www.franklincourtyard.com



About the Residence Inn Franklin Cool Springs Hotel

The definitive place to stay for extended stay trips in Franklin, the Residence Inn Franklin Cool Springs Hotel is located near popular area attractions while offering exceptional on-site amenities and conveniences. Start each morning with a complimentary hot breakfast buffet before checking headlines and the latest sports scores via complimentary wireless Internet access throughout the hotel. An indoor pool and whirlpool provide the perfect place to relax and soak tired muscles, or tone and gain muscle at a 24-hour fitness center featuring Cybex cardio equipment and free weights. 124 pet-friendly suites provide the ultimate in comfort, with plush beds, soft linens, and kitchenette with full-sized fridge, stovetop, microwave, and oven. For more information, visit www.franklinresidenceinn.com