

July 20, 2022 - Please include in your news items

## **The 34th Annual Toronto Fringe Festival Returned In Person with Great Success**

The 2022 Toronto Fringe Festival wrapped up July 17, 2022 after 12 successful days of live theatre in 11 venues, plus free programming at the POSTSCRIPT Patio. Toronto Fringe is pleased to report over 33,000 tickets were sold with \$250,000 in revenue returning to the artists. Approximately 75% of this year's artists were those who had been waiting for this chance to share their work since the shutdown of the in-person 2020 Fringe.

Toronto Fringe ran July 6-17, 2022, live and in-person, at indoor venues across the city with over 85 shows featuring drama, dance, comedy, musicals, and solo shows. The festival launched with an artist parade and free cupcakes, and the festival wrapped with karaoke, free food and a COVID booster clinic.

Toronto Fringe was able to distribute 1500 prepaid tickets to artists and community groups to see Fringe shows thanks to the Toronto Arts Foundation, supported by the Hal Jackman Foundation and Slight Foundation. Toronto Fringe was also happy to partner with Canoo, an app that provides newcomers to Canada with free tickets to exciting cultural experiences.

The POSTSCRIPT Patio returned to the iconic Tranzac Club in the Annex with daily programming and activities, while Fringers in the East End enjoyed the POSTSCRIPT Lounge at Daniels Spectrum.

The **2022 Award recipients** were: *9428* for The Toshio Cutting Edge Award; *John Who*, and *The Chels Stands Alone* for The North (519) Best of the Fringe Awards; and *Gay For Pay with Blake and Clay*, and **The Chels Stands Alone** for The Comedy Bar and Second City Award For Outstanding Comedy Awards. The David Seguin Memorial Award for Accessibility in the Arts Award bursaries were awarded to *Flowers For Alex*, *Don Valley Girls*, *Back and Forth: The Musical*, *An Evening With Devon and Jackie*, *Neverwonder: The Musical*, *Bruno & Hogginfritiz*, and *Birdseed Confidential*.

The **2022 Patrons' Picks** were *The Questing Beast*; *Sex T Rex presents Sketch T-Rex*; *Lesbihonest*; *The Sorahren Book Club*; *Don Valley Girls*; *Six Chick Flicks or a Legally Blonde Pretty Woman Dirty Danced on the Beaches while writing a Notebook on the Titanic*; *Gay for Pay with Blake & Clay*; *Alia Ceniza Rasul: Moro Girl*; *A Perfect Bowl of Pho*; *X and da spirit*; and *The Crack of Doom! (Or: How I Learned To Love The Meteor)*.

About the Toronto Fringe: Toronto Fringe is a grassroots, charitable organization that runs the Toronto Fringe Festival each July. The 16th annual Next Stage Theatre Festival will take place October 18-29, 2023. Toronto Fringe offers various year-round programs that benefit youth,

emerging artists, BIPOC artists, artists with disabilities, and the performing arts community at large. Embedded in Fringe's operations are the values of Access, Accountability, Creativity, Exploration, and Support.

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