

THE 36TH ANNUAL TORONTO FRINGE FESTIVAL ISSUED OVER 40,000 TICKETS

(July 15, 2024) **Toronto Fringe** is proud to announce the 36th Annual **Toronto Fringe Festival**, which took place July 3 - 14, 2024, was a joyous success with 59% of all tickets issued, resulting in \$460,000 in revenue returning to the artists. The festival also exceeded its Tip the Fringe donation goal, raising over \$40,000 across the 12 days, the largest amount raised on record!

Toronto Fringe featured 76 shows with approximately 400 artists on 15 stages, with 29 companies marking their first Fringe. The festival was run by over 100 paid Fringe staff members, and 248 enthusiastic volunteers.

"We asked our audiences for support, and they came through in abundance. We were so excited to see sold out shows from the very first weekend. With the average house sales up 9% from 2023, we are thrilled to be putting even more money back into artist's pockets this year," said **Rachel Kennedy**, Executive Director, Co-Lead. *"This is a big part of our current mission at the Fringe, to do our best to ensure that the artists are able to profit from their hard work."*

At the **Toronto Fringe Awards Show** on July 12, fifteen festival awards and Patrons' Picks were presented to artists from Toronto, Vancouver, and Edmonton. **Artificially Intelligent** (Anesti Danelis), **Colonial Circus** (Shreya Parashar and Sachin Sharma), and **Rat Academy** (Katie Yoner and Dayna Lea Hoffmann, in collaboration with Joseph McManus) came out on top with two awards each.

"The support received from donors and sponsors alike has enabled us to celebrate, amplify and pay over 400 artists in the past two weeks. We are so grateful for the community that rallies annually around this work and were thrilled to see the patio be well attended every day (rain or shine) into the wee hours of the night. We see glimmers of a thriving arts community returning from a series of difficult years, and we are energized by the impact of this year's Festival," said **Rachel Kennedy**.

Toronto Fringe will build on this momentum for the **17th Annual Next Stage Theatre Festival** taking place October 16-27, 2024, with six compelling shows from Toronto, Edmonton, and Halifax entitled: *Civilized; GEMINI; I Was Unbecoming Then; PRUDE; This Feels Like The End*, and *The Noose*. Audiences will enjoy programming at the iconic Buddies in Bad Times Theatre with shows taking place in both the Chamber and Cabaret spaces. In addition to the six curated productions, **Next Stage** will also present community programming, parties, and professional development opportunities.

Toronto Fringe is a member of the **Canadian Association of Fringe Festivals** and looks forward to passing the baton to their sister festivals starting later this summer including Winnipeg Fringe

Theatre Festival (July 17-28), Hamilton Fringe Festival (July 17-28), Island Fringe Festival (July 31-August 4), and Edmonton Fringe Festival (August 15-25).

Toronto Fringe is a grassroots, charitable organization that runs the Toronto Fringe Festival each July and the Next Stage Theatre Festival each October. Toronto Fringe offers various year-round programs that benefit youth, artists, and the theatre community at large. Embedded in Fringe's operations are the values of Access, Accountability, Creativity, Exploration, and Support. As such, 100% of the ticket revenue from the Fringe Festival is returned to our artists. To help support this work [donate today](#) to celebrate and amplify more artists year-after-year!

Toronto Fringe Festival

www.fringetoronto.com

Media Contact: Damien Nelson, Damien@wantandable.ca