

The City's Biggest, Boldest
12-Day Arts Festival

Hamilton Fringe Festival



HFTco
Hamilton Festival
Theatre Co

Show descriptions, ticket information, maps, schedules, and more!



2025 Hamilton Fringe Festival Program

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Hamilton Fringe Festival is proud to create 30+ jobs for city youth each summer with the support of the Government of Ontario's Summer Employment Opportunities Program, the Government of Canada's Summer Work Placement Program, and the Canada Summer Jobs Program.

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What is the Fringe?

Hamilton Fringe Festival is the city's biggest, boldest 12-day arts festival, lighting up spaces across town with live comedy, theatre, music, dance, art, film, family fare, and more. Now in our 21st year, the history of the "Fringe" theatre movement goes back even further.

The first Fringe festival happened in 1947 when some audacious Scottish theatre rebels decided they were going to crash the mainstream Edinburgh International Festival. Performing on the "fringe" of the main event, they ignited a revolution of wild, unfiltered creativity that totally upstaged the more established festival. This act of creative defiance unleashed a global phenomenon, with Fringe festivals around the world becoming the ultimate playground for boundary-pushing artists and thrill-seeking audiences.

Like other members of the Canadian Association of Fringe Festivals (CAFF), Hamilton Fringe follows a unique set of ground rules:

- **We don't pick the shows!** Main Series shows are chosen randomly via lottery. Doing away with artistic "gatekeepers" levels the playing field for people who want to perform at the Fringe.
- **We don't take a cut of ticket sales!** 100% of the base ticket price goes straight to the artists. So when you buy a ticket, you are directly supporting the people making the shows.
- **We keep it CHEAP!** After a one-time \$5 Fringe Benefits Button purchase to support the festival, single tickets are just \$14 (\$5 for kids), and a multi-show pass makes it even less per show. More affordable ticket prices means you can take in more shows! Plus there's loads of FREE outdoor programming all festival long.



Step One:

Buy Your Fringe Benefits Button

All Fringe patrons ages 12+ (including passholders) must make a one-time \$5 purchase of a Fringe Benefits Button to access all ticketed indoor events. Hold onto that button — you can't get into the show without it!

Hamilton Fringe Festival gives 100% of the base ticket price straight back to participating artists. Additional programming like Fringe On The Streets, Fringe Boulevard, Kids Club, and Spark Teen Performance is free to attend.

So how do we manage to keep the lights on?

The fact is that Hamilton Fringe relies on Fringe Benefits Button sales to make the festival possible. This small but mighty contribution ensures that the festival can continue bringing cutting-edge performances and vibrant arts experiences to our community. With just \$5, you're not just getting a button; you're investing in the future of Hamilton's growing, dynamic, and unique arts community.

ALSO! Showing your button to participating businesses gets you exclusive deals and discounts! That means more savings for you while you're supporting the Fringe **and** local businesses. It's a rare win-win-win situation.

Join your fellow Fringers in championing the arts in Hamilton—and wear your button with pride!

Fringe Benefits Buttons are available in advance or at the door.

Click on the QR code or head to **HFTco.ca** for the full list of participating companies around town.



Tickets

Advance tickets can be purchased online at **HFTco.ca** right up until show time.

Tickets are also available **at the door** beginning **45 minutes prior to show time**. Talk to the friendly Box Office staff stationed at your show's venue and they'll set you up.

General Admission: \$14 (+fees)

Kids Under 12: \$5 (+fees)

Fringe Mini Bar: \$8 (+fees)

Multi-Show Passes

Fringe Sampler 3-Show Pass: \$36 (+fees)

Fringe Binge 6-Show Pass: \$66 (+fees)

Fringe Frenzy 10-Show Pass: \$100 (+fees)

Fringe Double Frenzy 20-Show Pass: \$200 (+fees)

Fringe Mini Bar Pass: \$30 (+fees)*

*redeemable on Mini Bar shows only

Save on booking fees when you buy a pass!

We offer complimentary tickets for Support Persons & Personal Support Workers. Go to **HFTco.ca/accessibility** for details.

About Cash Sales

From July 17-27, in order to make your Fringe experience quicker and smoother, cash sales will **only** be available for **advance** sales made at the incite Fringe Info Hub located in the Lister Block (28 James St N — entrance on King William St). That means **NO CASH SALES at the door!** Debit and Credit Card sales are available at all venues.

Still have questions? Come by the incite Fringe Info Hub, email **boxoffice@HFTco.ca**, or give us a call at **289.698.2234!**

Fringe Festival Tips & Tricks

If you're new to the festival, here are some "Fringing" tips to keep in mind:

👉 Get to know your Festival Program!

There's a lot going on and this Festival Program is your indispensable guide as to what's happening where and when. Be sure to check out **HFTco.ca/events** for the latest info including show changes and cancellations.

👉 Listen to the word on the street!

With 50+ shows and events, how do you choose? The best source for the shows getting the most buzz is other festival-goers!

👉 Take a chance!

Every year there are shows just waiting to be discovered. See something in the program that sparks your interest? Don't be afraid to risk the low price of a Fringe ticket to find that hidden gem. Remember: lots of actors got their start in Fringe shows—a name that's new to you today might be a big star tomorrow!

👉 Fringe shows start ON TIME.

Not every venue or show is able to accommodate late arrivals. Plan to check in 10 minutes before start time just in case!

👉 All ticket sales are final.

There are no refunds. Exchanges may be made for a different performance of the same show at least 48 hours in advance for a service charge of \$3.

👉 All seating is general admission.

👉 Tip the Fringe!

We need your support to keep this festival running. When you buy tickets and attend events, we'll be asking you to "Tip the Fringe." You decide how much to give—just think about what Hamilton Fringe means to you and how important the festival is to the city's live performance community!



👉 You Need Hamilton Fringe Merch!

Tote bags and stickers and toques, OH MY! Getting your hands on HFTco swag is another way you can give back to the Fringe. Our merchandise includes: our signature "Keep Hamilton Weird" tote bag, exclusive Hamilton Fringe stickers, and cozy Canadian-made toques in two different colors. All sales support the future of Hamilton Fringe. Available to purchase at Fringe Boulevard and **HFTco.ca/merch**.

THEATRE EREBUS INC. PRESENTS

A NON-CANONICAL MUSICAL
ADVENTURE WITH

POOKAMHURA

Mistress of B-Roll

a new musical by Chris Cracknell

Book and stage direction by Brian Morton

July 17,18,19,20 -
23,24,25,26,27,2025



At the Staircase Theatre Studio
27 Dundurn Street North

www.theatre-erebus.com -- www.HFTCO.ca

The Land On Which We Are Gathered

The land on which we gather for this festival is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Wyandot, the Haudenosaunee, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Today, this is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on their territory.

Hamilton Festival Theatre Company has received knowledge over the years through a process of learning and relationship-building with artists, with community members, and with local Elders and Knowledge-keepers. As an organization, we are committed to continuing and deepening these relationships.

Accessibility at Hamilton Fringe

HFTco strives to centre accessibility for artists and audiences in our programming and policies. All staff and volunteers are AODA-trained and we are broadening our accessibility actions and initiatives every year. We welcome artists, audiences, staff, and volunteers of all abilities and lived experience.

Venues

Accessibility details for each venue are available online at HFTco.ca. Please contact boxoffice@HFTco.ca well in advance of your show to coordinate your requirements. We regret that not all our venues are fully accessible. Look for the  symbol on the schedule to see which venues are accessible.

Relaxed Performances

Relaxed performances offer reduced audio and stage light levels, modification of startling technical elements, and freedom for audience members to move, stand, exit and re-enter. Look for the **RP** symbol on the schedule to see this year's offerings.

Mask-Mandatory Performances

Some Fringe companies have chosen to offer Mask-Mandatory performances. All audience members, volunteers, and staff at a Mask-Mandatory performance are required to wear a mask while in the playing space (i.e. inside the theatre/auditorium). Look for the **MM** symbol on the schedule to see this year's offerings.

Select performances may offer Affinity Performances, American Sign Language interpretation, surtitles, audio descriptions, or other enhancements. Check out HFTco.ca/events for the latest accessibility updates.

For details about complimentary tickets for Support Persons & Personal Support Workers and other info, go to HFTco.ca/accessibility.

We recognize that we may not currently offer what you need to fully access HFTco events or programs. If you would like more information or to share feedback, please email info@HFTco.ca or call us at **289.698.2234**.



Welcome Fringers!

Welcome to the Fringe! Fringe isn't just a festival. It's a movement that champions independent artists and makes artistic expression possible. It's art for everyone, by everyone.

The Canadian Association of Fringe Festivals (CAFF) powers this movement across North America. With 32 member festivals, we create unmatched opportunities for artists to take creative risks, connect with audiences, and build sustainable careers without barriers.

Fringe is where *anything* is possible. Fringe is where *stories spark change*.

And right now, we need our artists who dare to tell bold stories, push boundaries, and imagine new possibilities more than ever. And we need audiences like you who take bold risks right alongside our artists. Because in a world that feels increasingly disconnected, *Fringe is the answer*.

Consider this your enthusiastic invitation to see a show (or 5! Or 10!). Support an artist. Invest in the future of Fringe. Every ticket you buy, every artist you champion, and every dollar you donate keeps this movement alive for generations to come.

Fringe is about participating in something bigger. If you want to shape the future of independent artists, please: join the movement!

Happy Fringing.



Megan Dart (she/her)
President, Canadian Association of Fringe Festivals



Mayor Andrea Horwath
City of Hamilton

Welcome to the Hamilton Fringe Festival!

Since 2003, Hamilton Fringe has been the beating heart of the city's summer arts scene, a lively blend of theatre, comedy, storytelling, music, children's programming, and boundary-pushing performances. It transforms Hamilton into a city-wide stage, bringing bold new work and unforgettable experiences to life.

With over 18,000 attendees annually, this festival is more than an event—it's a celebration of creativity, community, and the power of the arts. Local businesses, artists, and audiences come together in a way that makes Hamilton Fringe truly special.

We are thrilled to have you with us as we continue to support the Canadian arts sector and strengthen our local connections. Let's celebrate, explore, and create lasting memories together.

Enjoy the festival—you belong here!

Sincerely,



Robin Lennox
MPP Hamilton Centre



Christopher Stanton
HFTco Executive Director



Franny McCabe-Bennett
HFTco Managing Director

On behalf of the City of Hamilton, it is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all the participants, performers, organizers, and guests of the 2025 Hamilton Fringe Festival!

For over two decades, this festival has stood as a proud celebration of Hamilton's vibrant cultural landscape and strong community spirit. Year after year, it has brought together artists and audiences in a powerful expression of creativity, inclusion, and shared identity. From theatre and music to dance and visual arts, the Fringe continues to spotlight the incredible talent rooted right here in our city.

As Mayor, I am especially proud of how this event reflects Hamilton's values—resilience, diversity, and collaboration. It reminds us of the importance of the arts in building a connected and thriving community.

I would like to thank the organizers, volunteers, and supporters who make this annual celebration possible. Your dedication ensures that Hamilton remains a place where culture is not only preserved, but lives, breathes, and evolves with each passing year.

To all visiting guests and performers—welcome to Hamilton!

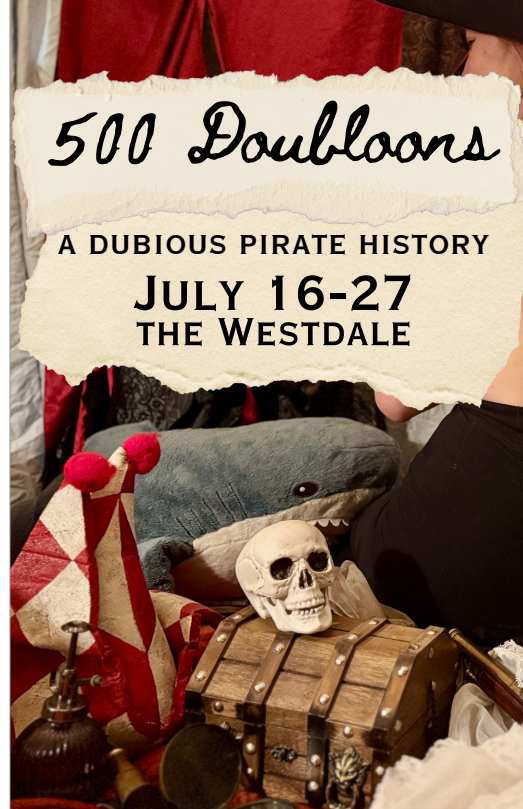
Enjoy the creativity, the connections, and the celebration.

Yours sincerely,

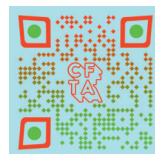
500 Doubloons

A DUBIOUS PIRATE HISTORY

JULY 16-27
THE WESTDALE



Centre For Talking Arts
154 James St. S, Hamilton



Let's Start a Fake Cult

Nihilism • Narcissism • Hypnotism

One Man Show
by
Jake Cenk

Red Hot Cherry
Poppin' Experience

Suck It Productions

The Giant Space Monster
That Ate Hamilton in 3-D

Smith & Reimer

Saad Sheikh's
Get It Together

Sheikh HQ

UNSOLICITED: GOOD ADVICE GONE DAD

A RIDICULOUS (BUT TRUE!) COMEDY
BY KRISTI BOULTON

"AN ARTIST AT THE
TOP OF HER GAME"
Lyla Miklos, Centre Stage

HAMILTON
FRINGE
CRITICS'
PICK
2024

"DEEPLY AUTHENTIC
AND COMPELLING!"
Stephen Near, Near and Far

HAMILTON
FRINGE
BEST OF
VENUE
2022

HAMILTON
FRINGE
BEST OF
FRINGE
2022



Hamilton
Fringe

JULY
16-27

THE BRIGHT ROOM
@ THE STAIRCASE
27 DUNDURN ST. N

THE
STAIRCASE

Artword Theatre
The Fortune Teller



By David Laing Dawson
Directed by Ronald Weihs

Friday July 18, 10 pm
Saturday, July 19, 4 pm
Sunday, July 20, 1:30 pm

Monday, July 21, 8:30 pm
Thursday, July 24, 9 pm
Saturday, July 26, 8 pm
Sunday, July 27, 6 pm

Westdale Theatre

1014 King Street West

Our Staff

HFTco

Christopher Stanton
Executive Director

Franny McCabe-Bennett
Managing Director

Grace Lamarche
Development Coordinator

Aleena Faisal
Communications Manager

Hamilton Fringe 2025

Susan Heslop
Placemaking Coordinator

Emma Haynes
Assistant Placemaking
Coordinator

Taija Shonée Chung
Patron Services
Assistant Manager

Samantha Jamieson
Assistant Box Office
Manager

Kathleen Welch
Front of House Manager

Grace Franklin
Assistant Front of
House Manager

Avery Parkinson
Shanice Bowrin
Volunteer & Outreach
Coordinators

Grace Pender
Technical Director

Jordan Carrier
Nathan Muir
Indigenous
Programming
Consultants

Hannah Ebron
Lily Rose George
Charlie Saltzman
Venue Technicians

Catherine Allen
Social Media Coordinator

Rebekka Gondosch
Spark Coordinator &
Co-Leader

Piper Hayes
Spark Co-Leader

Danielle Hitchcock
Graphic Designer

Vermillion Sands:
Jacqui Oakley &
Jamie Lawson
Artwork

Velvet Wells
Affinity Performance
Consultant

Community Curators Circle

Carly Anna Billings

Meagan Byrne

Jordan Carrier

Faezeh Daemi

Fareh Malik

Safer Spaces Project

Robin Lacambra
Project Director

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President

Elizabeth Buchanan
Secretary

Traci Ann Benjamin
Treasurer

Ruth Flynn

Ruth Hatch

MacNeal Lashley

Jeff Mahoney

Abrar Mechmechia

★ Thank You to Bates
Audio, Jake Woodcroft,
Louise Concepcion,
and Cobalt Connects.

Opening Night Kick-Off

Wed, July 16 at 6:30 P.M.

Mills Hardware (95 King St E)

It's the party that sets the Fringe in motion! A night full of fun, friends, and a few surprises, the Opening Night Kick-Off features this year's Fringe artists pitching you their shows—in just 90 seconds or less! It's a great way to see what's happening on our Fringe stages this year, and to decide which shows you want to check out.

Entry by donation.

The Kick-Off After-Party follows at 9:00PM on Fringe Boulevard (King William & James) featuring immaculate patio vibes and tunes by DJ Donna Lovejoy.

See you at the Kick-Off!



Visual Fringe & Kids Visual Fringe

Visual Fringe is an opportunity for local visual artists, selected by lottery, to exhibit their work publicly at one of our partner venues:

Vintage Coffee Roasters 977 King St E
Relay Coffee Roasters 27 King William St
Dundas Valley School of Art*
21 Ogilvie St, Dundas
*location of Kids Visual Fringe

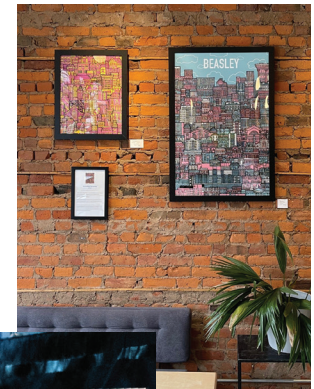
This year we feature the works of All Han Made, Nico Lavender, Wolf Dottir, Kevin Sooley, Death of a Lover Girl, K. Swackhammer, Rulito, Haylie Maria Dittrich, Elaine Lauzon along with Kids Visual Fringe artists Aadhav Dineshkumar and Madhu.

All exhibits run throughout July.
Visit HFTco.ca for more info.



relay
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MAY 21 - OCTOBER 5

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FESTIVAL

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: JANE SPENCE | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: NICOLE CAMPBELL

A Canadian Explains Eurovision to Other Canadians

Cant Stand Sitting Productions | Toronto



CREATOR: Matti McLean

PG Theatre-Comedy, Musical/Concert/Opera, Storytelling/Solo Show | 55m

A Canadian Explains Eurovision to (Other Canadians) is a love letter to the weirdest, wildest music competition on Earth. Part stand-up, part TED Talk, part glitter-fueled existential crisis, this one-person show takes you on a whirlwind tour of Eurovision history, queer joy, and what it means to find yourself through sequins and song. Whether you've never heard of it or you're a diehard fan, there's a space for you in Eurovision.

FR 18	5:30PM
SA 19	1:30PM
SU 20	7:30PM
TU 22	7:30PM
TH 24	6:00PM
FR 25	8:30PM
SA 26	10:00PM

*RP Relaxed Performance

The Heterosexuals

Redheaded Stepchild Productions | Toronto



WRITER & PERFORMER: Johnnie McNamara Walker

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

PG Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

★★★★★ "Comic genius!" The Irish Times
A deep-dive into the shocking world of Heterosexuality! THEY WALK AMONG US! But where did they come from? And what do they think they're wearing? Find out in this explosive solo show based on undercover research gathered while posing as one of their own! Combining elements of storytelling, satire, and deep personal humiliation, The Heterosexuals spills the T on what The Queers really think about The Straights.

FR 18	8:30PM
SA 19	10:00PM
SU 20	3:30PM
WE 23	8:00PM
FR 25	5:30PM
SA 26	2:00PM
SU 27	12:00PM

*RP Relaxed Performance

Mind the Gaps

Attempt #62 | Hamilton



PERFORMER & CREATOR: Nathan Lise

PRODUCERS: Will Erskine & Nathan Lise

WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Mention of Suicide

PG Sketch Comedy/Improv, Storytelling/Solo Show | 50m

Funny, passionate, and charmingly apologetic, Nathan Lise is here to tell you some true stories from his life. Using improv to unpack organization gone wrong, he offers a uniquely intimate performance that finds meaning in the gaps. "Nathan Lise is the physical embodiment of taking a risk at a theatre festival..." –Steel City Reviews

FR 18	10:00PM
SA 19	8:30PM
MO 21	6:00PM
TH 24	9:00PM
FR 25	7:00PM
SA 26	3:30PM
SU 27	7:00PM

*RP Relaxed Performance | *MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

A Question Of Character

Minmar Gaslight Productions | Toronto



PLAYWRIGHT: Steven Elliott Jackson

DIRECTOR: Alice Lundy

CAST: Paula Wing & Tanisha Taitt

WARNINGS: Violence

PG Theatre-Drama | 80m

Paula Wing and Tanisha Taitt star in this edge-of-your-seat thriller that will keep you talking after it ends! The clock is ticking when Leni Riefenstahl is visited by an interviewer with more than questions for the infamous filmmaker. From the winner of the Best New Play in Toronto and Hamilton Fringe, Steven Elliott Jackson, and acclaimed director Alice Fox Lundy, comes the most talked-about play of the Hamilton Fringe!

TH 17	9:00PM
SA 19	6:30PM
SU 20	1:30PM
MO 21	7:30PM
WE 23	6:00PM
SA 26	12:00PM
SU 27	8:30PM

*RP Relaxed Performance | *MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

Mind Reader

Steven Nicholas | Cleveland, OH



PERFORMER: Steven Nicholas

WARNINGS: Coarse Language

PG Magic, Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

Mind Reader is not a show to simply watch, it's an experience to be a part of. Every performance of Mind Reader is a different journey guided by the unique choices of each individual audience. There will be incredible feats of memory, discovery of new abilities, and of course, unbelievable mind reading. "Steven guides his audience through jaw dropping moment after moment and keeps them laughing every step of the way." –No Proscenium

FR 18	7:00PM
SA 19	3:00PM
SU 20	9:00PM
TU 22	6:00PM
WE 23	9:30PM
SA 26	7:00PM
SU 27	1:30PM



CRANE GIRL

Falling Iguana Theatre

Hamilton Fringe Festival
Theatre Aquarius Studio
190 King William St.

July 17 - 7:00 pm
July 19 - 1:45 pm
July 20 - 3:30 pm
July 21 - 6:15 pm
July 24 - 7:45 pm
July 25 - 10:15 pm
July 26 - 6:45 pm

FALLING IGUANA
THEATRE CO.

Sex Goddess

House + Body | Toronto



CREATOR & PERFORMER: Riel Reddick-Stevens

DIRECTOR & DRAMATURG: Christopher Manousos

MUSIC PRODUCER & TOUR SUPPORT: Ghostboyjr

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language, Violence

M Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/Solo Show, Cabaret | 55m

Join pop star Rayna at the listening party for her new album SEX GODDESS. While sharing her album, Rayna takes her audience on the journey of one long, wild night that changed her life and perspective forever. SEX GODDESS uses Hip Hop/ R&B music, comedy and heightened storytelling to explore the relationships between power, bodily autonomy and sense of self in a patriarchal world and business.

TH 17	7:30PM
SA 19	12:00PM
SU 20	5:00PM
TU 22	9:00PM
FR 25	10:00PM
SA 26	5:30PM
SU 27	3:00PM

*MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

Ugly Privilege

Jessica Pigeau | Vancouver, BC



WRITER & PERFORMER: Jessica Pigeau

PG Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

FORMERLY TITLED: HOW TO LOSE FRIENDS AND IRRITATE PEOPLE An hour of stand up comedy by Jessica Pigeau, a headlining Vancouver comedian who has been described as "like if George Carlin was a Muppet." Featuring discussions of autism, social awkwardness, growing up gay in rural Alberta, and the declining sexiness of the Canadian Monarchy. "Best Original Work" –2024 North Bay Fringe
"★★★★½" –The Saskatoon Star Phoenix

TH 17	6:00PM
SA 19	4:30PM
SU 20	12:00PM
MO 21	9:30PM
TH 24	7:30PM
SA 26	8:30PM
SU 27	4:30PM

*RP Relaxed Performance

All The World's A Cage

Gendron Productions | Hamilton



FR 18	7:15PM
SA 19	10:45PM
SU 20	9:15PM
WE 23	7:45PM
FR 25	5:45PM
SA 26	1:30PM
SU 27	6:15PM

PRODUCER, DIRECTOR & PLAYWRIGHT:

Robb Gendron

PRODUCER & PLAYWRIGHT:

Sabina Stan
WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Strobe Lights,
Fog, Violence

PG Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama | 60m

The lights go up on a polished comedy, but something is off. As cracks form in the story and chaos creeps in, "All the World's a Cage" transforms into a gripping, unsettling exploration of entertainment and the control, abuse, and exploitation of performers for profit. The line between performance and reality is blurred, forcing the audience to question their role in the spectacle. Are you just watching... or are you part of the cage?

A Gentleman's Murder

Reactor Theatre | Hamilton



FR 18	8:45PM
SA 19	1:45PM
MO 21	6:15PM
TU 22	7:30PM
FR 25	8:45PM
SA 26	3:00PM
SU 27	12:15PM

DIRECTOR:

Tyler Brent
WARNINGS: Fog, Violence

A Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama | 55m

A would-be-groom is waylaid with a dark prophecy that threatens to disrupt his plans for a happily ever after, unless he can take bloody matters into his (soon to be) bloody hands. Church bells will toll, one way or another. A darkly staged gothic comedy inspired by Oscar Wilde.

Sister Sophia Kicks The Habit

The Universe Over 60 | Toronto



FR 18	5:45PM
SA 19	4:45PM
SU 20	1:45PM
TU 22	6:00PM
FR 25	10:15PM
SA 26	7:00PM
SU 27	3:45PM

PLAYWRIGHT & PERFORMER:

Lisa Randall

DIRECTOR & DRAMATURG:

Kate Johnston

LIGHTS & STAGE MANAGEMENT:

Jonathan Carroll
& Robin Moir

PG Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama,

Storytelling/Solo Show | 50m

Sister Sophia Kicks the Habit delves into the revelations of Sister Sophia, an aging Catholic nun in crisis. As she grieves the loss of her best friend Sister Beatrice, she grapples with the realities of her half century of sisterhood in her own restless night of the soul. Through her humorous and insightful musings (with songs!), Sister Sophia confronts g(G)od and in her quest to finally be heard, she discovers a newfound outlook on life.

Ten Reasons Why I Joined a Punk Band in My Fifties!

Little Terrier Productions | Toronto



TH 17	6:00PM
SA 19	3:15PM
SU 20	12:15PM
WE 23	9:15PM
TH 24	7:45PM
SA 26	10:30PM
SU 27	7:45PM

WRITTEN BY:

Lori Cohen

DIRECTED BY:

Lori Cohen

SOUND DESIGN:

Phil du Plessis

WARNINGS:

Coarse Language

PG Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama,

Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

What does a fifty something Gen X'er have in common with a punk rocker? Pure unadulterated rage with big things like, war, climate change, and evil politicians, and little things like influencers, shrinkflation, rogue chin hairs and cybertrucks. One night, she is visited by the ghost of Sid Vicious who tells her that the only thing to do is to join a band!

Minimum

The Intergalactic Federation of Space Beers | Hamilton



TH 17	9:00PM
SA 19	7:15PM
SU 20	5:45PM
TU 22	9:00PM
TH 24	5:45PM
SA 26	8:30PM
SU 27	1:45PM

PLAYWRIGHT, PRODUCER & ACTRESS:

Victoria Sullivan

ACTOR & PRODUCER:

Brandon James Sim

ACTOR:

Gavin Sibley

WARNINGS:

Coarse Language

PG Theatre-Comedy | 90m

"Minimum" is an outrageous comedy about the newly elected Ontario Premier who must live on minimum wage. Complicated by his ex-wife's rage at learning what her alimony payments will be, the Premier, with the aid of his aide, must adjust from a six-figure government salary to \$35,776—his previous annual budget for suits and ties. No longer able to afford Toronto, the Premier commutes from Hamilton on the lowest form of human innovation—public transit.

Once Upon A Pizzeria

Charly Chiarelli | Hamilton



TH 17	7:30PM
SA 19	12:15PM
SU 20	7:45PM
MO 21	9:15PM
WE 23	6:15PM
FR 25	7:15PM
SA 26	5:30PM

PLAYWRIGHT, PERFORMER & MUSICIAN:

Charly Chiarelli

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER:

Jay Shand

STAGE MANAGER & TECHNICAL SUPPORT:

Barbara Mead

A Theatre-Comedy, Musical/Concert/Opera,

Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

Nonna Maria's pizzas may be the best in town, but that doesn't stop kids at the school from teasing her grandson, Luigi, over its square shape. Nonna Maria agrees to break with the tradition of her Italian village by making a round pizza for Luigi and the mayhem begins! Premised upon the "Gingerbread Man", the renegade pizza takes you on a chase in the city. Presented with visuals, and original live music, inviting audience participation.

A Very Queer Easter Pageant

Häus of the Holy Spirit | Hamilton



FR 18	10:15PM
SA 19	9:15PM
SU 20	3:15PM
MO 21	7:45PM
TH 24	9:15PM
SA 26	12:00PM
SU 27	9:15PM

WRITER & DIRECTOR:

Rebecca Casalino

PRODUCERS:

Praveen Wakwella & Jasmine Avila

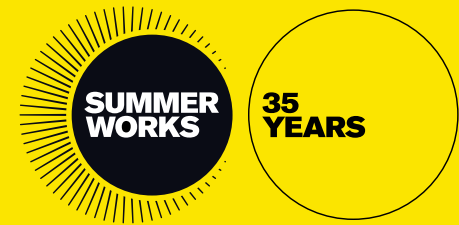
WARNINGS:

Strobe Lights, Violence

PG Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama,

Musical/Concert/Opera | 60m

Häus of the Holy Spirit presents a drag-infused dramatization of the Bible's Easter story with a surprise musical twist. In this queer re-telling, Jesus is a revolutionary again facing political persecution and religious martyrdom in historic Palestine (the Holy Land of Judea) under Roman occupation. An anti-colonial love letter, this play comes to life with a cast of alternative drag artists dedicated to shaking up "Canadian" conversation. Come and see for yourself.



**Celebrating 35 years of
innovative, boundary-pushing
independent theatre
and live performance.**

August 7–17, 2025

Tickets on sale: July 15

summerworks.ca

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*MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

Bangs, Bobs & Banter: Confessions of a Hairstylist

Gravity Theatre | Vancouver, BC



TH 17	8:30PM
SA 19	7:15PM
SU 20	9:00PM
TU 22	7:45PM
TH 24	6:15PM
SA 26	2:45PM
SU 27	3:15PM

WRITER & PERFORMER: Joanna Rannelli
DRAMATURG & DIRECTOR: Kerry Ipema
PRODUCER: Muhammad Dewji
WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

PG

Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

A Critics' Choice winner at Orlando Fringe and an Edmonton Fringe sellout, this one-woman comedy will have audiences laughing their heads off... without messing up their hair. Nikki, a charismatic hairstylist with a gift for storytelling, invites the audience into her salon, seamlessly shifting between characters and revealing a hilarious mix of sassy, saucy, and scandalous secrets. "Relatable, Real and Radiant"—Watermark, Orlando "Joanna Rannelli is incredibly talented and a joy to witness"—Winnipeg Free Press

Crane Girl

Falling Iguana Theatre | Toronto



TH 17	7:00PM
SA 19	1:45PM
SU 20	3:30PM
MO 21	6:15PM
TH 24	7:45PM
FR 25	10:15PM
SA 26	6:45PM

PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR: Alexa Higgins
ACTORS: Ian Ottis Goff, Alexa Higgins, Katherine Cappellacci & Kira Chisholm (swing)
WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Reference to self-harm and miscarriages.

PG

Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama, Dance | 60m

Inspired by a real event, Best New Play Award-winner 'Crane Girl' (Falling Iguana Theatre) follows a woman who walks out of her life and climbs a crane. It explores rage, women's bodies, reproductive rights, and what it means to find your voice in a patriarchal nightmare. And it's funny. This fast-paced highly physical play stars three actors playing multiple roles, and the real kicker? Our titular Crane Girl is on that crane the entire show!

*RP Relaxed Performance

Catch Me in the Kitchen Story Adventures

Catch Me in the Kitchen | Mississauga



TH 17	5:30PM
SA 19	3:15PM
SU 20	11:00AM
WE 23	6:15PM
FR 25	7:15PM
SA 26	11:45AM
SU 27	5:45PM

PLAYWRIGHTS & PERFORMERS:
 Ginette Mohr and Stephen LaFrenie
DIRECTOR: Liz Pounsett
COMPOSER: Tim Freeman and the Pickle Peppers

YA

Theatre-Comedy | 50m

Daring wolves, clever heroes, and twisted fairy tales collide in Catch Me in the Kitchen Story Adventures — a wildly imaginative, laugh-out-loud show for kids 4-12 and their grown-ups. Bursting with physical comedy, heartwarming surprises, and a touch of French, this is storytelling at its finest. ★★★★★ "A masterpiece of the imagination." —Winnipeg Free Press. "A magical showcase... perfect for young audiences." —The Toronto Star. on't miss this Fringe family favourite!

*RP Relaxed Performance

The Fruits that Rot in our Bellies

Femmepire | Hamilton



FR 18	5:45PM
SA 19	4:45PM
SU 20	7:30PM
TU 22	6:15PM
TH 24	9:15PM
SA 26	8:15PM
SU 27	12:15PM

PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR: Kitoko Mai
WARNINGS: Themes of miscarriage, abortion, incest, CSA, and domestic violence.

M

Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama | 60m

After agreeing to be a surrogate for their sister, Fimi is haunted by who or what is growing inside them. Darren Aronofsky's Mother meets Jordan Peele's Us in this afro-surrealist ghost story about a young non-binary person coming face to face with the spirit realm.

*RP Relaxed Performance | MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

Horseface

Alex Dallas Productions | Toronto



FR 18	10:15PM
SA 19	8:45PM
SU 20	2:00PM
MO 21	7:45PM
TU 22	9:15PM
FR 25	5:45PM
SA 26	1:15PM

PLAYWRIGHT & PERFORMER: Alex Dallas
DIRECTOR: Clare Barry
WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language, Violence

M

Storytelling/Solo Show | 50m

Veteran English comedian Alex Dallas (Sensible Footwear) — is sensational in this razor-sharp one-woman show that takes on everything from manspreading to #MeToo. A memoir of encounters with men throughout her life: handsy professors, train manspreaders, A-list fondlers, pornography-cataloguing fathers. Dallas is furiously funny with that signature dry British wit. Hilarious and powerful, Dallas really gets to the heart of what it means to be treated like prey in a world full of wolves.

*RP Relaxed Performance

The Pole Shebang

AJL Productions | Gold Coast, Australia



FR 18	8:45PM
SA 19	12:15PM
SU 20	6:00PM
MO 21	9:15PM
WE 23	7:45PM
SA 26	9:45PM
SU 27	7:15PM

CREATOR & PERFORMER: Andrea James Lui
WARNINGS: Coarse Language

PG

Dance, Circus, Storytelling/Solo Show | 55m

One Pole. One Person. One Hour. Take a behind the scenes detour on this journey of a tomboy pole dancer, as she is unexpectedly called up to the biggest stage in the country—a stage full of the most iconic, glamorous, and glittering pole dancers in the land! "Hilarious, heartwarming and interactive" "Very surprising. Very inspiring. And very impressive athleticism!" "Never seen anything like it!"

Visiting My Mother And Other Repetition Compulsions

Afterlife Theatre Company | Hamilton



FR 18	7:15PM
SA 19	10:15PM
SU 20	12:30PM
WE 23	9:15PM
FR 25	8:45PM
SA 26	4:15PM
SU 27	1:45PM

PLAYWRIGHT: Patrick Teed
DIRECTOR: Carly Anna Billings
PERFORMERS: Audrey Clairman & Meg Webster
WARNINGS: Coarse Language

PG

Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama | 60m

A therapy session, a family dinner, a hospital visit, the unbearable tension of the ordinary. Brought to you by the ALERT Company-in-Residence Afterlife Theatre, witness a show about the burden of unsaid inheritances, the pathology of familial love, and the tragedy of unconscious repetition. Created by the team that brought you the 2022 critically acclaimed Hamilton Fringe hit "Meat(less) Loaf".

artistic
leadership &
entrepreneurial
training
program

The ALERT Resident Company program is a customized 7-month training and mentorship opportunity for regional theatre makers culminating in a full production at Hamilton Fringe. This year, *Afterlife Theatre Company* (Carly Anna Billings & Patrick Teed) has teamed up with Junior Producers Annie Laleon and Tone Bailey. A portion of the proceeds from their show will be reinvested in the ALERT program, ensuring this initiative benefits emerging theatre makers for years to come. Go to HFTco.ca/ALERT for more info about *Afterlife Theatre Company* and ALERT!

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HAMILTON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

*RP Relaxed Performance | MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

500 Doubloons

Friendly Bear Theatre | Toronto



FR 18	8:30PM
SA 19	2:30PM
SU 20 [†]	12:00PM
TU 22 [*]	7:45PM
WE 23	9:00PM
SA 26	4:00PM
SU 27	12:00PM

DIRECTOR: Max Cameron Fearon
PLAYWRIGHT: Katherine Teed-Arthur
CAST: Shanice Bowrin, Sivert Das, Giselle Magie, Brett Seivwright & Katherine Teed-Arthur
WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language, Gun Shots, Nudity, Violence

PG Theatre-Comedy, Sketch Comedy/Improv | 50m

A group of bar patrons have all heard the same story: during the Golden Age of Piracy a pirate paid a woman five hundred doubloons (about \$400,000 dollars) to take her clothes off, and nothing more. No other details are available. But surely it can't be that straightforward? Each character has a different explanation, each building on the others'. This story asks: when history gives us no details, what story do we choose to invent?

*RP Relaxed Performance | [†]MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

The Fortune Teller

Artword Theatre | Hamilton



FR 18	10:00PM
SA 19	4:00PM
SU 20	1:30PM
MO 21	8:30PM
TH 24	9:00PM
SA 26	8:00PM
SU 27	6:00PM

PLAYWRIGHT: David Laing Dawson
DIRECTOR: Ronald Weihs

PG Theatre-Comedy | 60m

A Fortune Teller is about to start a séance, when her teenage niece bursts in. "My mother says I have to live with you now." A client comes in, who wants to contact his late wife. The niece's no-good boyfriend turns up. And that's just for starters. A knockdown farce that has some clever things to say about youth, love, the Great Beyond, and the Here and Now.

Meat Market

Meat Market Collective | Toronto



FR 18	5:30PM
SA 19	6:30PM
SU 20	7:30PM
TU 22 [*]	9:15PM
FR 25	8:00PM
SA 26	9:30PM
SU 27	1:30PM

PLAYWRIGHTS: Alex Boese & Shaun Soutar
DIRECTOR: David Covic
WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language, Strobe Lights, Nudity

M Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama, Sketch Comedy/Improv | 55m

Strap in and strap on, you're about to step into the absurd & raunchy world of gay hookup apps. With their first semester of college fast approaching, Fagabond decides to download Findr for the first time. Through the barrage of horny weirdos, desperate sugar daddies, and cheating husbands, Fagabond embarks on a transformative journey of self-discovery without ever leaving their bedroom. Audiences beware, it's about to get very gay and horny up in here.

*RP Relaxed Performance

Nahanni Gold:

A True Canadian Legend

Bad Crew Theatre | Toronto



TH 17	9:00PM
SA 19	10:00PM
TU 22	6:15PM
TH 24	7:30PM
FR 25	6:30PM
SA 26	2:30PM
SU 27	7:30PM

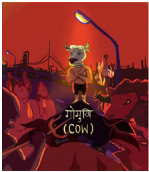
WRITER, MORDRED & DIRECTOR: Lucas McDonell
WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Gun Shots, Violence, frightening scenarios

PG Theatre-Drama, Storytelling/Solo Show | 50m

Nestled nicely in the Mackenzie Mountains, is the Nahanni Valley. A remote region of primordial beauty and whispered legends which have trickled out of the early trade forts and outposts. One of the most incredible tales that of Willie and Frank McLeod who died prospecting in the Valley in the early 1900s, is told here in hushed tones of dread. Mystery! Terror! Canadiana!

Gaumukhi (Cow)

The Ghare-Baire Collective | Toronto



TH 17	7:00PM
SA 19	8:00PM
SU 20	5:30PM
WE 23	6:00PM
FR 25	9:30PM
SA 26	12:30PM
SU 27	3:00PM

PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR: Kush Shah
CO-PRODUCER & PERFORMER: Deval Soni
WARNINGS: Gun Shots, Strobe Lights, Fog, Violence

PG Theatre-Drama, Musical/Concert/Opera, Storytelling/Solo Show | 75m

Gaumukhi (Cow) is an existentialist solo drama that follows a Cow, as she navigates the various identities imposed on her, with the identities she desires. Set in the months preceding, and during the Bombay riots of 1992, Gaumukhi blends lyrical prose with live Indian classical music to reflect the eponymous protagonist's journeys of loving and longing in the divisive, communal landscape of India.

Hope in Hot Times

Play Play Clown Theatre | East York



TH 17	5:30PM
SA 19	11:30AM
SU 20 [†]	3:00PM
MO 21 [*]	5:30PM
WE 23	8:00PM
FR 25	5:00PM
SA 26	11:00AM

DIRECTOR: Janice Jo Lee
PLAYWRIGHTS: Chantal Bassous & Sue Carroll, Sivert Das, Angelic Goldsky, Michael Higginson, Kendra Ward, Janice Jo Lee

A Theatre-Comedy, Musical/Concert/Opera, Dance | 60m

"I'm the main character! You're the villain!" cry the clowns, trying so hard to live with dignity. Why was that person so mean to me? Why do I have to get to work on time when the world is burning? Where is the joy? Why is my coffee cold? WHERE ARE MY GLASSES GAHHH!!!! Ridiculous, beautiful, musical and questionable, bring your whole family to this super fun clown physical comedy by the Play Play Collective.

*RP Relaxed Performance | [†]MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

Raccacloon

Playdough Productions | Toronto



FR 18	7:00PM
SA 19 [†]	1:00PM
SU 20	9:00PM
MO 21	7:00PM
TH 24	6:00PM
SA 26	6:30PM
SU 27	9:00PM

PLAYWRIGHT: Bethany Robert
DIRECTOR: Jesse Lewis
WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Depictions of Smoking (Marijuana)

PG Theatre-Comedy, Dance, Circus | 50m

Raccacloon has been ravaging dumpsters with their raccoon family their whole life, but they lack support in pursuing their true dreams: to perform as a clown. Raccacloon leaves home and meets a noodle-named chef with daddy issues, who is on a journey to find his father. Through musical clown movements in kitchens, alleyways, and maybe even Las Vegas, the unlikely friends will learn the importance of staying true to your identity.

[†]MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

On the next few pages you'll find a handy overview of the entire festival, including our event map, show times, venues, accessibility information, and more.

Looking for a searchable list of shows and events? Point your smartphone camera at this handy QR code!



Full Schedule & Listings		Main Venues			Main Venues			Full Schedule & Listings						
Mills Hardware 95 King St E 		Length	Page #	Thu 17	Fri 18	Sat 19	Sun 20	Mon 21	Tue 22	Wed 23	Thu 24	Fri 25	Sat 26	Sun 27
A Canadian Explains Eurovision To Other Canadians	Cant Stand Sitting Productions	55 mins	10		5:30 PM	1:30 PM	7:30 PM		7:30 PM RP		6:00 PM	8:30 PM	10:00 PM	
The Heterosexuals	Redheaded Stepchild Productions	60 mins	10		8:30 PM	10:00 PM	3:30 PM			8:00 PM RP		5:30 PM	2:00 PM	12:00 PM
Mind Reader	Steven Nicholas	60 mins	10		7:00 PM	3:00 PM	9:00 PM		6:00 PM	9:30 PM			7:00 PM	1:30 PM
Mind the Gaps	Attempt #62	50 mins	11		10:00 PM	8:30 PM		6:00 PM RP			9:00 PM	7:00 PM	3:30 PM MM	7:00 PM
A Question Of Character	Minmar Gaslight Productions	80 mins	11	9:00 PM		6:30 PM	1:30 PM MM	7:30 PM		6:00 PM RP			12:00 PM	8:30 PM
Sex Goddess	House + Body	55 mins	11	7:30 PM		12:00 PM	5:00 PM MM		9:00 PM			10:00 PM	5:30 PM	3:00 PM
Ugly Privilege	Jessica Pigeau	60 mins	11	6:00 PM RP		4:30 PM RP	12:00 PM RP	9:30 PM RP			7:30 PM RP		8:30 PM RP	4:30 PM RP
The Players' Guild of Hamilton 80 Queen St S 														
All The World's A Cage	Gendron Productions	60 mins	12		7:15 PM	10:45 PM	9:15 PM			7:45 PM		5:45 PM	1:30 PM	6:15 PM
A Gentleman's Murder	Reactor Theatre	55 mins	12		8:45 PM	1:45 PM		6:15 PM	7:30 PM			8:45 PM	3:00 PM	12:15 PM
Minimum	The Intergalactic Federation of Space Beers	90 mins	12	9:00 PM		7:15 PM	5:45 PM		9:00 PM		5:45 PM		8:30 PM	1:45 PM
Once Upon A Pizzeria	Charly Chiarelli	60 mins	12	7:30 PM		12:15 PM	7:45 PM	9:15 PM		6:15 PM		7:15 PM	5:30 PM	
Sister Sophia Kicks The Habit	The Universe Over 60	50 mins	13		5:45 PM	4:45 PM	1:45 PM		6:00 PM			10:15 PM	7:00 PM	3:45 PM
Ten Reasons Why I Joined a Punk Band in My Fifties!	Little Terrier Productions	60 mins	13	6:00 PM		3:15 PM	12:15 PM			9:15 PM	7:45 PM		10:30 PM	7:45 PM
A Very Queer Easter Pageant	Häus of the Holy Spirit	60 mins	13		10:15 PM	9:15 PM	3:15 PM	7:45 PM			9:15 PM		12:00 PM MM	9:15 PM
Theatre Aquarius Studio 190 King William St 														
Bangs, Bobs & Banter: Confessions of a Hairstylist	Gravity Theatre	60 mins	14	8:30 PM		7:15 PM	9:00 PM		7:45 PM		6:15 PM		2:45 PM	3:15 PM
Catch Me in the Kitchen Story Adventures	Catch Me in the Kitchen	50 mins	14	5:30 PM		3:15 PM	11:00AM			6:15 PM RP		7:15 PM	11:45 AM	5:45 PM
Crane Girl	Falling Iguana Theatre	60 mins	14	7:00 PM		1:45 PM	3:30 PM	6:15 PM RP			7:45 PM	10:15 PM	6:45 PM	
The Fruits that Rot in our Bellies	Femmepire	60 mins	14		5:45 PM	4:45 PM	7:30 PM		6:15 PM MM		9:15 PM		8:15 PM	12:15 PM RP
Horseface	Alex Dallas Productions	50 mins	15		10:15 PM	8:45 PM	2:00 PM	7:45 PM RP	9:15 PM			5:45 PM	1:15 PM	
The Pole Shebang	AJL Productions	55 mins	15		8:45 PM	12:15 PM	6:00 PM	9:15 PM		7:45 PM			9:45 PM	7:15 PM
Visiting My Mother And Other Repetition Compulsions	Afterlife Theatre Company	60 mins	15		7:15 PM	10:15 PM	12:30 PM RP			9:15 PM MM		8:45 PM	4:15 PM	1:45 PM
The Westdale 1014 King St W 														
500 Doubloons	Friendly Bear Theatre	50 mins	16		8:30 PM	2:30 PM	12:00 PM MM		7:45 PM RP	9:30 PM			4:00 PM	12:00 PM
The Fortune Teller	Artword Theatre	60 mins	16		10:00PM	4:00 PM	1:30 PM	8:30 PM			9:00PM		8:00 PM	6:00 PM
Gaumukhi (Cow)	The Ghare-Baire Collective	75 mins	16	7:00 PM		8:00 PM	5:30 PM			6:00 PM		9:30 PM	12:30 PM	3:00 PM
Hope in Hot Times	Play Play Clown Theatre	60 mins	16	5:30 PM		11:30 AM	3:00 PM MM	5:30 PM RP		8:00 PM		5:00PM	11:00 AM	
Meat Market	Meat Market Collective	55 mins	17		5:30PM	6:30 PM	7:30 PM		9:15 PM RP			8:00 PM	9:30 PM	1:30 PM
Nahanni Gold: A True Canadian Legend	Bad Crew Theatre	50 mins	17	9:00 PM		10:00 PM			6:15 PM		7:30 PM	6:30PM	2:30 PM	7:30 PM
Raccacloon	Playdough Productions	50 mins	17		7:00 PM	1:00 PM MM	9:00 PM	7:00 PM			6:00 PM		6:30 PM	9:00 PM

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Getting Around Hamilton Fringe

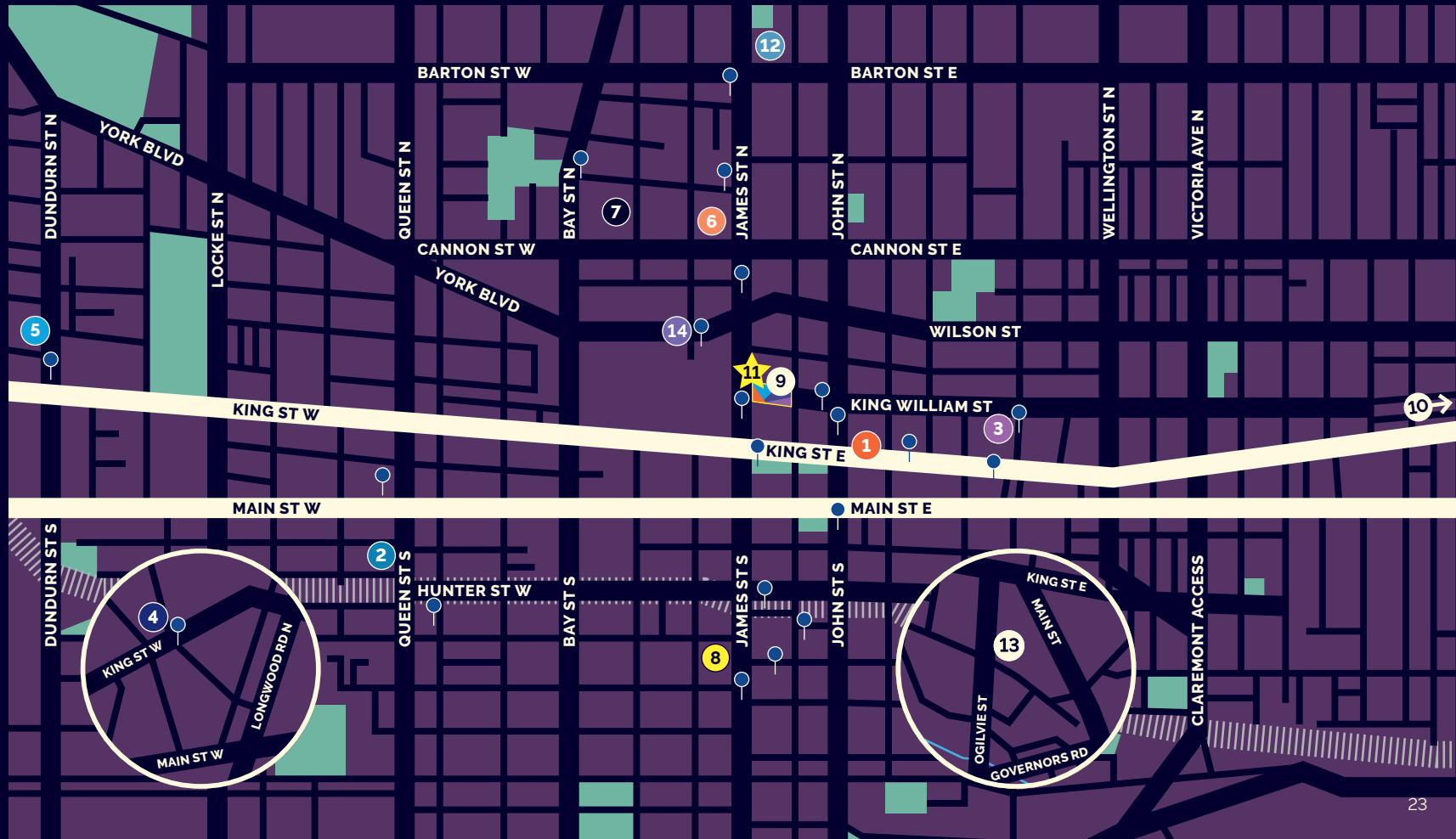


How-To Bike Share:
Download the **Social Bicycles** app to create an account and view available bikes. Contact help@hamiltonbikeshare.ca or call **289-768-2453** for assistance.

From Westdale to Dundas to the downtown core, Hamilton Fringe animates more than **12 indoor and outdoor venues** with **50+ shows** and **300+ performances**. This year, we've partnered with **Hamilton Bike Share** to bring you this handy festival map. Whether you're biking, bussing, or driving — you'll want to keep this map close at hand!

Venues

- 1 **MILLS HARDWARE**
95 King St E
 - 2 **THE PLAYERS' GUILD OF HAMILTON**
80 Queen St S
 - 3 **THEATRE AQUARIUS**
190 King William St
 - 4 **THE WESTDALE**
1014 King St W
 - 5 **THE STAIRCASE**
27 Dundurn St N
 - 6 **HAMILTON THEATRE INC.**
140 MacNab St N
 - 7 **THE GASWORKS**
141 Park St N
 - 8 **CENTRE FOR TALKING ARTS**
154 James St S
 - 9 **RELAY COFFEE ROASTERS**
27 King William St
 - 10 **VINTAGE COFFEE ROASTERS**
977 King St E
 - 11 **THE incite FRINGE INFO HUB @ THE LISTER BLOCK**
28 James St N
(entrance on King William St)
 - 12 **RINGSIDE**
324 James St N (enter through alley)
 - 13 **DUNDAS VALLEY SCHOOL OF ART**
21 Ogilvie St, Dundas
 - 14 **FRINGE ON THE STREETS**
Hamilton Farmers' Market
35 York Blvd
- HAMILTON BIKE SHARE HUBS**
- FRINGE BOULEVARD**
King William St (between James St N and Hughson St N)



Fringe Boulevard Outdoor Stage & Patio

Located on King William St at James St N, Fringe Boulevard transforms the street into a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly hub filled with music, dance, drag, film, painting, and performance. (Don't forget to check out the local artisans in the Marketplace tents on both Saturdays from 12-9PM!) It's the living, beating heart of the festival — and the place to celebrate the weird, wild, and wonderful Hamilton Fringe community! Best of all? All the programming is FREE!!

While you're there, make sure to pay a visit to our incredible neighbors along the Boulevard! The Diplomat, Electric Diner, The French, HAMBGR, The Mule, Parma, Piccolo, The Standard, and Undefined are just a few of the many amazing businesses along the strip that are celebrating the Fringe Festival with us. For more information and to get access to exclusive deals during the festival, visit [HFTco.ca/visit-hamilton](https://hftco.ca/visit-hamilton).

Relay Licensed Patio | Open 6:00PM – 10:30PM every night | Join us each evening in the licensed tent for a bite and a bevvy at The Relay Outdoor Patio. Brought to you by our pals at Relay Coffee Roasters.

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 **Hamilton**

**DWN
TWN**
HAMILTON

**KEEPING
SIX
HAMILTON**

relay
COFFEE ROASTERS

Kids Club Fun Day | Saturday, July 26, 2025 | 10:00AM – 2:00PM

Kids Club Fun Day on Fringe Boulevard is one big day of FREE family-friendly Fringe events! Do you know someone 2-12 years old who loves making art and performing? With music, dance, painting, and tons more, there's something for every curious kid to enjoy.

In addition to kids' workshops, there's a Family Fringe show featuring local favorites, face painting, arts & crafts, and a 4:30PM performance by the Spark Teen Performance unit.

Head to [HFTco.ca](https://hftco.ca) for the full Kids Club Fun Day schedule!

**kids
club**

Rotary 
Rotary Club of Hamilton AM

VISIT OUR NEIGHBOURS ON THE BOULEVARD

**HAM
BRGR**



PARMA

piccolo

**THE
DIPLOMAT**



**THE
FRENCH**

THE STANDARD.

UNDEFINED

FRINGE BOULEVARD SCHEDULE | King William St (between James St N and Hughson St N) 

RELAY Licensed Patio	JUL 16 - 27	6:00 PM-10:30 PM
Opening Night Kick-Off ★ at Mills Hardware 95 King St E ★	WED JUL 16	6:30 PM-9:00 PM
Kick-Off After-Party	WED JUL 16	9:00 PM-11:00 PM
Films On The Fringe: Shorts Showcase	THU JUL 17	9:00 PM-10:30 PM
Films On The Fringe: Bawaadan Collective & Sidewalk Cinema	FRI JUL 18	7:30 PM-11:00 PM
Fringe Boulevard Marketplace	SAT JUL 19	12:00 PM-9:00 PM
Live Music	SAT JUL 19	12:00 PM-2:00 PM
Bob Ross Paint-Along	SAT JUL 19	7:30 PM-8:30 PM
Drag Night with House of Adam and Steve	SAT JUL 19	9:00 PM-10:30 PM
Keeping Six Open Mic Night	SUN JUL 20	5:00 PM-8:00 PM
Sunday Night Karaoke	SUN JUL 20	8:30 PM-10:00 PM
Music Bingo *hosted at Electric Diner	MON JUL 21	7:00 PM-9:00 PM
Trivia Night *hosted at Electric Diner	TUE JUL 22	8:00 PM-10:00 PM
Salsa Lessons with SalsaSoul	THU JUL 24	7:30 PM-8:30 PM
Salsa Under The Stars	THU JUL 24	8:30 PM-10:00 PM
Salsa After-Party *hosted at The Mule	THU JUL 24	10:00 PM-LATE
DISCOCAB Disability Connection Cabaret	FRI JUL 25	7:30 PM-10:00 PM
Kids Club Fun Day (see HFTco.ca/events for full listings!)	SAT JUL 26	10:00 AM-2:00 PM
Indigenous Marketplace	SAT JUL 26	12:00 PM-9:00 PM
Spark Teen Performance	SAT JUL 26	4:30 PM-5:30 PM
Bands on the Boulevard	SAT JUL 26	9:00 PM-11:00 PM
Closing Night Preshow & 50/50 Draw	SUN JUL 27	7:00 PM-9:00 PM
Closing Night Awards Party with Karma Kameleon	SUN JUL 27	9:00 PM-11:00 PM

The incite Fringe Info Hub @ the Lister Block



This year, the incite Fringe Info Hub is located right off Fringe Boulevard in the Lister Block (28 James St N — entrance on King William St). Let us answer any questions you have about the shows, free programming, passes, or the ticket-buying process. Surprise us! We'll be ready. Cash, credit, and debit accepted.

Public Hours | July 17-27

Weekdays 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Saturdays 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Sundays 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM

incite
FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS



Fringe On The Streets

A FREE outdoor performance tour presented in partnership with the City of Hamilton with support from the Downtown Hamilton BIA and Keeping Six.



Fringe On The Streets is an immersive walking tour that reimagines downtown Hamilton. Audiences will experience a wild and wonderful version of the city through live art and performance. Hop on or off anywhere along the 75-minute route along York & James as we bring you music and avian sculpture at the Farmers' Market, a sidewalk burlesque, the women of vaudeville behind the Tivoli, a puppet show with a historical twist, a condo realtor presentation from the great beyond, and a dancing grand finale on King William. There's never been a tour of Downtown Hamilton quite like this!

Tours depart Hamilton Farmers' Market (35 York Blvd) at the following times:

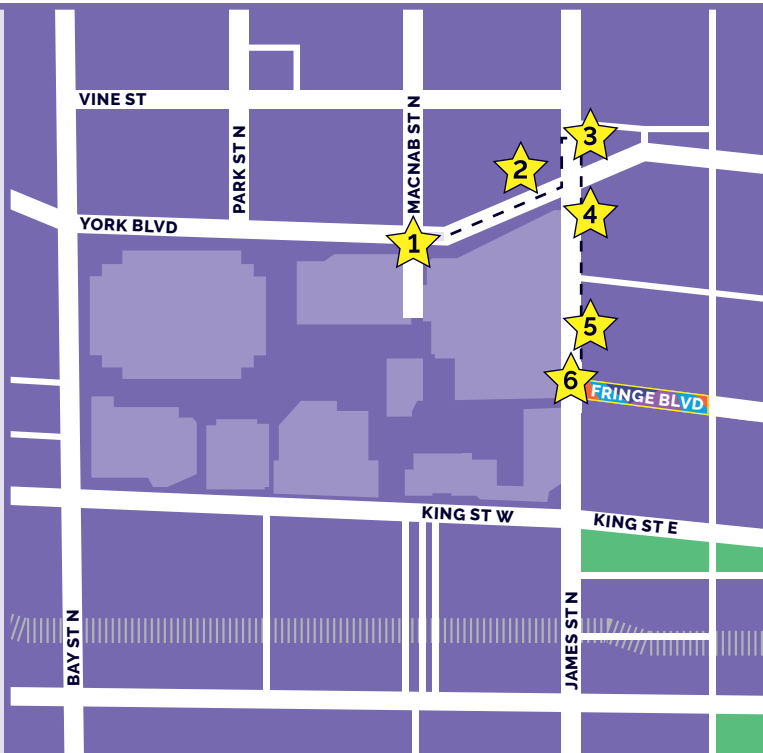
Fri July 18: 6:00PM
Sat July 19: 3:00PM & 6:00PM
Sun July 20: 3:00PM

Thu July 24: 6:00PM ★
Fri July 25: 6:00PM
Sat July 26: 3:00PM & 6:00PM
Sun July 27: 3:00PM



Stops

- 1 **HAMILTON FARMERS' MARKET**
35 York Blvd
- 2 **PARKETTE @ CAR PARK 69**
12 York Blvd
- 3 **TIVOLI IN THE SQUARE**
112 James St N
- 4 **GREEN SPACE @ CAR PARK 13**
20 Wilson St
- 5 **EN ROUTE ALONG JAMES ST N**
Wilson St to King William St
- 6 **FRINGE BOULEVARD**
King William St & James St N



FRINGE ON THE STREETS

York Blvd to James St N to Fringe Boulevard
FREE 75-min Travelling Performances

STOP #1:
AnimalKinetic
Cesar C Cordoba | Hamilton



CREATOR: Cesar C Cordoba

A Puppetry | 10m

Cesar C Cordoba's ethereal sounds on accordion and keyboards will weave through the beginning of our journey, then lead us through the city along with a kinetic sculpture/puppet entitled "Word Birds"—a representation of the mechanization of societies. The bird is a metaphor for the word and the voice rising above the gears, which represent the mechanical, the industrial. Art, theatre, poetry, storytelling, and imagination soar above that machinery—above so-called 'reality.'

STOP #2:
An Urbanist Burlesque
Claud Spadafora | Hamilton



CREATOR: Claud Spadafora

M Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/
Solo Show, Cabaret | 12m

An absurd flirtation with urban design—the study of creating sustainable, just, socially connected public spaces. Claud Spadafora welcomes sidewalk stakeholders to ask: Is the minutiae of our city inevitable? Is it benign? Aren't garbage cans kind of sexy? In Urbanist Burlesque, everyday pieces of infrastructure come alive to bring new meaning to the word objectification.

STOP #3:
Pony Girls
Sheep's Clothing Theatre | Toronto



PLAYWRIGHT: Catie Thorne

DIRECTOR: Maya Rikhi

PRODUCER: Brianna Russell

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

PG Theatre-Comedy,
Theatre-Drama | 15m

Sheep's Clothing Theatre presents: Pony Girls, the story of four Vaudevillian chorus girls on their one night only engagement at the Tivoli Theatre. In the moments leading up to the curtain rising, the girls escape from the chaos of their dressing rooms to discover why exactly they return to the theatre each night.

STOP #4:
Ms. Bagshaw's Remarkable Rebellion
Flesh & Wire Co. | Hamilton



PLAYWRIGHT & PERFORMER:

Emma Ratcliffe

ART DIRECTOR: Leigh Robinson

A Puppetry, Storytelling/
Solo Show | 15m

Meet Elizabeth Bagshaw: fearless doctor and feminist icon who defied the odds to fight for reproductive rights here in Hamilton Ontario. This captivating puppetry show celebrates her legacy, courage and defiance, and will inspire you with its humour and heart.

STOP #5:
Everything is a Condo
Devin Bateson | Hamilton



PLAYWRIGHT & ACTOR:

Devin Bateson

ACTOR: Lucy Winkle

A Theatre-Comedy | 10m

In the distant future Everything is a Condo. A time traveller has come back in time to give a ghost tour.

STOP #6:
BLOOM
retrograde: dance in motion | Hamilton & St. Catharines



CHOREOGRAPHERS:

Skye Rogers (she/her) &

Vik Mudge (they/he)

A Dance | 10m

How can we pay attention to the uniqueness of a place? What would happen if a community garden were planted in Hamilton's concrete, rubble, and glass? What if we embodied that? Would a vibrant splash of hope ripple outwards? Would we all move freely? "bloom" by retrograde: dance in motion is a live improvised dance jam made to explore these questions. Catch us at Fringe on the Streets!

Big Chick Energy Presents: Big Chick Lethargy?!

Big Chick Energy Sketch | Hamilton & Toronto



FR 18	9:05PM
SA 19	3:00PM
SU 20	6:30PM

WARNINGS: Gun Shots, Violence

PG

Sketch Comedy/Improv | 60m

The Chicks have lost their ENERGY! What could have stolen it? Capitalism? People? Low iron? An all-consuming bullet journal that reminds you that you're never going to be perfect?!?! One thing's for sure, The Chicks are gonna fight to get from lethargy to energy! So clap and laugh for us in our brand new 2025 sketch revue, so we don't fade away and die! ... But otherwise we're fine, how are you?

I'm Actually Right About Everything: A Bisexual Love Story

Tracy Hamilton | Toronto



TH 17	7:00PM
FR 18	7:50PM
SA 19	8:40PM
SU 20	3:00PM
TH 24	7:30PM
FR 25	8:30PM
SA 26	9:30PM
SU 27	3:30PM

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY: Tracy Hamilton

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

PG

Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

Tracy Hamilton's gut always knew best—she just needed 30 years (and a few red flags) to listen. A hilarious and heartfelt solo show about queerness, friendship, bad boyfriends, and the voice inside that always knew better. For anyone who's ignored their instincts... and paid for it. Tracy Hamilton has been featured on CBC The Debaters, Laugh Out Loud, and SiriusXM. This is a show you don't want to miss!

Men Love Horsies: The Musical

Devin Bateson | Hamilton



TH 17	7:50PM
FR 18	8:30PM
SA 19	10:15PM
SU 20	6:00PM
MO 21	8:00PM
TU 22	8:30PM
WE 23	9:30PM
TH 24	10:00PM
FR 25	10:15PM
SA 26	7:10PM
SU 27	2:15PM

PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR:

Devin Bateson

PG

Theatre-Comedy,
Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

Just a man singing songs about horses.

Unsolicited: Good Advice Gone Dad

Kristi Boulton | Hamilton



TH 17	9:30PM
FR 18	6:55PM
SA 19	8:45PM
SU 20	4:20PM
TH 24	8:30PM
FR 25	8:45PM
SA 26	10:15PM
SU 27	3:45PM

WRITER, DIRECTOR & PERFORMER: Kristi Boulton

PRODUCER: Marc Nascimento

TECH EXTRAORDINAIRE: Rose Uscenica

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

PG

Theatre-Comedy, Sketch Comedy/Improv,
Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

Comedian and storyteller Kristi Boulton returns with a heartfelt, hilarious one-woman show exploring the wild, weird, and wonderfully unsolicited advice her dad and others have given her over the years. Blending stand-up and storytelling, she unpacks love, puberty, heartbreak, and all the awkward life lessons in between. From the award-winning creator of The Underwear Fairy, this show is for anyone who's ever rolled their eyes at their parents, then realized they were right. Kind of.

A Non Canonical Musical Adventure with Pookamhura: Mistress of B-Roll

Theatre Erebus Inc | Hamilton



TH 17	8:30PM
FR 18	10:20PM
SA 19	4:30PM
SU 20	4:45PM
WE 23	7:00PM
TH 24	9:15PM
FR 25	10:00PM
SA 26	7:00PM
SU 27	5:00PM

A NEW MUSICAL BY: Chris Cracknell
BOOK & STAGE DIRECTION BY: Brian Morton

CAST: Emily Bolyea, Francis Wallace,
Jelena Vermilion, Mason Micevski

WARNINGS: Coarse Language

PG

Theatre-Drama, Musical/Concert/Opera | 70m

A random group of MMO players meets Pookamhura, a gnome rogue inspired by Shakespeare's Puck, as they wait for another player to join them for a dungeon adventure. During the wait, they reflect on their shared history as gamers and people, using original songs and humour. One player reveals a secret that causes tension and challenges the group, forcing them to confront their prejudices and make difficult choices. The story explores themes of self-discovery, identity, and the complexities of life's adventures.

Waiting for* Godot. *Waiting for Waiting for

Breadbox Theatre | Toronto



TH 17	10:15PM
FR 18	6:30PM
SA 19	6:30PM
SU 20	8:00PM
MO 21	7:00PM
TU 22	7:00PM
WE 23	8:40PM
TH 24	6:00PM
FR 25	7:00PM
SA 26	5:30PM
SU 27	2:00PM

DIRECTOR: Braden Henderson

STAGE MANAGER: Sarah Soares

ACTORS: Adelaide Dolha, Liam Lockhart-Rush,
Jonah Paroyan

WARNINGS: Coarse Language

PG

Theatre-Comedy, Theatre-Drama | 60m

Waiting. We all do it but what does it really mean? To wait is to want, to want is to yearn, to yearn is to earn! Waiting. The final fun-tier! To quote THE brilliant philosopher of our time, "Whatever you're schemin'. I'm already dreamin'. Come over, come over. And don't keep me waitin'" —Carly Rae Jepsen For further information about our show please wait for the beep.

THEY WALK AMONG US! BEWARE...

THE HETEROSEXUALS

BY JOHNNIE MCNAMARA WALKER

★★★★★

"COMIC GENIUS!"

THE IRISH TIMES

What If? Improvising Your Alternate Universe

WatsOn Productions | Niagara



TH 17	6:20PM
FR 18	10:10PM
SA 19	7:15PM
SU 20	7:40PM
TH 24	7:05PM
FR 25	7:15PM
SA 26	8:50PM
SU 27	5:15PM

CAST: Bradley Doyle, Brie Watson, David Lahti,
Dina Senior, Heather Eyman & Natasha Bromfield

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language,
Violence

PG

Theatre-Comedy, Sketch Comedy/Improv,
Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

A new storyteller every show will see their alternate universe right before their very eyes and completely improvised in this exciting and spontaneous comedy show.

*RP Relaxed Performance

Call Me Hutch

Canuck Hutch | Toronto



TH 17	7:25PM
FR 18	7:40PM
SA 19	8:30PM
SU 20	3:10PM
TU 22	9:00PM
WE 23	8:00PM
TH 24	6:05PM
FR 25	10:20PM
SA 26	6:45PM
SU 27	3:00PM

CAST: Paul Hutcheson

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

M Storytelling/Solo Show | 55m

Fringe veteran Paul Hutcheson is back with his fourth solo comedy at the Hamilton Fringe. Known for his physical style of storytelling and stand-up, Hutcheson has performed across Canada to rave reviews and packed houses. "Look out Jim Carrey!"—View Magazine "Hutcheson's plastic body and endless comic expressions dominate the stage."—Star Phoenix

Impatient Inpatient

Zeus Entertainment Inc | Oakville



TH 17	8:55PM
FR 18	6:00PM
SA 19	10:00PM
SU 20	6:05PM
TU 22	7:30PM
WE 23	6:30PM
TH 24	7:45PM
FR 25	8:35PM
SA 26	9:45PM
SU 27	6:20PM

WRITTEN, DIRECTED & PERFORMED BY:

Rikki Wright

SUPPORTED BY: Craig Warnock

WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Strobe Lights, Sensitive Subject

A Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

Three months in hospital. One busted body. Zero chill. Come for the laughs, stay for the existential crisis! This isn't your typical sob story—it's a wild, multimedia ride through the weird, wonderful, and occasionally wobbly world of health care, healing, and learning to walk (and swear) again. Equal parts heart and hilarity—this is recovery, reimagined. Catch it at Hamilton Fringe—your prescription for unforgettable theatre.

The Damage Done

Willson Entertainment Productions | Hamilton



TH 17	7:30PM
FR 18	9:30PM
SA 19	3:30PM
SU 20	2:00PM
TU 22	8:30PM
WE 23	7:30PM
TH 24	9:30PM
FR 25	7:30PM
SA 26	7:00PM

PLAYWRIGHT: George F. Walker

DIRECTOR: Matthew Willson

WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Domestic violence, discussion of suicide, discussion of sex, discussion of drug use

M Theatre-Drama | 90m

From Governor General Award winning playwright, George F. Walker, comes a two-hander told in real time. Bobby and Tina, together at fifteen until it all fell apart in their twenties, are now both pushing forty and still trying to figure out what went wrong, or if there was ever anything right. The same park. The same swirling emotions. Their grown up kids. A desperate need for help. Funny, sad, painful, and even a bit hopeful.

*RP Relaxed Performance

Moving In

Moving In Theatre | Toronto



FR 18	8:00PM
SA 19	2:00PM
TU 22	7:00PM
TH 24	8:00PM
SA 26	3:00PM

PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR: Elias Campbell

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

M Theatre-Drama | 60m

A mere three months into dating, Sarah and James move in together. When Sarah's friend Patrice visits them, certain questions about James arise. Sarah's forced to figure out whether or not she can trust the man she's now living with. The play weaves together threads of gender politics, performative feminism, and the sometimes elusive line between healthy and toxic relationships.

Hamilton Theatre Inc.
is pulling back the curtain on our
67th Season!



Scan the code to see
behind the curtain and
get your tickets today!



hamiltontheatre.com/67-Season

Liz, A Traumatic Comedy

9M Theatre | Hamilton



TH 17	6:00PM
FR 18	9:20PM
SA 19	7:05PM
SU 20	4:40PM
FR 25	7:05PM
SA 26	8:15PM
SU 27	4:30PM

PLAYWRIGHT: Liz Buchanan

DIRECTOR: David Faulkner-Rundle

PRODUCER: Renata Ona

WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Violence

M Theatre-Comedy | 60m

Liz, a Traumatic Comedy is about Liz. It might also be about healing from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, through art, friendship, family and defiant hopefulness. Sometimes vulnerable, but mostly silly, Liz tells her mental health journey from manic pixie dream girl to depressed pixie dream girl, to reasonably well-adjusted adult. Most importantly, she reveals why she's so obsessed with gnomes. Enjoy this follow-up to Liz's 2023 critically-acclaimed show Gnomes: A Traumatic Comedy.

*RP Relaxed Performance

Ostrich Park

The Plot Hole Company | Hamilton



TH 17	9:30PM
FR 18	6:30PM
SA 19	6:00PM
SU 20	12:00PM
TH 24	6:30PM
FR 25	9:30PM
SA 26	1:00PM

DIRECTORS: James Allen & Lucia Crespo

PLAYWRIGHT: James Allen

STAGE MANAGER: Teryn Lawson

WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Violence

PG Theatre-Comedy, Puppetry | 60m

A play 59 million years in the making. Wedding corporate sabotage. DNA splicing. Chaos Theory. In this once in a life time play, see the true apex predator, Ostriches, unleashed.

Sister Sophia Kicks the Habit

Writer & Performer

Lisa Randall

Director & Dramaturg

Kate Johnston

The Players' Guild of Hamilton

80 Queen St S

July 18 - 5:45 PM

July 19 - 4:45 PM

July 20 - 1:45 PM

July 22 - 6:00 PM

July 25 - 10:15 PM

July 26 - 7:00 PM

July 27 - 3:45 PM

Tickets
\$14



"The divine wisdom of the Holy She"

Catching a Cheese Pervert: A Frances Francis Mystery



FR 18*	7:00PM
SA 19	8:30PM
SU 20	2:30PM
WE 23	5:30PM
TH 24	10:00PM
FR 25	8:30PM
SA 26	7:00PM
SU 27	4:00PM

PLAYWRIGHT: Kayla Kurin
PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR: Krista Rowe
PERFORMER: Megan Phillips
WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

PG Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/Solo Show | 55m

Who's committing lewd public acts with Francis Corp. cheese? Eat free cheese and watch pathologically self-improving heiress, Frances Francis, try to unmask the culprit. Armed with an earnest desire to save the family business and questionable detective skills, Frances turns everything into a messy media spectacle. Racing against the true crime investigators on Reddit, Frances must catch the Cheese Pervert before they destroy her family-and the Cheese Division's profit margins. Unfortunately, inspired by true events.

*RP Relaxed Performance

Limb Loss, Love



FR 18*	8:30PM
SA 19*	10:00PM
SU 20*	7:00PM
WE 23*	7:00PM
TH 24*	8:30PM
FR 25*	10:00PM
SA 26*	5:30PM
SU 27*	5:30PM

WRITER & PERFORMER: Dan Hurwitz
WARNINGS: Coarse Language

PG Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/Solo Show | 60m

"Limb Loss, Love" is a personal and hilarious exploration of the life of comedian Dan Hurwitz: a disabled, mixed-race, light-skinned, patrilineally Jewish person. We journey with Dan as he delves deep into these identities, and all of the self-contradicting multitudes contained therein. Funny, raw, and always surprising, this solo show is unlike anything else you're likely to see.

*RP Relaxed Performance | *MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

Charon

Little Bird Theatre | St. Catharines



FR 18	10:00PM
SA 19	5:30PM
SU 20	5:30PM
WE 23	8:30PM
TH 24	7:00PM
FR 25	5:30PM
SA 26	10:00PM
SU 27	7:00PM

PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR: Jake Hunter
PERFORMERS: Ali Farhadi & Jessica Konkle
WARNINGS: Coarse Language, Violence

PG Theatre-Drama | 60m

Charon, the ferryman of the River Styx, embraces a young, ordinary Daphne as she struggles with her transition from life to death, helping her grasp the universal concepts of fate and fear. As they journey from life to the afterlife, Daphne discovers the power of mentorship and kindness as she fights the memories of her past, with Charon offering perspective from religions across the globe.

Mark I



FR 18	5:30PM
SA 19	7:00PM
SU 20	4:00PM
WE 23	10:00PM
TH 24	5:30PM
FR 25	7:00PM
SA 26	8:30PM
SU 27	2:30PM

PRODUCER & ACTOR: Tom Bates
PHOTOS: Stoo Metz & Matthew Matheson

PG Storytelling/Solo Show | 55m

The Gospel of Mark is known to be the oldest written biblical gospel. This amazing story is told with modern language, but in its original form. Come and see and hear.

The Giant Space Monster That Ate Hamilton in 3-D



TH 17	7:00PM
FR 18	7:00PM
SA 19	4:30PM
SU 20	4:30PM
TU 22	7:00PM
WE 23	7:00PM
TH 24	7:00PM
FR 25	7:00PM
SA 26	4:30PM

CREATORS: Larry Smith & Kristian Reimer
WARNINGS: May contain -Ping-pong balls

PG Theatre-Comedy, Puppetry | 55m

"The Giant Space Monster That Ate Hamilton in 3-D" is a wild, live-action human puppet experiment—part sci-fi spoof, part theatrical chaos, and entirely unpredictable. In this playful spectacle, Smith & Reimer join forces to save Hamilton (and the world) from a monstrous threat in a one-of-a-kind, laugh-packed performance adventure that's as heartfelt as it is hilarious.

Red Hot Cherry Poppin' Experience



TH 17*	8:15PM
FR 18*	9:30PM
SA 19*	9:30PM
WE 23*	8:15PM
TH 24*	8:15PM
FR 25*	9:30PM
SA 26*	9:30PM

PLAYWRIGHT: Suzanne Cutler & Jason Thompson
DIRECTOR: Jason Thompson
PRODUCER: Suzanne Cutler
WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language, Nudity

M Theatre-Comedy | 50m

Laugh, learn and let loose at this wildly fun, sex positive comedy show! With playful conversations and a night of honesty, humour and liberation. Whether you're curious or confident about sex... the show will entertain, engage, and maybe even enlighten you. Grab your tickets now. A fun nights awaits.

*RP Relaxed Performance

Let's Start A Fake Cult: Nihilism, Narcissism, Hypnotism



SA 19*	8:15PM
SU 20*	7:00PM
FR 25*	8:15PM
SA 26*	8:15PM

PLAYWRIGHT & PERFORMER: Jake Cenik Koseleci
DIRECTOR: Dexter Ico
AUDIO VISUAL PRODUCER: George Tarabay
WARNINGS: Contents may blow your mind!

M Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/Solo Show | 50m

All the benefits of cult membership, without the loss of self and other nasty side effects. Humour, Philosophy, Confessional and Game Launch with live dreamy psychedelic music. I'm giving away millions of my own wealth, real estate and 'front businesses' over 5-7 years, to anyone who participates in the game. Loot bag with contents worth many multiples of the ticket cost!

*RP Relaxed Performance

Saad Sheikh's Get It Together



TH 17	9:30PM
FR 18	8:15PM
SA 19	5:45PM
TU 22	8:15PM
WE 23	9:30PM
TH 24	9:30PM
FR 25*	5:45PM
SA 26	5:45PM

COMPOSER & LYRICIST: Saad Sheikh
CHOREOGRAPHER & DIRECTOR: Catherine Allen
PRODUCER & STAGE MANAGER: Bella Herrera
WARNINGS: Coarse Language

PG Musical/Concert/Opera, Dance, Cabaret | 45m

Unabashedly pop music. Join Saad and his backup dancers for an evening of catchy hooks, seething lyrics, and dazzling numbers. Featuring 9 original songs by Saad Sheikh.

*MM Mask-Mandatory Performance

Fringe Mini Bar Series

Do you like your theatre short and sweet? The Fringe Mini Bar is back! Five tasty wee plays (20 minutes or less!) presented in a relaxed pub environment.

Any one show is \$8 (+fees), but we recommend doing all 5 shows in one night with the Fringe Mini Bar Pass — just \$30 (+fees)!

Grab some pals, grab a pint, and let's raise a glass together at the Fringe Mini Bar!

3 Hours, 10 Minutes Beauchemin Productions | Hamilton



TH 17	6:15PM
FR 18	9:15PM
SA 19	7:30PM
TH 24	7:45PM
FR 25	7:00PM
SA 26	5:15PM

PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR: Raymond Beauchemin
ACTORS: Melissa Murray-Mutch & Mark Gamache

PG Theatre-Drama | 20m

Two strangers, one painting. What do they see in it? What do they see in each other? An exploration of connection, reflection and the power of shared experience in an age of screens, self-absorption and disconnection.

Brown Noise Medha Arora | Toronto



TH 17	7:00PM
FR 18	6:15PM
SA 19	8:15PM
TH 24	8:30PM
FR 25	7:45PM
SA 26	6:00PM

ACTOR, PLAYWRIGHT & PRODUCER: Medha Arora
ACTOR, DIRECTOR & PRODUCER: Rishabh Kalra
WARNINGS: This show discusses themes of racism & xenophobia, and may include minor swearing.

PG Theatre-Comedy, Sketch Comedy/Improv | 20m

Brown Noise is a bold blend of stand-up, sketch, and storytelling exploring the South Asian-Canadian experience from two very different sides. Medha is a first-gen Canadian. Rish is not-so-fresh-off-the-boat. Together, they clash, connect, and find the funny in family, identity, and the chaos of being brown in Canada. Heartfelt, hilarious, and refreshingly honest.

Group Prompt Whatsoever Productions | Cambridge



TH 17	7:45PM
FR 18	7:00PM
SA 19 ¹	5:15PM
TH 24	9:15PM
FR 25	8:30PM
SA 26	6:45PM

CREATIVE HEAD: Amanda Tkacyk
WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language, This is a co-created unscripted performance that may discuss sensitive topics or themes.

M Theatre-Drama, Sketch Comedy/Improv, Storytelling/Solo Show | 20m

Experimental human-AI collaborative performance. A solo performer arrives with no script. The audience sends anonymous GROUP PROMPTS to an AI agent which combines them. The performer hears the script through a headset and performs it. If it's funny, it's funny. If it's sad, it's sad. If it's weird, it's weird. Whatsoever it is: you, performer, and artificial intelligence co-created it.

Hum-Buzz KAZ productions limited | Kitchener-Waterloo



TH 17	9:15PM
FR 18	8:30PM
SA 19	6:45PM
TH 24	7:00PM
FR 25	6:15PM
SA 26	8:15PM

DIRECTOR: Maria Colonescu
PLAYWRIGHT: Ciarán Myers
PERFORMER: Zaniq A. King
WARNINGS: Sexual Content, Coarse Language

PG Theatre-Comedy, Storytelling/Solo Show | 20m

Hum-Buzz is a mad-dash virtuosic performance about someone—or something—that is in love with you. She lives in your bathroom and she sees your secrets. Or she thinks she does. Through the whiplash haze of ridiculousness, Hum-Buzz looks at the absurd decision so many of us make to have children. And what responsibilities to the world we are creating for ourselves. So get frantic, obsess over someone, forget your inhibitions, and open wide!

Old Girls Gone Rogue: Age Against the Machine

Old Girls Gone Rouge | Hamilton



TH 17	8:30PM
FR 18	7:45PM
SA 19	6:00PM
TH 24	6:15PM
FR 25	9:15PM
SA 26	7:30PM

PLAYWRIGHTS & PERFORMERS: Pia Shaw & Betsy Dee

PG Sketch Comedy/Improv | 20m

Sketch artists Pia Shaw and Betsy Dee team up in this hilarious take on what it means to live in 2025 (no matter when you started). In 20 minutes, explore how two unlikely friends' lives are inexplicably intertwined—and how they wrangle with the question: Does technology divide us or bring us together?

FringeXchange

A Unique Partnership Between Hamilton Fringe and YOU

The Hamilton Fringe Festival is made richer through its broad diversity of voices, experiences, backgrounds, and lived experience. That's why HFTco offers the following lottery categories as part of the Hamilton Fringe Festival:

The **Disability Justice Artist** lottery category: for an artist who is Deaf, hard of hearing, sick, living with a mental illness/mental disorder/mad, and/or living with a disability.

The **Global Majority Artist** lottery category: for an artist who is Black, Indigenous, and/or a Person of the Global Majority.

The artists drawn in these categories receive:

- A FREE 60-minute performance slot at the Hamilton Fringe Festival (\$30 Application Fee and \$675 Participation Fee waived)
- A minimum \$1,000 cash bursary to assist with production costs (amount may be greater depending on program funding)
- Tailored professional and/or artistic mentorship

- Production and administrative guidance from HFTco core staff
- The Disability Justice Artist receives a personalized accessibility plan including venue and production accommodations

Interested in being part of FringeXchange? Applications open October 2025!

To learn more about these categories, who is eligible, and how to apply, head to our website at HFTco.ca. You can also call **289.698.2234** or email Executive Director Christopher Stanton directly at christopher@HFTco.ca.



"She's definitely one to watch... charm[s] everyone with her sharp wit and charismatic cuteness"
-Exclaim Magazine

Tracy Hamilton

I'M ACTUALLY RIGHT ABOUT EVERYTHING



Get Involved



Become A Volunteer

Hamilton Fringe Festival is powered by our volunteers. We *literally* couldn't do it without them! These are the fine people answering your questions, processing your tickets, and generally helping you get where you need to go. Interested in joining the team? You can sign up for a day, a weekend, or the entire 12-day run of the festival. It's a fantastic way to make friends, see great theatre, and be part of the fun.

Perks include merchandise and FREE tickets to shows!

Visit HFTco.ca or email volunteers@HFTco.ca for information.

Make sure you show your gratitude and appreciation to our amazing Hamilton Fringe Festival 2025 volunteers!

Join The Adventurers' Guild

Become A Monthly Donor

Sweat drips down into tired eyes, straining to see clearly in the darkness. The warrior holds their position hidden behind a rocky column, catching their breath, scanning the natural outcroppings and formations, considering whether to hide, or launch another attack...

Will you join the adventure?

Engagement Levels & Perks

Apprentice—\$5/month: complimentary zine, monthly herald with interactive themed storylines and exclusive side quests.

Artisan—\$10/month: all the above PLUS a complimentary 2025 Fringe Benefits Button.

Master—\$25/month: all the above PLUS a festival program mailed to you.

Legend—\$50/month: all the above PLUS a complimentary "Keep Hamilton Weird" tote bag (see pg 3) and a 2025 Fringe Sampler 3-Show Pass.

By joining the Adventurers' Guild, HFTco is able to offer so much more to Hamilton's growing arts community beyond the flagship Hamilton Fringe Festival. This growth and success shows what happens when we come together. A small monthly donation helps provide a strong, sustainable foundation—so we can focus on delivering fun and accessible events, year-round festivals, and artist development programs and activities.

Donate today and take pride in knowing that **YOU** are one of the reasons HFTco and Hamilton Fringe will remain on the scene for years to come.



The HFTco Circle of Superfriends

The following donors have made a cumulative contribution of \$100 or greater between June 1, 2024 and June 1, 2025.

*Adventurers' Guild members

\$500+

Joan Cosby
In memory of
Diane Lumsden
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DIRECTED BY: DAVID FAULKNER-RUNDLE
PRODUCED BY: RENATA ONA



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Buy your tickets and raise the jackpot; the more you buy, the better your odds! Tickets are **\$10 for 10, \$20 for 40, or \$40 for 120.**

Buy your tickets before 8:55PM ET on July 27th, 2025 for your chance to win half the total money raised. The other half? That supports HFTco's arts programming, mentorship & training, and the community-focused city-building work we have taken on for over 20 years.

The winner will be announced live on the closing night of the Hamilton Fringe Festival. Buy tickets and watch the jackpot grow in real time at **HFTco5050.com!**



18+ only. Must be a resident of the province of Ontario at the time of purchase. Visit HFTco5050.com/rules for full rules and regulations.

staircase after dark



thurs - sun
8:00 - late

the staircase theatre
27 dundurn street n.

cabaret,
karaoke &
showcase

a *Fringe* fest exclusive event

