



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2011
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS CONTACTS

Robin C. Gillette
Executive Director
robin@fringefestival.org
Office (612) 872-1212
Cell (612) 703-6168

Matthew Foster
Communications Director
matthew@fringefestival.org
Office (612) 872-1212
Cell (612) 803-1340

2011 Fringe venues announced

15 Twin Cities stages to host annual performing arts festival

MINNEAPOLIS — Minnesota Fringe Festival announced the venue lineup for its 2011 festival today. Fifteen professional-caliber stages in Minneapolis-St. Paul will serve as home to the 18th annual performing arts festival from Thurs., Aug. 4 through Sun., Aug. 14:

- Four stages at the **University of Minnesota Rarig Center** (330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis)
- Two stages at **Augsburg College** (2211 Riverside Ave., Minneapolis)
- **Mixed Blood Theatre** (1501 S. 4th St., Minneapolis)
- **The Playwrights' Center** (2301 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis)
- **Theatre in the Round** (245 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis)
- **The Lab Theater** (700 N. 1st St., Minneapolis)
- **Gremlin Theatre** (2400 University Ave., St. Paul)
- **Minneapolis Theatre Garage** (711 W. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis)
- **Intermedia Arts** (2822 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis)
- **Bryant-Lake Bowl** (810 W. Lake St., Minneapolis)
- **HUGE Improv Theater** (3037 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis)

Fringe again keeps the majority of its stages in Minneapolis's West Bank with nine venues in that neighborhood. Fringe also returns to Minneapolis's Uptown and North Loop neighborhoods and to St. Paul's Gremlin Theatre.

The newly opened HUGE Improv Theater is the sole venue from this year's group that has not been a Fringe stage in recent years.

"We're very excited to add HUGE to our Fringe family," said executive director Robin C. Gillette. "Every year, we look for the right combination of theater sizes and locations to best accommodate what the festival must provide to our producers and audiences. HUGE is in a prime spot and it's a great size for a lot of Fringe productions. It's going to be an outstanding addition."

The festival has arranged a different venue lineup every year. Throughout the festival's 18-year history, it's migrated to and from different neighborhoods and venues as the needs of the organization have evolved.

"There are a lot of great theaters to pick from in the Twin Cities," Gillette said. "Fringe is lucky that we have so many enthusiastic partners to work with. It allows us to find exactly the right venues for what our producers need and our audiences want year after year."

-CONTINUED-

Four productions will participate in Fringe's Bring Your Own Venue program for site-specific work this year. Those locations will be announced on July 1.

Minnesota Fringe is one of the largest performing arts festivals in the Midwest and one of the largest Fringes in North America. Fringe expects to issue over 50,000 tickets to 169 participating shows over the festival's 11-day span.

The festival schedule and tickets are available at fringefestival.org on July 1.

Upcoming from Minnesota Fringe

May 16 at Ritz Theater (345 13th Ave. N.E., Minneapolis): *Five-Fifths of... The Sound of Music*. Fringe's annual performance benefit this year features Dead Composers' Society, Sandbox Theatre, Courtney McLean, Theatre Arlo and, from Los Angeles, casebolt + smith each performing one-fifth of *The Sound of Music*. Tickets on sale April 1.

July 1: Festival schedule, tickets and passes available at fringefestival.org.

Late July (dates and locations to be announced): Fringe-for-All showcases present two lineups of 30 different Fringe shows each with three minutes to dazzle the audience with show excerpts.

August 4-14: 2011 Minnesota Fringe Festival.