



# Calgary Fringe News

## APRIL 2007

### In This Issue...

2007 Fringe Update

We want YOU!!

Upcoming Workshops

Community Arts Festival

### Presenting...



Calgary Fringe Festival is proud to present the **Community Arts Festival!**

During the summer weekends, we will be touring a family friendly Arts Festival to various community centres around Calgary. This way, we can bring a piece of the Arts to outlying communities and families that may not otherwise be able to come out and enjoy an Arts Festival experience. Sort of a downsized version of the Calgary Fringe...brought right to your door!

Further details can be found in our website at [www.calgaryfringe.ca](http://www.calgaryfringe.ca) under Community Fringes.

**WANT A FUN SUMMER JOB**

### 2007 Calgary Fringe Festival Update

We have some great news! We have now finalized the performance venues for the 2007 festival. This year we will be centred around the Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts in the heart of the Cultural District. Performances will be held at the Big Secret Theatre, Motel Theatre and Theatre Calgary lobby in the Epcor Centre itself. Plus there will be performances in the Glenbow museum theatre space and Legion #1. Being able to keep all the performance spaces in the downtown core will be great for our audiences and will help create that 'festival' atmosphere!

### Volunteer Positions Open

We are still looking for people to fill the following volunteer positions for the 2007 Fringe:

Box Office Co-ordinator Assistant  
Box Office Staff  
Street Performers Liaison  
Office Manager

These are fun and easy jobs and get you involved with a great Festival. Check out our website at [www.calgaryfringe.ca](http://www.calgaryfringe.ca) for more information about these jobs or call Michele.

### One Volunteer Voice

In case you still need convincing, this is what one of our volunteers had to say about his experience:

In my first year working on the Fringe I found it to be

**WITH THE COMMUNITY ARTS FESTIVAL?**

We are currently looking for artists of all descriptions: theatre performers, street performers, face painters, story tellers, site manager...you name it! We have a list of people already but are always on the look out for more! If you are interested, please e-mail [info@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:info@calgaryfringe.ca).

**We want YOU!!**

The Fringe is looking for Volunteers to help make the 2007 Fringe a resounding success.

Could that someone be you?

**Interested in volunteering? Sign up online now at [www.calgaryfringe.ca](http://www.calgaryfringe.ca).**

**Quick Links...**

Our Website

Blair Gallant - Festival Producer  
[blair@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:blair@calgaryfringe.ca)

Michele Gallant - Festival Director  
[michele@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:michele@calgaryfringe.ca)

Vern Wutzke - Film Festival Director and Festival Assistant  
[filmfest@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:filmfest@calgaryfringe.ca)

all about the people -- energetic, enthusiastic, hard-working, committed, and appreciated -- a congenial group of volunteers. As well there is ample opportunity for the volunteers to see the shows, some of the most adventurous theatre to be seen in Calgary, and meet the artists, a talented, creative, and engagingly-crazy troupe of summer nomads. The Calgary Fringe Festival is a great way to spend ten days in August. I'll be back this year!

Bob Martin

**Upcoming Related Events :**

**Calgary International Spoken Word Festival**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

APRIL 5-22, 2007

Writers, poets, readers, storytellers, performance art and other wildly off the wall theatre events. Check out their website at : [www.calgaryspokenwordfestival.com](http://www.calgaryspokenwordfestival.com)

**OUTDOOR COMPONENT TO CALGARY FRINGE**

What's a festival without an outdoor component? This year the Fringe Festival will host an Opening Day bash on the Municipal Plaza in front of City Hall on Friday, August 10. We will also be hosting an outdoor event in Inglewood on the Saturday and Sunday, August 11 & 12...watch for updates in our newsletter.

Everyone is invited to come down to enjoy the festivities: media, sponsors, partners, volunteers, and everybody else. Family friendly and fun. We'll be lining up some fun events and activities, vendors, wandering entertainers, possibly a local band or radio station to provide music.

This should get us all in the mood!

**ARTS SPACES STRATEGY GETS THE GREENLIGHT**

Bill Torrie - Artist Liaison  
[artist@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:artist@calgaryfringe.ca)

Cherie Caslyn - Technical Director  
[techdirector@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:techdirector@calgaryfringe.ca)  
General Information -  
[info@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:info@calgaryfringe.ca)

### Our Sponsors



[Calgary Sun](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Pass It On!!

If you know someone who might like to receive this newsletter, please pass it on!

If you receive this newsletter from a friend or colleague and would like to join our mailing list, please e-mail us your request to [michele@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:michele@calgaryfringe.ca).

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Kathryn Hartley  
Calgary Fringe Festival  
[communications@calgaryfringe.ca](mailto:communications@calgaryfringe.ca)

**Come out and Play!**  
**August 10 to 19, 2007**

In response to a research study highlighting shortfalls in the city's inventory of arts facilities, Calgary's City Council has unanimously approved a report and recommendation Calgary Arts Development to include capital programs for arts spaces worth up to \$150 million in the City's Culture, Parks & Recreation Infrastructure Investment Plan (CPRIP) over the next seven years. This will go a long way toward easing a problem that we, at the Fringe, have experienced and that is a serious lack of available and affordable performance and rehearsal space in this City. Good news for all the arts!

Bob Martin, Volunteer

### **Fringe Memories**

by Sherry West, President

In 1987, I lost my Fringe virginity! I had never even heard of Fringe Festivals until I moved to Fort McMurray, of all places, and joined the community theatre group.

One of our commitments to become a cast member was to spend a weekend in August performing at the Fringe Festival, which was then 6 years old. That year it was entitled "Gone with the Fringe." So, we loaded up a bus with our sets, costumes, cast and band and off we went to Edmonton for 3 performances.

I remember being totally fascinated by the buskers and street performers, by the crowds wandering through the Fringe Grounds, by the performance of "Godspell" I saw there!

I fell in love with all things Fringe and although it was many years before I had the opportunity to 'Fringe' again in Edmonton, I participated in the effort to bring a Fringe-type festival to Fort McMurray!!

Bet you didn't know that Fort McMurray has its own version of the Fringe, called "interPLAY." In 1989, a group of interested people held a feasibility workshop, attended by Brian Paisley, the original Director of the Edmonton Fringe Festival. This committee boasted

representation by school boards, arts groups, media, municipal government and tourism/hospitality.

“The Fort McMurray interPLAY Society” was established in 1990 to organize and operate a Festival of Youth. In the first years, the interPLAY Festival was a huge success attracting huge crowds and terrific community support. However, during the mid 1990's, the Festival was forced to take a year off in order to regroup. Since that time, interPLAY has been steadily growing.

The interPLAY Festival is a celebration of the visual and performing arts that attracts over 20,000 visitors each year. If someone tried to describe the interPLAY Festival, they would need to combine the elements from a fringe, folk, street performer and visual arts festival. We have plays, street performers, music, food, visual art, stand-up comedy, improv and much more. It is the largest summer event in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

The moral of this story....Fringe Festivals, they're everywhere!!!