

DENVER
FRINGE
FESTIVAL

2025 IMPACT REPORT

DENVER FRINGE IS ...



- part of the global Fringe movement
- an annual open-access festival
- a launch pad for independent artists
- an arts cultivator and community builder

GROWTH

2020

19 shows online/streaming

2025

75 shows at 20 venues



IN SIX YEARS OF FRINGE WE HAVE:

A photograph of a theater performance. A shirtless male performer in blue plaid shorts stands on a stage, holding a cane and raising his right fist. To his left is a whiteboard on an easel with the word 'TUE' written on it. An audience of diverse people is seated in the foreground, clapping and watching the performance. The scene is lit with warm stage lights.

Paid out **\$200,000** to performers
Involved **1,200+** creatives in the festival
Presented **800+** performances of **293** original shows
Engaged **22,000** audience members

2025 OVERVIEW

- **75** original productions
- **180+** individual performances
- **300+** performers/writers/directors/designers
- **3** free workshops open to the public
- **10** free shows for families at the KidsFringe
- **18** free street performances and pop up shows



FringeART

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a black sequined dress, stands in the center of a room, gesturing with her hands as if speaking to a group. She is surrounded by people, many of whom are wearing green party hats. The room is decorated with various artworks on the walls, including a large blue and red abstract piece on the left, a portrait of a woman eating, a portrait of a person with headphones, a framed picture of a person, a white dog head sculpture, a tall green and blue abstract piece, a colorful abstract piece, and a cartoonish character on the right. A table with a pink floral tablecloth and several small party hats is visible in the background.

- **2nd annual FringeART show**
- **40 artists** submitted artwork
- **60 artworks** exhibited at two venues



FREE-FOR-ALL

- 18 free performances
- stipends for 12 local performing groups
- all open to the public

KIDSFRINGE



Free shows and activities for kids and families

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A man with long dark hair in two braids, wearing glasses, a red polo shirt, and a red beaded necklace, is speaking into a microphone. He has his right hand raised in a gesture. He is standing in front of a dark chalkboard. In the foreground, the backs of several audience members' heads are visible, including one person with long dark hair and another with long reddish-brown hair.

Scholarships were awarded to 11 Denver Fringe producers who contribute to the ethnic, cultural, racial, disability and intersectional LGBTQIA+ diversity of the Fringe community.

SUPPORT FOR ARTISTS

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a red and black cowboy-style jacket and a wide-brimmed hat, is performing on a stage. She is holding a light-colored hat in her hands and has her mouth open as if singing or shouting. In the foreground, two women are seated at a table, watching the performance. The woman on the left has red hair and is wearing a black top, while the woman on the right has short brown hair and is also wearing a black top. They are both smiling and looking towards the performer. The background shows a dark outdoor setting with some lights and a stone wall.

"We had an extraordinary time at your festival. We travel a lot with our work, and your festival stands out. From the venue to the staff to every element of the festival we interacted with, we felt cared for and heard. We will absolutely recommend the Denver Fringe as we tour around and meet with other artists." – 2024 performer

BUILDING A COMMUNITY



"This was far and away the best Fringe I have ever performed at. I truly do not know how you are doing it: you have really mobilized a community in Denver and it is incredible to see. I know exactly two people in Denver and they were both involved in the Fringe, as volunteers or photographers. The fact that your festival has involved the Denver community to that level is truly magical."

- 2024 performer

AUDIENCE RESPONSE



96% - very likely to attend the Denver Fringe next year

97% - very likely to recommend the Denver Fringe to a friend

COMMUNITY

A diverse group of people are seated at tables in a warm, dimly lit pub or bar. In the foreground, a woman with glasses and a green patterned shirt smiles, while next to her, a woman with dark hair and a black top laughs with her hand near her face. Other patrons in the background, including a man in a straw hat and a woman in a purple cap, are also engaged. A digital menu board is mounted on the wall, and a poster for 'THE AT WO' is visible on the right. The atmosphere is social and communal.

The Fringe helps build community through the shared experience of live performance and supports local businesses by bringing audiences to the area.

AWARD EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIPS



ANNUAL AWARD



Community Activation through the Arts

RECAP VIDEO – “This is how art happens”



Photos by Kalen Jesse Photography
Video by Pono Media