

# DENVER FRINGE FESTIVAL

## 2020 HANDBOOK

### WELCOME TO THE DENVER FRINGE FESTIVAL!

We are thrilled that you have chosen the very first Denver Fringe Festival as a platform for your unique voice. We see the Denver Fringe as an opportunity to bring an eclectic array of bold and brilliant performers together in one weekend of unbridled creativity. The purpose of this handbook is to make sure everyone is on the same page to ensure that this inaugural event is a huge success.

The 2020 Denver Fringe Festival is a three-day event in RiNo (River North) district, just north of downtown Denver, Colorado, one of the most vibrant areas in one of the fastest growing cities around. The Denver Fringe will showcase local artists as well as established acts from across the country. Each artist will bring their own production and perform it up to four times over the course of the festival, with multiple artists performing daily at several different venues.

Our goal is to create a walkable festival that incorporates RiNo's awesome food and drink establishments and galleries and a truly diverse demographic in an immersive, adventurous weekend of original art. Genres represented are virtually unlimited and can include burlesque, cabaret, circus, comedy, dance, improv, music, one-person show, original theatre, performance art – submit your idea and let us know if we're missing something!

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Applications due: March 31, 2020
- Acceptance offers made: April 15, 2020
- Production fee payment and signed contract due: April 30, 2020
- Marketing materials due: April 30, 2020
- Performance schedule set: May 15, 2020
- Tech checks at venues: June 25, 2020
- Festival dates: June 26-28, 2020

### PERFORMANCE VENUES

Our venues are mostly non-traditional theatre spaces with basic sound and lighting capability, so we encourage technical simplicity in productions. All our venues will accommodate approximately 100 people and are wheelchair accessible. We feel that unconventional venues will contribute to the overall creative and innovative atmosphere of the Denver Fringe. We will select the venue that best suits your production.

### SELECTION PROCESS

To be considered for the Denver Fringe Festival, an application must be submitted through the [denverfringe.org](http://denverfringe.org) website along with a non-refundable application fee of \$25. We are looking for both existing productions and premieres. We will reserve a percentage of our performance slots for local artists and our goal is to curate a diverse lineup of performance genres and styles. We want no two shows to be alike in order to motivate audiences to see as many productions as possible. Your work can still be in development when submitted, but of course must be complete before being presented at the festival (see more details below under "What We Expect"). The application window will close on March 31, 2020.

In order to fulfill our commitment to showcasing a diverse selection of voices, experiences and genres, all submissions will be vetted by the Denver Fringe Festival selection committee, comprised of local artists and patrons. The committee will evaluate submissions based on criteria such as the following:

**The Content**

- Well communicated (includes production samples such as script, video, audio)
- Original work or a unique adaptation
- Experimental, innovative, challenging, unusual theme(s)

**The Team**

- Bios of key players
- Demonstrated ability to follow through with proposed production
- Your vision, and why it should be showcased

We will notify all applicants of our decisions by April 15, 2020. If you are not accepted, we may keep you on our waitlist; and of course we encourage you to apply again next year.

**FOR COMEDY**

You can apply as an individual comedian or get a group of five comedians together and apply as a comedy showcase. If you apply as an individual and are selected, you will be grouped with 4-5 other comedians and your production fees will be divided by the group. If you apply as a comedy showcase or standalone comedy show and are selected, you pay total production fees for your group which can then be divided by the members of the group.

**IF YOU ARE ACCEPTED**

Congratulations! We will send you a Production Contract which will be due, along with production fees of \$25 per performance, by April 30, 2020. Your marketing materials for your specific performance are also due April 30, including high res photos, description, cast and crew bios. If you or your company is from out of town, please contact us about billeting; our network for hosting non-local artists is extensive.

**WHAT YOU GET**

- Minimal application and production fees; we want our festival to be accessible to artists
- Two to four one-hour performance time slots, scheduled at one venue on a rotating schedule
- 50% of your gross box office sales, paid out within four weeks of the festival
- Venue with roughly 100 seats and a minimum playing space of 14' x 16'
- Basic light and sound system that will be shared by all participants (*no advanced tech*)
- Technician to run sound and lights for your production, with opportunity for short rehearsal
- Full ticketing and front of house management as well as advance ticket sales online
- Listing of your show in our printed festival brochure, on our website, and social media
- Artist passes for you and your core team to see other productions at the festival for free

**WHAT WE EXPECT**

- All participating artists must be at least 18 years of age, and prepared to fulfill their commitment
- Payment of production fees and submission of all required materials on time
- Performance run time of no more than 45-60 minutes; you will have 10 minutes to load in before each performance and 10 minutes to load out after each performance (we will accommodate shorter performances, especially in comedy; see details in the FOR COMEDY section above)
- You are responsible for your own scenery, props, costumes, sound cues and audience programs; on-site storage may not exist at your venue, and it is best to have minimal technical demands
- You will promote your own production - nobody can sell your show better than you!

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

If your production is an original work, you will maintain all rights to the work. If your production is not an original work, you will be responsible for obtaining the rights to perform the piece (including any music used in your production). The Denver Fringe Festival has the right to photograph or video your production for archival and marketing purposes.

**DISCLAIMERS**

You are responsible for providing your own personal insurance coverage.

All information presented in this handbook is subject to change at the discretion of the Denver Fringe Festival. Applicants and participants will be given advance notice of any changes.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions about this document please email [info@denverfringe.org](mailto:info@denverfringe.org). Thank you for your interest in performing at the Denver Fringe Festival!