

Elgin
FRINGE
Festival



SEPTEMBER 20-29, 2024



SCHEDULE & TICKETS

elginfringefestival.com

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Welcome to Fringe!



Elgin joined the worldwide Fringe movement in 2014 by bringing artists and audiences of all kinds together in an eclectic mix of venues in our historic downtown center. Over the past decade, we've hosted hundreds of artists, performances, and thousands of guests for original theatre, dance, music, comedy, magic, and the undefined. Our eleventh festival welcomes perennial fan favorites, emerging artists, and original material that offers something for everyone.

Fringe Central

Fringe Central is THE location for purchasing Festival Entry Buttons, performance tickets, merchandise, viewing and purchasing EFF visual art, picking up tickets and buttons purchased online, and inquiring about any of the shows and artists. Fringe Central is at **Side Street Studio Arts, 15 Ziegler Ct.**, near the corner of Spring St. and Chicago St. Free street parking is close by. See the Festival Map on the back of this program for details.

FRINGE CENTRAL & GALLERY HOURS

Sep. 20	Friday	3pm-9pm
Sep. 21	Saturday	3pm-9pm
Sep. 22	Sunday	11am-3pm
Sep. 23	Monday	3pm-6pm
Sep. 24	Tuesday	3pm-6pm
Sep. 26	Thursday	4pm-9:30pm
Sep. 27	Friday	4pm-11pm
Sep. 28	Saturday	10am-9:30pm
Sep. 29	Sunday	12pm-4pm

Festival Entry Buttons

A Festival Entry Button is **REQUIRED** for each person attending a performance (even free ones) and for entry to the Visual Art Exhibit. Your one-time **\$3 button purchase** allows you to buy performance tickets and helps this volunteer-run, small-budgeted festival keep afloat! You are also investing in our growing local arts movement-**100% of all ticket sales go directly to the artists!**



Tickets and Passes

After you've bought a Festival Entry Button, you may purchase individual show tickets at **Fringe Central** or elginfringefestival.com.

All performances, even the free ones, require physical tickets (yup, paper) for entry. Sorry, no downloadable tickets—we're old school like that! That means **ALL Fringe attendees MUST VISIT FRINGE CENTRAL to pick up physical tickets and buttons for show entry!** Please plan ahead! No tickets are available for sale or pick-up at Fringe Venues.

We also offer a **FESTIVAL PASS** for \$95! Not only does this slick laminated pass make you look cool, it also allows you entry to ALL Elgin Fringe shows AND includes a Festival Entry Button! You may select performances you will attend when purchasing your pass or anytime during the festival at Fringe Central, based on availability.



OPENING & CLOSING EVENTS

Next In...

FRI & SAT, Sep. 20-21, 7-8pm

Vern's Speakeasy • \$3 EFF Button • ALL AGES

Do you enjoy movies? Join us for a special screening of six short films, and then vote to determine which ones will make the **Elgin Short Film Festival** on Oct. 5! EFF Buttons and tickets will be on sale.



Visual Art Exhibition + Reception

SATURDAY, Sep. 21, 6-9pm

SSSA GALLERY • \$3 EFF Button • ALL AGES

See the work and meet the artists of the Elgin Fringe Visual Art Exhibition! The exhibit is open throughout the festival during **FRINGE CENTRAL HOURS**—see page 2. Fringe celebrates bold artistic experimentation, showcasing artists' work across a spectrum of forms and genres. Artists are selected via lottery, and the exhibition is not curated.

2024 VISUAL ARTISTS

Anna Lentz

BaM! (Bruce Bachelder & Mike Rende)

Bobby Rowland

David Bremer

Erica McKeehen

Joshua L Smith

Kathryn Fredrickson

Ken Simonsen

Kimberly Lloyd

Laurie Peters

Mal Hiraoka

Melissa Routzahn

Nicki Fortunati-Warren

PandoPOP!

Rebecca Cynamon-Murphy

Sara Peak Convery

The Church of Dust

Theresa Nollette

Timothy Griffith

[ARTIST BIOS: elginfringefestival.com/art-exhibition](http://elginfringefestival.com/art-exhibition)

Preview Party

WEDNESDAY, Sep. 25, 5-7pm

MARTINI ROOM • \$3 EFF Button • 21+

Check out short previews by Elgin Fringe artists as they attempt to lure you to their shows! Wear your fringe button, drink a #fringetini, and start your festival right! EFF Buttons and tickets will be on sale.



Almost Closing Party

SATURDAY, Sep. 28, 10:30pm

EPH • \$3 EFF Button • ALL AGES

Come and hangout with Fringe artists and the people who make it happen. Join us at Elgin Public House to raise a glass and celebrate!



Closing Party

SATURDAY, Sep. 29, 5-7pm

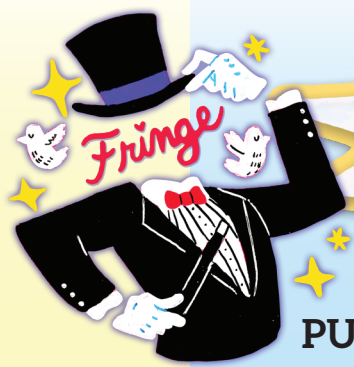
Martini Room • \$3 EFF Button • 21+

To close our time together, we'll honor our artists and contributors and present some special awards.

FEATURED ARTIST

ANDREW VO is the creator of the **2024 Elgin Fringe poster and button** and the genius behind our **FRINGE FOX logo** and the **2022 EFF festival artwork**. Andrew is a vital part of the festival team, serving as the Visual Arts Coordinator and an Exhibition Coordinator at Side Street Studio Arts. He is a first-generation Vietnamese American artist whose practice is in 2D, with an emphasis on drawing and card making.





PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

EPH
PUB 217

MARTINI
ROOM

SSSA
BACKSPACE

SSSA
THEATER

VERN'S
LIGHTLOUNGE

VERN'S
SPEAKEASY

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26

6:00PM	Subversive Librarian: Stories Lived and Told by An American Librarian in Norwich, England PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10		SHORT SHOW SHOWCASE A PG / \$12 / PAGE 4	The Chase: A Light Bringer Story PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 6		Pre-Perceptions PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 9
7:30PM			SHORT SHOW SHOWCASE B PG / \$12 / PAGE 4	The Greatest Betrayal PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 7	THAT WOMAN - THE MONOLOGUE SHOW PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10	
9:00PM	Jen Tries to Make a Comedy Special: A Comedy Special R / \$7 / PAGE 8	Ka\$h Money Karl Presents Bringing Home the Bacon R / FREE / PAGE 8	Sad Girl Songs: A Comedy Show R / \$12 / PAGE 9		Kelly Bolton Presents: Nice to Meet You! PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 9	He-Man is the Devil: A Satanic Panic Tale PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 8

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27

6:00PM	5 Minutes* of Vulnerability (*a 50 minute comedy show) R / \$7 / PAGE 7		Memories In Motion PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 9	Turtle Knows your Name and other tales G / \$12 / PAGE 11		Intimate and Appropriate R / \$12 / PAGE 8
7:30PM	Subversive Librarian: Stories Lived and Told by An American Librarian in Norwich, England PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10	Upstairs neighbor music PG / \$7 / PAGE 11	SHORT SHOW SHOWCASE B PG / \$12 / PAGE 4	The Greatest Betrayal PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 7	THAT WOMAN - THE MONOLOGUE SHOW PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10	He-Man is the Devil: A Satanic Panic Tale PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 8
9:00PM	Big Honor Student Energy PG / \$12 / PAGE 6	Ka\$h Money Karl Presents Bringing Home the Bacon R / FREE / PAGE 8	feverdream PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 7	How To Make Friends & Alienate Them PG-13 / \$7 / PAGE 8	Kelly Bolton Presents: Nice to Meet You! PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 9	Pre-Perceptions PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 9
10:30PM	Jen Tries to Make a Comedy Special: A Comedy Special R / \$7 / PAGE 8	Burlesque is... R / \$12 / PAGE 6	Sad Girl Songs: A Comedy Show R / \$12 / PAGE 9	The Chase: A Light Bringer Story PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 6		



DIGITAL SCHEDULE



SHORT SHOW SHOWCASES

THREE 15ish MINUTE
PERFORMANCES IN ONE!



- keeping/tracking/passing PAGE 9
- Hamlet in Jazz PAGE 8
- Body Works excerpts PAGE 6



- Slicing Oranges for the Exorcism PAGE 10
- Stuart Tilton: Experimental Electronic
Music on two Benjolins PAGE 10
- The Picture of Dorian's Gray Hair PAGE 9

EPH
PUB 217

MARTINI
ROOM

SSSA
BACKSPACE

SSSA
THEATER

VERN'S
LIGHTLOUNGE

VERN'S
SPEAKEASY

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28

10:30AM

FeelJones and the New Gospel • G / FREE / PAGE 7

12:00PM

Dinder Brother's Circus AKA: The DON'T try this at home show! • G / FREE / PAGE 7

DUPAGE
COURT
outdoor venue



1:30PM

The Kindness Show • PG / FREE / PAGE 9

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE A
PG / \$12 / PAGE 4

Turtle Knows your
Name and other tales
G / \$12 / PAGE 11

Pre-Perceptions
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 9

3:00PM

5 Minutes* of
Vulnerability
(*a 50 minute comedy show)
R / \$7 / PAGE 7



4:30PM

Big Honor Student
Energy
PG / \$12 / PAGE 6

The Greatest
Betrayal
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 7

Too Fat
To Run
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10

He-Man is the Devil:
A Satanic Panic Tale
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 8

6:00PM

Ka\$h Money Karl
Presents Bringing
Home the Bacon
R / FREE / PAGE 8

Sad Girl Songs:
A Comedy Show
R / \$12 / PAGE 9

Intimate and
Appropriate
R / \$12 / PAGE 8

7:30PM

Subversive Librarian:
Stories Lived and Told by
An American Librarian
in Norwich, England
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10

Burlesque is...
R / \$12 / PAGE 6

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE B
PG / \$12 / PAGE 4

How To Make Friends
& Alienate Them
PG-13 / \$7 / PAGE 8

ElectroCult Circus
presents...
PG-13 / FREE / PAGE 7

Betty the Pan Am
Stewardess
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 6

9:00PM

Jen Tries to Make a
Comedy Special: A
Comedy Special
R / \$7 / PAGE 8

Conversion Therapy:
Drag Queens
on Parade!
R / \$12 / PAGE 7

feverdream
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 7

The Chase: A Light
Bringer Story
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 6

THAT WOMAN -
THE MONOLOGUE SHOW
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10

10:30PM

ALMOST CLOSING
PARTY! PAGE 3

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29

1:00PM

Spooky Stories with
Ghostly Podcast
PG / FREE / PAGE 10

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE A
PG / \$12 / PAGE 4

Turtle Knows your
Name and other tales
G / \$12 / PAGE 11

THAT WOMAN -
THE MONOLOGUE SHOW
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10

He-Man is the Devil:
A Satanic Panic Tale
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 8

2:30PM

Subversive Librarian:
Stories Lived and Told by
An American Librarian
in Norwich, England
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10

Ka\$h Money Karl
Presents Bringing
Home the Bacon
R / FREE / PAGE 8

Memories In
Motion
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 9

The Chase: A Light
Bringer Story
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 6

Too Fat
To Run
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 10

Pre-Perceptions
PG-13 / \$12 / PAGE 9

4:00PM

Jen Tries to Make a
Comedy Special: A
Comedy Special
R / \$7 / PAGE 8

Burlesque is...
R / \$12 / PAGE 6

Sad Girl Songs:
A Comedy Show
R / \$12 / PAGE 9

How To Make Friends
& Alienate Them
PG-13 / \$7 / PAGE 8

Intimate and
Appropriate
R / \$12 / PAGE 8

5:00PM

5

CLOSING PARTY!
PAGE 3

PERFORMANCES



Betty the Pan Am Stewardess LESLIE GODDARD

Buckle up for a trip back to the golden age of aviation. Actress and historian Leslie Goddard shares the exciting, true story of life as a stewardess aboard Pan Am, America's most glamorous airline. Whether serving champagne to celebrities or helping draftees on their way to Vietnam, stewardesses flew high in the 60s.

RATED PG-13. Includes mature themes.
Vern's Speakeasy • \$12 / Sat @ 7:30pm



Burlesque is... HAUS A'BLAZE BURLESQUE

Burlesque is STELLAR, SPECTACULAR, and SOULFUL! Join Haus A'Blaze Burlesque for three thrilling shows, highlighting its incredible performers' uniqueness, artistry, and diversity. Each show will have its own theme, meaning a different and sensational experience each time. Join us for all three shows if you can; we're delighted to entertain you!

RATED R. Includes adult language, audience interaction, mature themes, and sexual content. Martini Room • \$12 / Fri @ 10:30pm / Sat @ 7:30pm / Sun @ 4pm



Big Honor Student Energy ALISA ROSENTHAL

Kicked out of ballet lessons at 4 for being "too much," Alisa Rosenthal has carried this same joie de vivre her whole life. From singing at a nightmare children's party to interviews with AI recruiters, she always finds herself underworked and over-prepared in this breezy comedic solo storytelling show.

RATED PG. Includes adult language.
EPH Pub 217 • \$12 / Fri @ 9pm / Sat @ 4:30pm



The Chase: A Light Bringer Story LIGHT BRINGER PRODUCTIONS

Decisions, sacrifices, and fallouts all have a way of coming full circle. From harrowing high-speed chases to virtual manhunts, the pursuit continues as Laila races against time to find the clues to unmask her cyberstalker. "An edge-of-your-seat-thriller" - *Broadway World*

RATED PG-13. Includes abrupt loud noises, adult language, sexual content, mature themes, references to mental illness/disorders, and Violence.
SSSA Theater • \$12 / Thu @ 6pm / Fri @ 10:30pm / Sat @ 9pm / Sun @ 2:30pm



Body Works excerpts DANCE UPRISING

Today's excerpts of Body Works Dance Concert include choreographic works from the Dance Uprising 23-24 season, including 'Stretch Marks' and 'Duality.' 'Stretch Marks' celebrates the beauty of stretching and changing bodies, demonstrated through movement with beautiful circle skirts. 'Duality' shares the personal struggles of being LGBTQ+ in a straight presenting relationship.

RATED G. Includes mature themes.
SSSA Backspace • \$12 / Thu @ 6pm / Sat @ 1:30pm / Sun @ 1pm

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE **A**



Conversion Therapy: Drag Queens on Parade! MOANA LOTTE & FRIENDS

Come on out and see how the other half live! This show is guaranteed to MAKE you gay (at least that's the word on the street). Elgin's Mother of Drag, Miss Moana Lotte, is bringing you an extravaganza of silliness, sexiness, and down-right buffoonery! You don't HAVE to be straight... choose wisely!

RATED R. Includes Abrupt loud noises, adult language, mature themes, political content, religious content, and sexual content. Children should be accompanied by their adult supervisors... or we'll convert them. Martini Room • \$12 / Sat @ 9pm



Dinder Brother's Circus
AKA: The DON'T try this at home show!
DINDER BROTHER'S CIRCUS

Dinder Brother's Circus is a jam-packed two-person circus show like no other! Featuring Magic, Aerial Arts, Comedy, Danger and MORE! This is an all-ages show but has something for everyone ages two and up! Featuring the high-flying, pain-proof princess Clairra Bell and her marvelous counterpart, Magic Rob, an award-winning deaf magician. Be amazed, be astounded, be entertained!

RATED G. Includes audience interaction. **DuPage Court • FREE / Sat @ 12pm**



feverdream
MEMORIAM DEVELOPMENT

What defines a sketch show? Punchlines? Blackouts? A rotating celebrity host? MemoriAm Development breaks all the so-called rules with feverdream, the anti-sketch show where we create an experience that will leave you asking, "WTF did I just watch?"

RATED PG-13. Includes abrupt loud noises, adult language, audience interaction, references to death, drugs/alcohol, and violence, mature themes, sexual content, political content, and religious content.

SSSA Backspace • \$12 / Fri & Sat @ 9pm



ElectroCult Circus presents...
ELECTROCULT CIRCUS

We are a multimedia collective of inter-dimensional pranksters. We use music, film, comedy, dance, and witchcraft to subdue and seduce you. Once you lay your eyes on us, you shall be infected... *join the Cult...*

RATED PG-13. Includes adult language, audience interaction, and sexual content.

Vern's Light Lounge • Free / Sat @ 7:30pm



5 Minutes* of Vulnerability
(*a 50 minute comedy show)
MICHAEL T OAKES

A one-man show mixing stand-up and theatre exploring chronic anxiety, what vulnerability looks like in day-to-day life, and navigating a new relationship with a sibling after discovering they both have suicidal tendencies. All with a countdown clock ticking in the background. Tick! Tick! Tick!

RATED R. Includes adult language and references to self-harm and suicide.

EPH Pub 217 • \$7 / Fri @ 6pm / Sat @ 3pm



FeelJones and the New Gospel
FEELJONES

FeelJones dismantles barriers and creates connections by utilizing the universal language of music. Gospel music brings people together and provides positive energy, regardless of personal religious beliefs. He has a fresh take on the genre, a high-energy performance that infuses Hip-Hop & R&B to create a distinctive & polished sound.

RATED G. Includes interaction & religious content.

DuPage Court • FREE / Sat @ 10:30am



The Greatest Betrayal
VAGUE IDEA PRODUCTION

The Greatest Betrayal is a solo dramedy with more plot twists than a teen drama.

RATED PG-13. Includes adult language, mature themes, & mentions of sexual assault.

SSSA Theater • \$12
Thu @ 7:30pm / Fri @ 7:30pm / Sat @ 4:30pm



Stop by
FRINGE CENTRAL
 for **TICKETS, BUTTONS,**
COOL MERCH + more!

POST & READ
SHOW REVIEWS
elginfringefestival.com/reviews



PERFORMANCES



Hamlet in Jazz MAKOTO YAMAGUCHI

This is a short demonstration of the new theatre presentation. The structure and theme of the piece are preconceived and I will improvise the entire piece based on them. It is similar to the way jazz musicians play and explore physical movement, vocalized/percussive sound created by the performer, and gibberish.

RATED G. Includes audience interaction.

SSSA Backspace • \$12 / Thu @ 6pm / Sat @ 1:30pm / Sun @ 1pm

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE **A**



Intimate and Appropriate PAUL THOMAS

With grounded characters and the logic of an ancient Midwestern philosopher, comedian Paul Thomas's collection of scenes delicately stomps through the "mine" field of identity, language, and recycle bins, putting a hall of mirrors up to a narcissstocracy that kinda seems to wanna offend itself.

RATED R. Includes adult language.

Vern's Speakeasy • \$12 / Fri @ 6pm / Sat @ 6pm / Sun @ 4pm



He-Man is the Devil: A Satanic Panic Tale KYLE B. DEKKER

A true childhood story of crushing right-wing Christian ideology. Join Kyle as he tells the story of his experiences, both odd and traumatic, that were essential in creating his worldview, his hobbies, and his relationship with his family. Tales of demon possession, religious fanaticism, and learning to be yourself.

RATED PG-13. Includes adult language, religious content, references to violence, and descriptions of physical abuse.

Vern's Speakeasy • \$12 / Thu @ 9pm / Fri @ 7:30pm / Sat @ 4:30pm / Sun @ 1pm

Jen Tries to Make a Comedy Special A Comedy Special

by Jen Durbent

author of "The Only Clown Show You Need to Lead You to Laughter"



Jen Tries to Make a Comedy Special: A Comedy Special JEN DURBENT

A stand-up comedy performance.

RATED R. LGBTQ show. Includes audience interaction, adult language, mature themes, references to death and drugs, alcohol, eating disorders, body image, mental illness and Sexual Content.

EPH Pub 217 • \$7 / Thu @ 9pm / Fri @ 10:30pm / Sat @ 9pm / Sun @ 4pm

ELGIN FRINGE FESTIVAL

HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS & ALIENATE THEM

The Only Clown Show You Need
to Lead You to Laughter

Danny
Wightkin

How To Make Friends & Alienate Them DANNY WIGHTKIN

A self-help seminar goes off the rails when the host doesn't arrive, and one brave clown has to step up to run the show. Surely, nothing will go wrong...

Created & performed by award-winning clown Danny Wightkin.

RATED PG-13. Includes: Audience Interaction, References to Drugs/Alcohol.

SSSA Theater • \$7 / Sat @ 7:30pm / Sun @ 4pm / Fri @ 9pm

KA\$H MONEY KARL PRESENTS BRINGING HOME THE BACON

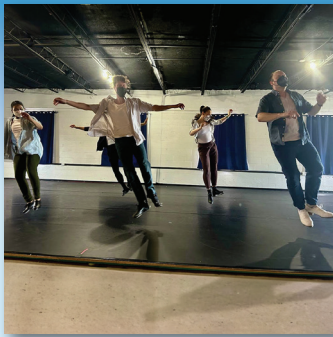


Ka\$h Money Karl Presents Bringing Home the Bacon KA\$H MONEY KARL

Hey Money, I'm homeeeee! Welcome home Elgin native Ka\$h Money Karl, as he shares his stand-up comedy and stories from his time away. Credits: America's Fan Favorite of ABC's *Holey Moley* Season 2 (Hulu & Netflix), showcased in the Stand U.P. Comedy Festival, & more. #FollowtheMoney

RATED R. Includes abrupt loud noises, adult language, audience interaction, mature themes, references to death, references to drugs, alcohol, eating disorder, body image, guns, mental illness/disorders, and sexual content.

Martini Room • FREE / Thu & Fri @ 9pm / Sat @ 6pm / Sun @ 2:30pm



keeping/tracking/passing AMBO DANCE THEATRE

time. - it is precious, it is fleeting, it is stagnant, it is infinite. At the intersection of a-cappella tap dance and modern dance we are waiting, moving, weaving, losing, spending, saving...The dancers explore relationship to time in musicality, rhythm, embodiment, and felt sense.

RATED G. SSSA Backspace • \$12
Thu @ 6pm / Sat @ 1:30pm / Sun @ 1pm

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE **A**



Kelly Bolton Presents: Nice to Meet You! KELLY BOLTON

Sometimes, you meet someone who will stick in your mind forever. You can remember exactly where you were and what you were doing when you met them. Kelly Bolton will introduce you to a cast of characters who are mildly rememberable and some you'll most likely forget.

RATED PG-13. Vern's Light Lounge • \$12 / Thu & Fri @ 9pm



The Kindness Show MISS MAKE-BELIEVE

Join Miss Make-Believe in an enchanting show that teaches children and families about the power of kindness. Combining vibrant magic, handmade props, puppets, original music, and an abundance of laughter, Miss Make-Believe guarantees smiles at a time when we need it most!

RATED PG. Audience interaction. Dupage Court • FREE / Sat @ 1:30pm



Memories In Motion RACHEL BENZING

In 'Memories In Motion', a multi-disciplinary one-woman show, past recollections swirl and identities shift like colors in a kaleidoscope. Through dance, spoken word, and visual art, the performer navigates themes of self-doubt and identity, inviting audiences into a fragmented yet vibrant exploration of the human psyche and its kaleidoscopic nature.

RATED PG-13. Includes adult language and audience interaction.
SSSA Backspace • \$12 / Fri @ 6pm / Sun @ 2:30pm



The Picture of Dorian's Gray Hair SLAPDASH THEATRE

Horror meets humor in this lampoon of Oscar Wilde's classic tale about the battle between good and evil. Is Dorian Gray's portrait a reflection of fright or just frightfully funny? Enjoy some literary laughs as a cast of quirky characters attempt to massacre a masterpiece in this light-hearted monster mash-up.

RATED PG. Includes abrupt loud noises, strobe lights, mature themes, sexual content, references to self harm/suicide, death, and violence. This is a comedy -dark content is presented in a farcical rather than realistic manner.

SSSA Backspace • \$12 / Thu, Fri & Sat @ 7:30pm

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE **B**



Pre-Perceptions MARIE COONEY STORIES

Throughout my life, I have had various pre-perceptions of something unknown, that were neither pleasant premonitions nor fearful forebodings. I simply knew something without the full picture until later. Gift or curse? Audience members can come to their own conclusions about this series of true stories.

RATED PG-13. References to death, disabilities, mature themes. LGBTQ+ Artist.
Vern's Speakeasy • \$12 / Thu @ 6pm / Fri @ 9pm / Sat @ 1:30pm / Sun @ 2:30pm



Sad Girl Songs: A Comedy Show GWEN COBURN

Award-winning comedian Gwen Coburn weaves snappy songs into a dark feminist comedy that is "whipsmart, hilarious and heartbreaking." (Free Press 4.5 stars) Coburn's light-hearted banter intertwines with the story of Medusa, asking: what happens when #YesAnd becomes #MeToo? "a boldly brave work

[that] captured my heart." (Orlando Weekly)

RATED R. Includes audience interaction, adult language, sexual content, mature themes, references mental illness/disorders, and discussion of sexual assault.
SSSA Backspace • \$12 / Thu @ 9pm / Fri @ 10:30pm / Sat @ 6pm / Sun @ 4pm

The Elgin Fringe Festival is a proud member
of the United States Association of Fringe Festivals,
The Canadian Association of Fringe Festivals, and World Fringe.



PERFORMANCES



Slicing Oranges for the Exorcism MIKE CHERNOFF

"Slicing Oranges for the Exorcism" examines what fighting our demons accomplishes when spending time with them might serve us better. Delivered through poetry, micro-fiction, and signature smart-assery. Topics include personal mental health, communal madness, aliens, and police dogs. Adult language. BYO Orange Smiles. More info at ChernoffWriting.com

RATED PG-13. Includes adult language.

SSSA Backspace • \$12 / Thu, Fri. & Sat @ 7:30pm

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE **B**

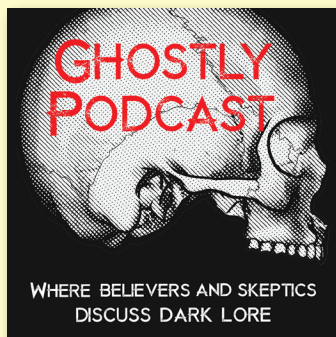


Subversive Librarian: Stories Lived and Told by An American Librarian in Norwich, England SARAH BETH NELSON

"American" folktales, WWII, being the jester, boobie incidents. In Subversive Librarian, Sarah Beth shares stories she lived and told while living abroad in Norwich, UK. Can she "make it" back in the US? Mama don't allow no subversive librarians 'round here and this worried girl is...worried.

RATED PG-13. Includes audience interaction, abrupt loud noises, references to death, violence, and sexual content.

EPH Pub 217 • \$12 / Thu @ 6pm / Fri & Sat @ 7:30pm / Sun @ 2:30pm



Slicing Oranges for the Exorcism MIKE CHERNOFF

Ghostly Podcast is back at Elgin Fringe with more spooky local ghost stories. Join Pat and Rebecca to learn about the Butcher of Palos Park, ghosts at O'Hare Airport, and more. And remember, you decide what is paranormal and what is just scary stories. Get ready for the creepiest time of year with Ghostly.

RATED PG. EPH Pub 217 • FREE / Sun. @ 1:00pm



THAT WOMAN - THE MONOLOGUE SHOW TENNESSEE PLAYWRIGHTS STUDIO

History you didn't learn in school. Broken dreams. Deportation. Murder. Courage. Resilience. Stories of women involved with JFK, including: Ellen Romestch, Blaze Starr, Mimi Alford, Judith Exner, Mary Pinchot Meyer, and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

Fringe Tour: Alabama, KC, MN, St. Lou, Philly, Rochester, Elgin, & more.

RATED PG-13. Includes adult language, mature themes, sexual content, references to death, violence, and alcohol.

Vern's Light Lounge • \$12 / Thu & Fri @ 7:30pm / Sat @ 9:00pm / Sun @ 1:00pm



Stuart Tilton: Experimental Electronic Music on two Benjolins STUART TILTON

Stuart Tilton is an Elgin resident who performs experimental electronic music. At Fringe 2024, Stuart will perform on two Benjolins, a synthesizer capable of being manipulated into playing short arpeggios, drones, harmonies and resonant percussive sounds. Inherently chaotic by design, no two performances on a Benjolin can be the same!

RATED PG. Includes abrupt loud noises.

SSSA Backspace • \$12 / Thu, Fri. & Sat @ 7:30pm

SHORT SHOW
SHOWCASE **B**



Too Fat To Run FAT THEATRE PROJECT

Three weeks before the Chicago Marathon, Eileen Tull gets a "concerned" email from a "concerned" acquaintance who is very "concerned" that she, fat as she is, plans on running the marathon. "What are you trying to prove?" they ask. Eileen brings the audience along on the

journey from the start line through injuries, self-doubt, perseverance, and many, many, many miles.

RATED PG-13. Includes adult language, references to eating disorder/body image.
Vern's Light Lounge • \$12 / Sat @ 4:30pm / Sun @ 2:30pm

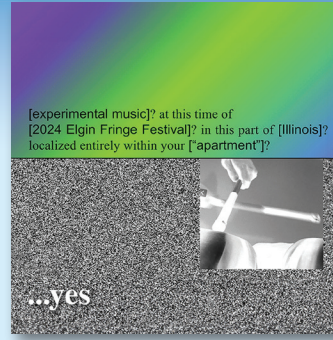


Turtle Knows your Name and other tales
DRAMAFORACHANGE

A young boy has a problem—his name is so long that not one person can remember it. Still his granny insists he learn and use it. The boy thinks he has the longest name in the world, but could Granny’s be even longer? With the funny names, abundant dialogue and animal noises,

you are sure to be entertained by this lively Caribbean tale. Two bonus stories for dessert.

RATED G. SSSA Theater • \$12 / Fri @ 6pm / Sat @ 1:30pm / Sun @ 1pm



Upstairs neighbor music
THOMAS A. RODRIGUEZ

“We’re loving the new apartment! Great location, sturdy hardwood floors. But every night, our upstairs neighbor is making a ton of noise. It almost sounds coordinated, like he knows we can hear it. Am I being tested? Anyways, the granite countertops are splendid.”

RATED PG. Includes abrupt loud noises and audience interaction.
Martini Room • \$7 / Fri @ 7:30pm

THANK YOU!

Remarkable Contributors



A project of this size does not happen without the support of many volunteers, who have shared their time, energy, services, and homes to put together all the moving parts.

Special thanks to Melissa Routzahn, Geoff Thevenot, the Side Street Studio Arts staff, and the City of Elgin.

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FESTIVAL MAP

1 FRINGE CENTRAL
15 ZIEGLER CT.
SSSA Theater
SSSA Backspace
15 1/2 ZIEGLER CT. 2ND FLOOR
NO ELEVATOR

2 EPH Pub217
(Elgin Public House)
219 E. CHICAGO ST.
2ND FLOOR - NO ELEVATOR

3 Martini Room
161 E. CHICAGO ST.

4 Vern's Light Lounge
77 S. RIVERSIDE DR.

5 Vern's Speakeasy
76 S. GROVE AVE.

6 DuPage Court
OUTDOOR VENUE
BETWEEN S. SPRING ST.
& S. GROVE AVE.

