

# ELGIN

FRINGE

# FESTIVAL

2nd - 11th  
September

# 2022



# Voilà Fringe!

First started in Edinburgh in 1947, the worldwide Fringe Festival movement brings together audiences and artists of all kinds in a collective of improvised urban exhibition spaces. From theatre and dance to music, comedy and magic — the Elgin Fringe Festival (EFF) presents unjuried, uncensored and original performances at an eclectic mix of venues in downtown Elgin for the ninth straight year!

## Tickets

EFF show tickets are free, \$7 or \$12 each, and can be purchased online at [elginfringefestival.com](http://elginfringefestival.com) or at Fringe Central. Tickets purchased online must be picked up at Fringe Central. Tickets will not be offered at the performance venues, only at Fringe Central!

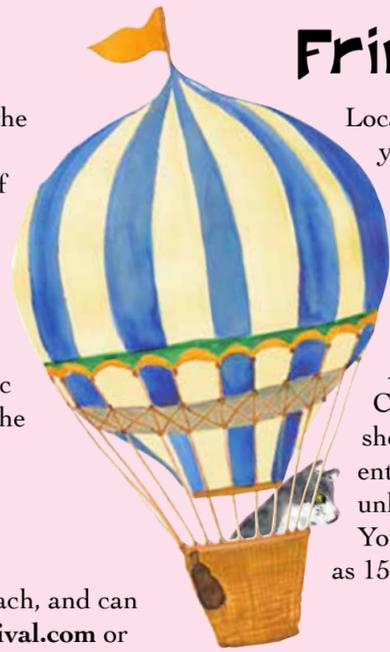
We also have a festival pass for all shows for \$75 (includes a button, see below). 100% of all the ticket revenue goes directly to the artists.

## You Need a Button

Elgin Fringe Festival Buttons are on sale at Fringe Central for \$3. Because 100% of ticket revenues go directly to the artists, proceeds from button sales are needed to help cover the costs of producing the festival. You will need to buy a button before you can buy tickets. Having a button also gets you into FREE shows that don't require a ticket.



Fringe Festival Button \$3



# Fringe Central

Located at Side Street Studio Arts, Fringe Central is your place to buy EFF Buttons, purchase tickets, ask questions, view and purchase EFF visual art, buy EFF merchandise, review shows, and more! Come and see us at 15 Ziegler Court during the hours listed below. Free parking for Fringe Central is available nearby.

All Fringe attendees MUST VISIT FRINGE CENTRAL to pick up tickets and buttons for show entry! Please note that you will not be able to enter any shows you may have purchased tickets to unless you pick up the tickets from Fringe Central. You may purchase tickets at Fringe Central as late as 15 minutes before any given show begins.

## Fringe Central Hours

Fri, Sept 2 . . . . . 3-7pm	Thu, Sept 8 . . . . . 4-9:30pm
Sun, Sept 4 . . . . . 11am-3pm	Fri, Sept 9 . . . . . 4-11pm
Mon, Sept 5 . . . . . 3-6pm	Sat, Sept 10 . . . . . 2-9:30pm
Tue, Sept 6 . . . . . 3-6pm	Sun, Sept 11 . . . . . 1:30-4:30pm

Buttons & tickets also available for purchase at the Preview Party, Weds, Sept 7, 5-7pm at Martini Room



# Friday, Sept 2nd

## EFF Visual Art Gallery Opening 3:00 - 7:00 pm at Fringe Central

See the work and meet the artists of the EFF Visual Art Exhibit! An official EFF button is required for entry, and buttons will be sold at the door.

## 2022 EFF Visual Artists

- David Bremer
- Kathryn Fredrickson
- BaM! (Bruce Bachelder and Mike Rende)
- Veronica Clements
- Spiro Bolos
- Lance Long
- Lance DOC Boucher
- Nick Mataragas
- Have Camera Will Travel
- Jess Rocha
- Erin Grupp
- Chris Block
- Michelle Brinkley

## Featured Artist

Andrew Vo

Andrew Vo is a first generation Vietnamese American who graduated from SAIC in 2017. He was the 2021 artist in residence for Side Street Studios. His artistic practice is in drawing, with a focus in hand-made greeting cards.



2022 EFF Poster and Button Art by Andrew Vo

# Saturday, Sept 3rd

## Family Fringe, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at Elgin History Museum

Family Fringe, sponsored by Elgin Public House, is a FREE celebration of family and fun with performances, games, family resources, and more! We are thrilled to be back at the Elgin History Museum for 2022! Family Fringe is free and open to the public. Full schedule to come ... find us on Facebook at @ElginFringeFestival or visit [www.elginfringefestival.com](http://www.elginfringefestival.com) for more information.

### Joining us for Family Fringe ...

- Elgin History Museum
- Side Street Art Mobile and art making
- A BOUNCEHOUSE!
- Live Painting
- Free Face Painting

### Performances by ...

- Pekulator (hoop dancer)
- Live music from the Early Byrds
- Drum circle with Poiema Studio

# Wednesday, Sept 7th

## Preview Party, 5:00 - 7:00 pm at Martini Room

Get your EFF button and catch the Fringe spirit as Fringe artists give a sneak preview of their shows.

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.



JOIN US FOR ELGIN FRINGE FESTIVAL 1ST WEEKEND





# SCHEDULE

Theater at SSSA    Back Space at SSSA    Elgin Art Showcase    Martini Room    Blue Box Cafe    Elgin Pub. House    Fringe Central

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2022

6:00 PM	Pillow Fight \$7, p.10	Elgin Short Film Festival Free, p.7				Fringe Central opens 4:00 pm
7:30 PM	Granny's Fixlt \$12, p.7	Mad About Me \$7, p.9	Breakneek Comedy of Errors \$12, p.6			
9:00 PM	Holy Inappropriate \$7, p.8	Moan and drone \$7, p.10	Greetings \$7, p.7			Fringe Central closes 9:30 pm

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2022

6:00 PM	Granny's Fixlt \$12, p.7	Mad About Me \$7, p.9	Breakneek Comedy of Errors \$12, p.6			Fringe Central opens 4:00 pm
7:30 PM	Pillow Fight \$7, p.10	Elgin Short Film Festival Free, p.7	meSSes: a Solo circus \$12, p.9	lifeline \$7, p.9		
9:00 PM	Holy Inappropriate \$7, p.8	lady M Free, p.8	Greetings \$7, p.7	Rejeet Sense, Embrace Silly \$12, p.10		
10:30 PM			Mind Reading ... Chicago Style \$7, p.9	Chattahoochee Girls Don't Cry \$12, p.6		Fringe Central closes 11:00 pm

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# OF Z SHOWS

Theater at SSSA    Back Space at SSSA    Elgin Art Showcase    Martini Room    Blue Box Cafe    Elgin Pub. House    Fringe Central

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2022

3:00 PM	Pillow Fight \$7, p.10	Help Me Help You Help Yourself \$7, p.8	meSSes: a Solo circus \$12, p.9		Captain Ambivalent \$12, p.6		Fringe Central opens 2:00 pm
4:30 PM		lady M Free, p.8	Breakneek Comedy of Errors \$12, p.6		The Bad Taste Crime Podcast \$7, p.6		
6:00 PM	World's Greatest Dad(?) \$12, p.10	Mad About Me \$7, p.9		lifeline \$7, p.9	The Ghostly Podcast Free, p.7	The Doctors Will See You Now \$12, p.6	
7:30 PM	Holy Inappropriate \$7, p.8		Greetings \$7, p.7	Chattahoochee Girls Don't Cry \$12, p.6	Captain Ambivalent \$12, p.6	lake County Lunatics and ... \$7, p.8	.gif Theater (in the lab at SSSA) \$7, p.7
9:00 PM	Granny's Fixlt \$12, p.7	Halvsies \$12, p.8	Mind Reading ... Chicago Style \$7, p.9	Rejeet Sense, Embrace Silly \$12, p.10		Metacognition Free, p.9	Fringe Central closes 9:30 pm
10:00 PM						Almost Closing Party	

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2022

2:30 PM	Pillow Fight \$7, p.10	Halvsies \$12, p.8	meSSes: a Solo circus \$12, p.9				Fringe Central opens 1:30 pm
4:00 PM	World's Greatest Dad(?) \$12, p.10	Mad About Me \$7, p.9	Mind Reading: ... Chicago Style \$7, p.9				Fringe Central closes 4:30 pm
5:00 PM				Closing Party			



### The Bad Taste Crime Podcast

The Bad Taste Crime Podcast

Do you enjoy tales of serial killers, insane crimes, and occasional conspiracies? Then join Janelle and Vicky as they discuss all things creepy and crawly. All in bad taste of course. <https://www.badtastecrimecast.com> *Warning: Mature Content.* \$7.

Sat 4:30 pm

Blue Box Cafe



### Breakneck Comedy of Errors

Timothy Mooney Repertory Theatre

Tim Mooney takes on 13 different characters (including 4 sets of twins!) to make sense of Shakespeare's most convoluted comedy in a hilarious breakneck rush! Winner: "Best Overall Show!" (So Many Shakespeares Fest), "Digital Shakespeare Production of the Year!" (Young-Houze Theatre Journal), Universal 5-Star Audience Reviews (Minnesota & Kansas City Fringes). \$12.

Thu 7:30 pm, Fri 6:00 pm, Sat 4:30 pm

Elgin Art Showcase



### Captain Ambivalent Tries To Make A Solo Rom Com

Captain Ambivalent

After musically skewering comic books, musicians, science fiction, corporations, fantasy, and denial, satirical songwriting superhero Captain Ambivalent returns to take on a genre he is infinitely less familiar with. Come celebrate romantic density and whisper those three little words, propeller beanie chicken. Original comedy songs, Power-Point, and dinosaurs. \$12.

Sat 3:00 pm, Sat 7:30 pm

Blue Box Cafe



### Chattahoochee Girls Don't Cry: Hotter Than a Hoochie Coochie

CGDC

Wigs! Hot Dogs! Bad lip syncs! Now that we have your attention, you won't want to miss CGDC's long-awaited Elgin debut! CGDC is Nashville, Tennessee's premier touring comedy dance troupe, comprised of four lifelong dancers who just want to have a good time and bring the crowd with them. Prepare yourself for door busting, pole dancers who can (sorta) high kick all while rocking their favorite footwear...Keds. \$12.

Fri 10:30 pm, Sat 7:30 pm

Martini Room



### The Elgin Short Film Festival

Elgin Short Film Festival

Six films — 3 live action, 3 animated — will compete for a place in the final judging and screening at the Elgin Short Film Festival, to be held Saturday, September 24th at the Hemmens Cultural Center. The next-in finalist in each category will be selected by popular vote. Free.

Thu 6:00 pm, Fri 7:30 pm

Back Space at SSSA



### Ghostly

Ghostly

Ghostly is a bi-weekly podcast that tells a ghost story and then researches and debates it to discover the truth. One is a believer, and one is a skeptic, but both are seeking the truth. At Fringe we will be talking about local haunts and legends. Free.

Sat 6:00 pm

Blue Box Cafe



### .gif Theater

Augie Morado

.gif Theater celebrates the GIF image format through the art of pantomime. Actors will recreate your favorite GIFs like Homer Simpson retreating into a bush or John Travolta in Pulp Fiction trying in vain to find the intercom. How well do you know your GIFs, can you identify them all? \$7.

☆ Elgin Group Artist (see p.11)

Sat 7:30 pm

The Lab at SSSA



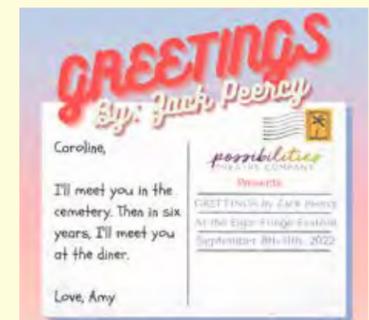
### Granny's FixIt: An Ozarks Guide to Healing the Body and Soul

Dawn Larsen

Grannywomen were healers/midwives/seers found in rural Appalachia and the Ozarks. As a girl, Dawn knew one. Combining several historic grannywomen into one character, Dawn tells their story in a show that features original and historic music, story, and comedy that brings Granny out of the holler and into the light! \$12.

Thu 7:30 pm, Fri 6 pm, Sat 9:00 pm

Theater at SSSA



### GREETINGS

Possibilities Theatre Company

Six years ago, Zack Percy wrote a one-act play called *Greetings From The Moon*. Last year, the characters had more to say in a sequel called *Greetings from Sadsville*. Possibilities Theatre Company presents the first two parts of this ongoing saga about Amy and Caroline, their love, and loss. \$7.

Thu 9:00 pm, Fri 9:00 pm, Sat 7:30 pm

Elgin Art Showcase



### The Doctors Will See You Now!

The Therapy Players

How many psychotherapists does it take to make a crowd laugh? Come find out when the Therapy Players take the stage! Professional psychotherapists by day, they've been performing as a comedy improv troupe since 2013 at venues all across Chicago, including Second City, Stage 773, Bughouse Theater, Skokie Theatre, and many more. \$12.

Sat 6:00 pm

Elgin Public House





### Halvsies

Memoriam Development

Nick and Amanda have each written one half of a play. Neither has seen the other half. Just like you, the first time they will ever experience the play in its entirety is when they perform it for you. A new play. Every time. Halvsies. \$12.

Sat 9:00 pm, Sun 2:30 pm  
Back Space at SSSA



### Help Me Help You Help Yourself

Your Silent Partner

Winner of the 2019 Elgin Fringe Audience Choice Award and the 2022 Cincy Fringe Producer's Award, "Help Me Help You Help Yourself" is mindless, silly fun for human beings aged 4 to 104. \$7.

Sat 3:00 pm,  
Back Space at SSSA



### Holy Inappropriate

Allison Fradkin

Could radical fundamentalism be the gateway to radical feminism? This one-act play analyzes (and satirizes) purity, piety, and patriarchy. \$7.

☆ Elgin Group Artist (see p.11)

Thu 9:00 pm, Fri 9:00 pm, Sat 7:30 pm  
Theater at SSSA



### Lady M

Mentalhaus

Lady M is a solo exploration of the private spiral into madness of Shakespeare's character, Lady Macbeth. Her story has been minimized to "the crazy wife with blood on her hands" for nearly 400 years, but her tragic demise is a clue that there was more to her than we know. Free.

Fri 9:00 pm, Sat 4:30 pm  
Back Space at SSSA



### Lifeline

Sarah Street

Entertainment or exploitation? Sarah Street Collective Presents: LIFELINE. Part game show and part ethical undertaking, in this competition desperate contestants go head to head in morally questionable challenges for life-changing sums of money. A curious and revealing piece of entertainment that begs the question: how far would you go for a better life? \$7.

Fri 7:30 pm, Sat 6:00 pm  
Martini Room



### Mad About Me

Kevin Seefried

Charming an audience into accepting your anger issues might be ill-advised, but that seems to be comedian Kevin Seefried's raison d'être. During this lively, introspective stand-up show, Seefried finds the funny in frustration while taking a breather from pulling his beautiful, perfect hair out of his beautiful, perfect head. \$7.

Thu 7:30 pm, Fri 6:00 pm,  
Sat 6:00 pm, Sun 4:00 pm  
Back Space at SSSA



### meSSes: a Solo circus

janoah...anygoodjokes?

A mesmerizing circus in which YOU learn to juggle ... while you watch! Precarious unicycling, shimmering puppetry, jaw-dropping juggling. Janoah tosses together art forms to tell a tale of learning & labor, emerging from a haphazard pile of props. And (of course!) what circus would be complete without popcorn & banana peels? \$12.

Fri 7:30 pm, Sat 3:00 pm, Sun 2:30 pm  
Elgin Art Showcase



### Metacognition: How Well Do You Know Yourself?

concept\_mix

Metacognition — the debut album by concept\_mix\_the\_band — asks the introspective question: "Why do we do the things we do?" Each song is a window into a different situation that invites you to consider how you might react. If you enjoy immersive storytelling through music, then you will love this show! Free.

Sat 9:00 pm  
Elgin Public House



### Mind Reading ... Chicago Style

Fred Zimmerman

Ever watch "The Mentalist" on CBS and wonder, "Can anyone really do that?" Chicago actor Fred Zimmerman can ... and it's lots of fun. Fred uses theatrical tools & techniques to create the experience of psychic phenomenon. Fred's a fake ... but he'll make a believer out of you. www.fredzimmerman.com. \$7.

Fri 10:30 pm, Sat 9:00 pm, Sun 4:00 pm  
Elgin Art Showcase

## #ELGINFRINGE



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AND  
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### Lake County Lunatics and one comic from Milwaukee

Brian Johnson

Brian Johnson had been doing comedy on and off since 2006. He realized he wanted to be a comedian freshman year of high school in his English class when he did an impersonation of Boy George. His "straight jacket comedy" is a mix of one liners, stories, jokes, and Q and A. His career accomplishments include finalist in the Highland Park Comedy Festival, and Comcast on Demand at Lincoln Lodge in 2009. Currently he is a cast member on the reality show "1ADEM comedians" which airs in 13 countries. \$7.

Sat 7:30 pm  
Elgin Public House



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### Moan and drone

Grey Noise

A semi-improvised exploration of drone, jazz, noise rock, classical, and generally experimental music reflecting the very different backgrounds of the band's two members. This project was started out of a mutual appreciation for each other's musical point of view and desire to perform together for the first time in our 25 or so years of friendship. Performers: Kristy Domico & Conor Goetz. \$7.

Thu 9:00 pm

Back Space at SSSA



### Pillow Fight

Elgin Theatre Company

Broadway agent Roger Wentworth has a sure-fire idea for a hit play — reunite former sweethearts Dee Martin and Brick Dash. The only problem is, if Dee ever sees Brick again, it'll be too soon! Preview Eileen Mitchell's new fun-filled farce, *Pillow Fight*, evoking the classic Doris Day/Rock Hudson comedies! Directed by Stephen Pickering. \$7.

Thu 6:00 pm, Fri 7:30 pm,

Sat 3:00 pm, Sun 2:30 pm

Theater at SSSA



### Reject Sense, Embrace Silly

Sobby The Clown

Born from the tears of a failed marriage, Sobby The Clown emerged during a global pandemic. With a love of drag makeup, balloons, and anything sparkly, Sobby shows the beauty in sadness and the joy of being silly through these burlesque-inspired skits. \$12.

☆ Elgin Group Artist (see p.11)

Fri 9:00 pm, Sat 9:00 pm

Martini Room



### World's Greatest Dad(?)

Jimmy Carrane

After 10 years in therapy, Jimmy Carrane is still unhappy that he is not as famous as some of his friends he started out doing improv with. So when his therapist suggests that Jimmy and his wife have a baby to bring more joy into their life, Jimmy sets out to become a first-time dad at age 52, at the same time that his own father is dying. From fertility treatments to a disastrous funeral, Carrane takes us on a funny and poignant roller coaster of life and death and shares his discovery that you don't have to be the "greatest" to be a good dad. \$12.

Sat 6:00 pm, Sun 4:00 pm

Theater at SSSA

# #EFFIT



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# ELGIN FRINGE FESTIVAL

## EFF and Elgin Area Artists

The Elgin Fringe Festival (EFF) is dedicated to investing in creators and talents within our city to help distinguish Elgin's unique artistic voice. The EFF committee wants to best support Elgin area artists in our fringe and beyond. Therefore, **The Elgin Group** committee is dedicating more attention and resources to these artists and their creative work. The Elgin Group is supported by the Elgin Cultural Arts Commission and Side Street Studio Arts.

## EFF Committee and Volunteers

The Elgin Fringe Festival Committee donates many hours of time year-round to bring you the finest in Fringe!

**Erin Rehberg**, Executive Director  
**Nick Mataragas**, Artistic Director  
**Tanner Melvin**, Technical Director  
**Amanda Harris**, Managing Director  
**Jess Rocha**, Assistant Director  
**Adrian Mesino**, Chair, The Elgin Group

## Special Thanks

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. We want to thank all of them for helping to make the ninth Elgin Fringe Festival a success.

Special thanks to Gay and Paul Bouwmeester, Butch Wilhelmi, Graham Hunt, Claire Noland, Ivette de Santiago, Janelle O'Malley, Melissa Routzahn, Side Street Studio Arts staff, Elgin History Museum and the City of Elgin.

## Tell Us What You Think

Is this your first time at the Elgin Fringe or are you a seasoned festival fringer? Either way, tell us what you think by writing a review and sharing it on our Facebook page or stop in at Fringe Central and post it on the Review Window.



ELGINFRINGEFESTIVAL.COM

## Elgin Fringe Festival Sponsors



## The Elgin Group

The Elgin Group is a collective of artists and a committee of peers who are focused on producing independent performance art in the city of Elgin. In order to help develop Elgin's unique artistic voice, The Elgin Group will investigate the boundaries which prevent young and unestablished artists from reaching success in performance art. In order to do so, the committee and the selected artist will engage with their art community and encourage conversations to address these challenges over time.

In 2022 The Elgin Group is focusing on building a more equitable community for artists, therefore a large part of this initiative's attention and resources will be dedicated to the marginalized and underrepresented communities within Elgin, specifically in elevating the voices of Queer/LGBTQ+ and BIPOC performing artists. This will take the form of appointing more Queer/LGBTQ+ and BIPOC people into arts administrative roles to help develop their skills and gain professional experience but also the inclusion and better integration of Queer/LGBTQ+ and BIPOC artists into performance spaces in the city of Elgin.





# ELGIN FRINGE FESTIVAL MAP



1

Park Street

Symphony Way

P

Dexter Street

Spring Street

Center Street

2

Division Street

Douglas Avenue

P

N. Grove Avenue

Highland Avenue

3

Chicago Street

P

5

4

6

FRINGE CENTRAL

S. Grove Avenue

Ziegler Court

DuPage Street

**1 Family Fringe**  
Elgin History Museum  
360 Park Street

**2 Elgin Art Showcase**  
164 Division St.

**3 Blue Box Cafe**  
176 E. Chicago St.

**4 Elgin Public House**  
219 E. Chicago St.  
*Not wheelchair accessible*

**5 Martini Room**  
161 E. Chicago St.

**6 FRINGE CENTRAL**  
15 Ziegler Ct.

**The Lab**  
13 S. Spring St.  
*Not wheelchair accessible*

**Theater at SSSA Back Space**  
15 1/2 Ziegler Ct.  
*Not wheelchair accessible*

**P Free Parking**

Fulton Street

P

Villa Street

P

Prairie Street