**Beat: Arts**

# Edinburgh Festival Fringe

**04 - 28 August**

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**USPA NEWS -** The Edinburgh Festival Fringe (also referred to as the Edinburgh Fringe or Edinburgh Fringe Festival, or simply The Fringe) is the world's largest performance arts festival. The Festival is supported by the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society. This year, the world's greatest platform for creative freedom will take place from 04 - 28 August.

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe has become a world-leading celebration of arts and culture, surpassed only by the Olympics and the World Cup in terms of global ticketed events.

It is an open-access performing arts festival, meaning there is no selection committee, and anyone may participate, with any type of performance. The official Fringe Programme categorises shows into sections for theatre, comedy, dance, physical theatre, circus, cabaret, children's shows, musicals, opera, music, spoken word, exhibitions, and events. Comedy is the largest section, making up over one-third of the programme, and the one that in modern times has the highest public profile, due in part to the Edinburgh Comedy Awards.

The Festival is supported by the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, which publishes the programme, sells tickets to all events from a central physical box office and website, and offers year-round advice and support to performers. The Society's permanent location is at the Fringe Shop on the Royal Mile, and in August they also manage Fringe Central, a separate collection of spaces dedicated to providing support for Fringe participants during their time at the festival.

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