

# TUCSON fringe 2026

January 8–11, 2026  
[tucsonfringe.org](http://tucsonfringe.org)  
[@tucsonfringe](https://www.instagram.com/tucsonfringe)

2 Live Venues  
3 Virtual Venues  
35 Performances



# Land Acknowledgement

As a way of honoring, healing, and reconciliation; the Tucson Fringe Festival organization acknowledges the traditional Native lands on which we live. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. We honor the indigenous people that inhabit this stolen land, past and present.



Photo by Frankie Lopez  
[www.stubborn5.com](http://www.stubborn5.com)  
[@stubborn5design](https://www.instagram.com/stubborn5design)



# Welcome to the 14th Annual Tucson Fringe Festival!

I want to start by thanking everyone for being here. This festival would not exist if not for the dedicated festival goers we see year after year. I also want to thank the artists who apply for our festival every year and for bringing their creations to us. A special thank you to all our volunteers and staff. They are the backbone of this festival, and nothing would happen without their help. I cannot express enough gratitude for the time they have given to the festival.

We have made a lot of changes this year. The most significant change was to our schedule. We have eliminated performances that start after 9pm and now have performances on Thursday evening. We hope to have larger audiences at these new showtimes than we had at the late night showtimes. Another change is the kind of virtual content we have available. We have two pre-recorded performances on Vimeo that anyone can access when purchasing a ticket. This is our first year using Vimeo and we hope everyone has a good experience.

We have applied for grant funding to help us grow and achieve some goals for future festivals. We will not know what that grant award total will be until closer to the Summer. We also need more funding to help secure better venues that have the technology we'll need for performances as well as being ADA compliant. Costs of venues have increased that last few years.

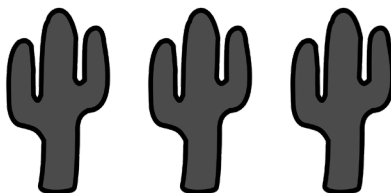
If you would like to help us reach our goals be it financially or other, please feel free to reach out to us at [tucsonfringe@gmail.com](mailto:tucsonfringe@gmail.com). One of our major goals for next year is:

## **Provide artists with ASL interpretation for their performances!**

This is something that can be accomplished easily, but like so many things requires additional funding. If all goes well, we plan to have ASL interpreted available for any of the performances in our festival. We hope to also provide audio description of performances for the visually impaired.

Again, thank you all for coming and I look forward to seeing you all in years to come.

James Pack  
Acting Board President



# Tucson Fringe Festival Key

The Tucson Fringe Festival is unjuried, which means festival organizers don't hand pick the performance groups that get into the festival. In fact, it is literally luck of the draw (come to our lottery party in September)! We are also uncensored, which means if you can do it legally on a stage in the state of Arizona, you can do it at Tucson Fringe.

Part of the fun of Fringe is not quite knowing what you're going to get from each show. But at the same time, we want to make sure that you are warned about potentially upsetting content, something like a movie rating system. The performers themselves choose which tags to put on their shows. We hope this helps you make informed decisions about your Fringe schedule, and allows you to curate a festival experience that suits your interests and tastes.

You'll find key words under each show title, and icons next to the show information.



**LOUD NOISES**



**BRIGHT OR FLASHING LIGHTS**



**CONTAINS SPIDERS**



**CONTAINS CLOWNS**



**STRONG LANGUAGE**



**SEXUAL CONTENT**



**DEPICTIONS OR  
DISCUSSION OF  
VIOLENCE**



**PARTIAL NUDITY**



**STRONG POLITICAL  
CONTENT**



**STRONG RACIAL CONTENT**



**RECOMMENDED  
FOR ALL AGES**



**RECOMMENDED FOR TEENS  
AND ADULTS**



**RECOMMENDED FOR AUDIENCE MEMEBERS 18 YEARS AND OLDER**



# Ocotillo Semi-Succulent Facts

from [desertmuseum.org](http://desertmuseum.org)



## Identifying Features

Ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*) are one of easiest plants to identify in the desert. They're a large shrub with long cane-like unbranched spiny stems that grow from a short trunk. Small 2 inch leaves will grow from the stems with enough moisture. Dense clusters of red tubular flowers grow from the end of the stems from March through June.



## Size & Life Span

Ocotillo can reach heights of up to 20 feet. There is much discussion on exactly how old Ocotillo can live. A good estimate is 60 years although some studies indicate they can live well over 100 years.



## Where to Find Them

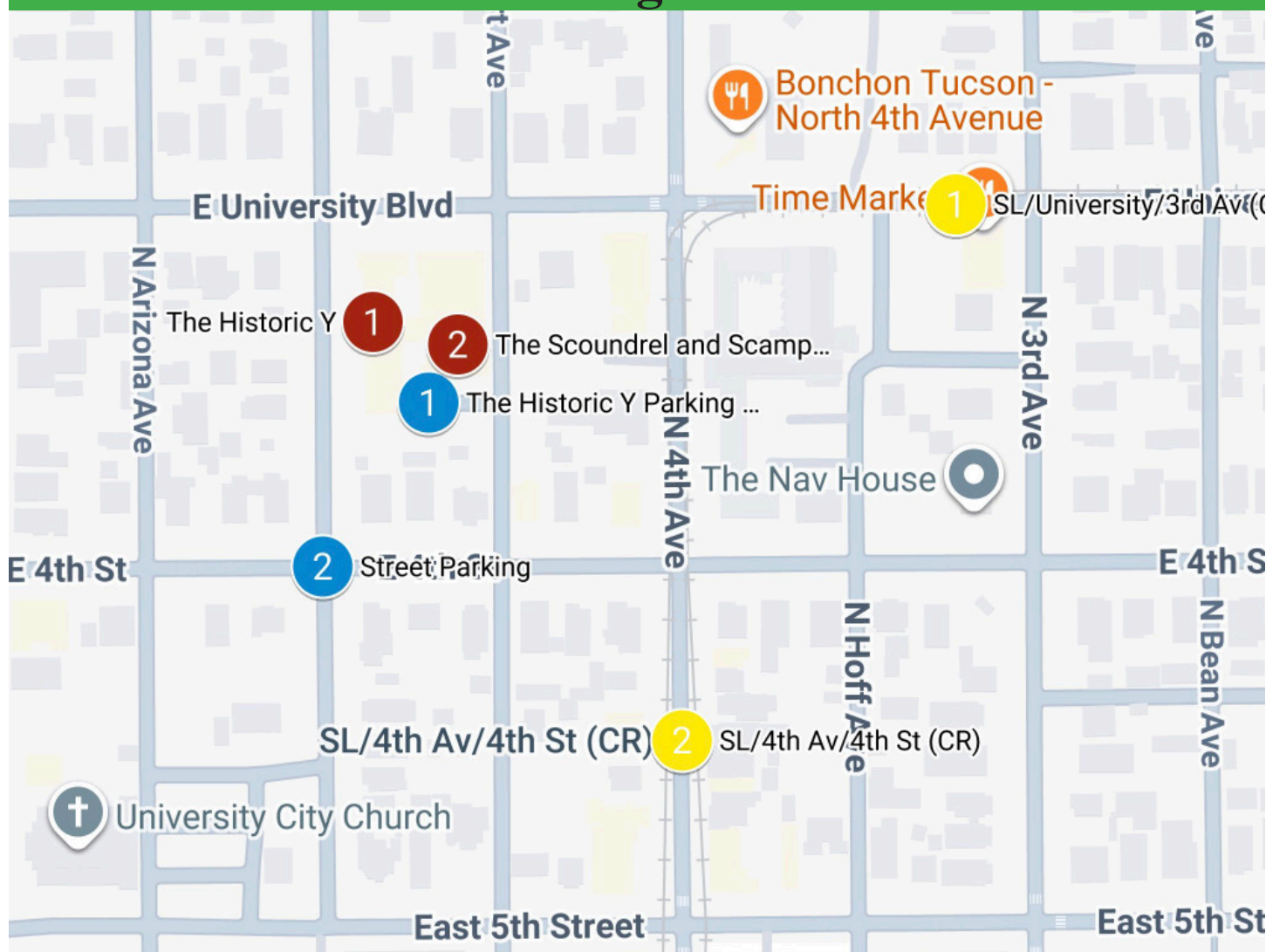
Ocotillo are common in most areas of the Sonoran and Chihuahuan deserts. They are also found in western Texas through to southern California. The Ocotillo is often used as "fencing" because its spines stop people and animals from passing through.



## Has Many Names

The Ocotillo is called many different names including Candlewood, Slimwood, Coachwhip, Vine Cactus, Flaming Sword and Jacob's Staff.

# 2026 Fringe Venues



## Venues (Red)

1. The Historic Y, 738 N Fifth Ave, Tucson, AZ 85705

**Important Notice:** The Historic Y does not have an elevator. Audience members with mobility issues may not be able to use the stairs to reach the Historic Y 2nd Floor Lobby.

2. The Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre, 738 N Fifth Ave #131, Tucson, AZ 85705

## Parking (Blue)

Street parking is free on the weekends and after 5pm on weekdays.

1. The Historic Y Parking Lot (Small and fills up fast)
2. Street Parking

## Streetcar Stops (Yellow)

1. SL/University/3rd Av
2. SL/4th Av/4th St



# How to Fringe

Is this your first time on the Fringe? Or maybe you're a Fringe Expert. Have you ever been to the grand-daddy Fringe Festival in Edinburgh? Whether you're a seasoned pro or a fringe noob, we're here to make sure your fringe experience is a good one.

## **STEP 1: Check out the schedule!**

You're holding one in your hand. You can also head to [tucsonfringe.org](http://tucsonfringe.org). Showtimes are subject to change and our website will have the most accurate information during the festival weekend.

## **STEP 2: Buy a ticket!**

...or a two-show pass...or a five-show pass??? Whether you're only going to see one show or trying to catch as many as possible in the four days of the festival, we've got a ticketing option for you. Each show is only an hour long so catch a few!

## **STEP 3: Wear your fringe button!**

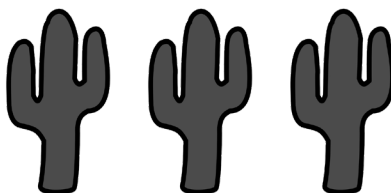
This snazzy, shiny button, included in every ticket and pass, is what keeps Tucson Fringe going. Since most of the ticket revenue (\$12) goes back to the artists, revenue from the button (\$3) helps festival organizers pay for venue rentals, technicians, and festival marketing among other things. We also use the buttons to track festival attendance across multiple venues.

## **STEP 4: Tell us what you thought!**

At each venue, you'll see post-it notes and scrap paper which you can write a little review or write a 1-5 star rating for the show. Or use the QR code on the schedule handout and fill out the review form online. If you're posting on social media, use the hashtags [#tucsonfringe](#) and [#tucsonfringe2026](#) to share photos and your thoughts about the shows and festival.

## **STEP 5: Join us for our other events!**

Find out what other fun happenings Tucson Fringe offers throughout the year. Visit our website for details or sign up for our newsletter to stay up to date on all things Tucson Fringe.



# Comedy Mania

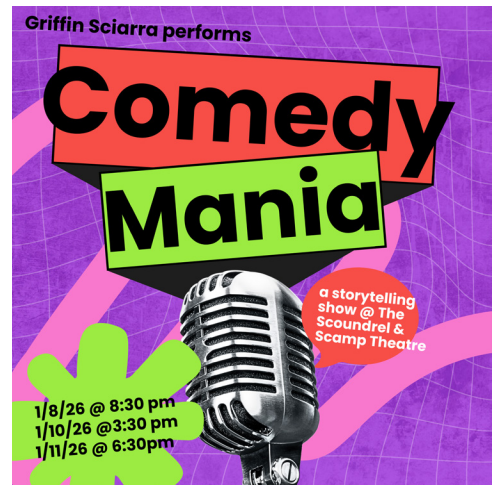
Seymour, IN

@ Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre

Thurs, 1/8, 8:30pm; Sat, 1/10, 3:30pm

*Comedy, Stand-up, Storytelling*

18+



## The Show:

What happens when you put your mental health on the line for a career going nowhere?

## Artist Bio:

Griffin Sciarra has been performing stand-up comedy since 2018. He's performed at the Kansas City, Tampa, and Providence fringe festivals. His comedy can be heard on the Sirius XM Raw Dog Comedy Hour. He's performed as a resident MC on Royal Caribbean Cruise line. He won the Clean Comedy Challenge in 2021.



# Fall of the High School Valedictorian

Minneapolis, MN

Vimeo

VOD from Thurs, 1/8 - Wed, 1/14

*Film/Pre-recorded, Live Music, Storytelling*

18+ SL V S

## The Show:

20 years of depression in 60 minutes.

## Artist Bio:

Since speaking as Valedictorian at his High School commencement, Philip Simondet has spent a couple of decades converting his once limitless potential into opportunities missed. Luckily, he got this show written before there was no potential left. He's an improviser, musician, podcaster, teacher, and writer... and still doesn't like himself. [PhilipSimondet.com](http://PhilipSimondet.com) [TireFires.com](http://TireFires.com)



# Don't Feed the Troll

Tucson, AZ

@ Historic Y 2nd Floor Lobby

Thurs, 1/8, 7pm

*Drama, Theatre*



## The Show:

When an op-ed columnist's world is ripped apart, she seeks to take down the abusive online troll at the center of her despair.

## Artist Bio:

Adrian has had several plays produced for both stage and radio including *Social Outcast* (Canal Café Theatre, London), *The Knight of Malta* (Manhattan Repertory Theatre, NYC), and *Terror on Edge Island* (Narada Radio Company). Adrian is a UK ex-pat who has been engaged with Tucson's theatrical community since moving from Seattle two years ago. An active member of the Old Pueblo's Playwright group, Adrian also played Father Benito in Borderlands Theatre's recent production of *Claudia's Family*.

## ORIGINS OF THE FRINGE

In 1947, Edinburgh was host to the exclusive "Edinburgh Theatre Festival." But several performing groups thought, post WWII, this was a time to come together as artists and be more inclusive. So, eight theatre companies found alternative performance spaces around the outskirts (or "fringes") of Edinburgh and performed at the same time as the official festival. Since then, over 200 Fringe Festivals have popped up around the world, using a few basic tenets as their guiding principles:

- Lack of an "invitation" or jury system to choose who gets to perform.
- Using unconventional performance spaces in city centers.
- Returning 80-100% of ticket revenue to the performers.

# FERN

Los Angeles, CA  
@ Historic Y 2nd Floor Lobby  
Sat, 1/10, 5pm  
*Comedy, Drama, Stand-up, Storytelling, Theatre*



## The Show:

Stand-up comic Amber Preston plants punchlines and personal stories to craft an ode to moms and not-a-moms alike.

## Artist Bio:

Originally hailing from Fargo, North Dakota, stand-up comic Amber Preston earned her Theater Arts degree from the University of Minnesota. These days her resume boasts performances at San Francisco's Sketchfest, the Boston Comedy Festival, the Aspen Rooftop Comedy Festival, and Portland's Bridgetown Comedy Festival. She's even placed third at the Great American Comedy Festival and won Best of the Midwest at Gilda's LaughFest.

## Generous Support Provided By:



The Surly Wench Pub  
The Performance Gallery  
Kyle Dekker  
Amberlee Harrington  
Rick Herrera  
Yassi Jahanmir  
Beatrice Mason  
Shane Mayforth  
Mike McGeever  
Daniel Pinkerton  
Raymond Smith

**And many other anonymous donors!**



# Fleeting Fringe: Short Performance Showcase

Arizona  
@ Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre  
Sat, 1/10, 7pm  
*Variety/Vaudeville*

## The Show:

Two 20 minute long performances that will leave you wanting more.



**Omni Tutu: Cool Waters** - Created by Kimberly Miguel Mullen; San Diego, CA.  
*Dance, Film/Pre-recorded, Historical, Multi-Media, Performance Art/Installation, Performance Poetry/SLAM/Spoken Word, Storytelling, Theatre*



OMI TUTU (“Cool Waters”) is a ritual offering, a portal into the sacred waters that birth life, ancestral memory, and healing.

**Artist Bio:** Kimberly Miguel Mullen, M.A. is a classically trained folkloric dance artist and cultural ethnologist who contributes to a legacy of performers from Cuba and Brazil. Rooted in 30-years of research, apprenticeship, and training, Mullen expands the reach of African diasporic forms through groundbreaking performances, teachings, cultural travel curricula and artistic collaborations; her first multi-media collaboration with Peabody Award Winning documentary filmmaker, Craig Renaud.

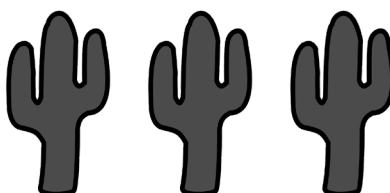
**Re Turning** - Created by FUNHOUSE movement theater; Tucson, AZ  
*Dance*



Turning/Re Turning is a group work by Billbob Brown, with dancers Billbob Brown, Itzel Mecias, Sherry Mulholland and Bethanne Rose, based on spinning, reversing, reflecting, and remembering those who’ve passed on, through various folk-dance forms like the cárdás and contra dances.

**Artist Bio:** Founded in 1998 by award winning choreographer, Lee Anne Hartley, and currently under the artistic direction of Sherry Mulholland, FUNHOUSE movement theater is a modern and Butoh company that has reached over 70,000 people in its 25-year history.

Our mission is to create quality dance programming, to provide dance education opportunities to the public, to encourage collaboration within the dance community, and to speak of the importance of the arts in our lives.



## Hey Pamela? Yes Pamela?

Washington, DC

@ Historic Y 2nd Floor Lobby

Sat, 1/10, 3:30pm; Sun, 1/11, 5pm

*Comedy, Storytelling*

13+



### The Show:

This two-person show is partly scripted, partly improvised piece which explores both sides of a person and the struggle to sometimes balance the two.

### Artist Bio:

Pamela H. Leahigh is a DC area playwright and actor who is a fifth generation Washingtonian. Her work has been seen at Edinburgh, District, Hollywood, San Francisco and Capital fringe Festivals, as well as the Kennedy Center Page to Stage Festival, and Theatre J 5x5. She is also a multi-Emmy and Murrow award winning journalist at a local news affiliate in her hometown.



## If it's 7:30 in the Living Room; What Time is it in the Kitchen?

13+

San Francisco, CA

@ Historic Y 2nd Floor Lobby

Sat, 1/10, 7pm; Sun, 1/11, 2pm & 6:30pm

*Storytelling*

### The Show:

In this funny, nostalgic piece, Scott remembers his childhood and how it was influenced by colorful grandparents and black & white television.

### Artist Bio:

Scott Cohen is a San Francisco storyteller and comedian, but only at night. By day, he is a mild-mannered accountant, and no one knows how funny he is.



# Lucy/Lucille

13+

Darien, IL

@ Historic Y 2nd Floor Lobby

Sat, 1/10, 2pm & 8:30pm; Sun, 1/11, 3:30pm

*Drama, Historical, Theatre*

## The Show:

Lucille Ball comes to life in this biopic play that pays tribute to both the onscreen comedic legend and the real woman behind the myth.

## Artist Bio:

Leslie Goddard is a Chicago-based historian and actress whose works blend history with performance. She holds an interdisciplinary Ph.D. from Northwestern University as well as a master's degree and an undergraduate degree in theater. Her portrayals have been seen by audiences in more than thirty-five states, including scores of universities, museums, libraries, civic organizations and festivals.



# More Porridge

Stillwater, OK

Live on Zoom

Thurs, 1/8, 7pm; Fri, 1/9, 7pm

*Avant-Garde/Experimental, Historical, Performance Art/Installation*

18+



SL

V

P

## The Show:

Oliver Twist yesterday and Olivia Johnson today both deserve more than a second helping of thin government-made porridge – can we simply feed the poor?

## Artist Bio:

K. Leo Pullin & The Ready for Second Helpings Players are an award winning Zoom performance art group specializing in political fringe theatre. Pullin's shows include research to encourage community members to speak up, possibly to object to governmental excess, at a local level. Both her 2-D artwork and her performances are new media torn paper collages of life. Pullin is an electron microscopist with a BS in geosciences and is an art school dropout.

# Old Pueblo Playwrights - Short Plays

Tucson, AZ

@ Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre

Fri, 1/9, 7pm; Sat, 1/10, 5pm

*Comedy, Drama, Theatre*

13+



## The Show:

Each of our two shows in the Fringe Festival present staged readings of different short plays. Each show is different, so see them both!

## Artist Bio:

Old Pueblo Playwrights is a Tucson writers' group for playwrights. We incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit in 1987. We meet every Monday night at 7:00 pm, usually in-person and on Zoom, where we read, critique, and develop new plays. Once a year, we put on a New Play Festival, where we present the best plays we worked on that year. All our meetings are open to the public — please see our website, [oldpuebloplaywrights.org](http://oldpuebloplaywrights.org), for more information.



# ProjectRISE

Tucson, AZ

@ Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre

Fri, 1/9, 8:30pm

*Dance*

A

## The Show:

ProjectRISE uses dance, music, and narrative to discuss issues of concern brought up by youth between the ages of 11 and 14.

## Artist Bio:

Founded in 2011, Esperanza Dance Project (EDP) is a community based non-profit organization that uses impactful dance performances to educate high school students about the issue of childhood sexual violence and deliver a message of hope, strength, and empowerment. In 2023, EDP created ProjectRISE: Respect, Inspire, Support, Empower to address symptoms of the broader issue of sexual violence in an age-appropriate program for middle school students.

# The Dumb Waiter

Minneapolis, MN

@ Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre

Thurs, 1/8, 7pm; Sat, 1/10, 8:30pm; Sun, 1/11, 3:30pm

*Drama, Theatre*

13+

V



## The Show:

Two hit men are lying in wait for the delivery of their next victim - but something feels wrong this time.

## Artist Bio:

Mermaid Productions was founded by Ariel Pinkerton in 2013 to be her primary producing company for the Minnesota Fringe. She has since expanded to The Cincy Fringe and the Tucson Fringe. She performed *The Dumb Waiter* in 2009 under a different company and sold out all 5 performances.

**Proud Member of:**





# We still have '23/'24 fringe shirts available. Get yours today!



# \$15

Sizes: S, M, L, XL  
(while supplies last)

Ask about shirts at  
the box office

## the emo show

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY NICOLE COSTANTINI



TUCSON FRINGE FESTIVAL 2026  
AT THE HISTORIC Y

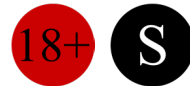
## The Emo Show

Atlanta, GA

@ Historic Y 2nd Floor Lobby

Thurs, 1/8, 8:30pm; Fri, 1/9, 7pm

*Storytelling*



### The Show:

The Emo Show explores the phenomenon that was the early 2000s emo/pop-punk scene and what it means to grow up alongside the music you love.

### Artist Bio:

Nicole Costantini is a performance scholar and practitioner who lives in Atlanta, Georgia. Her performances have been featured at the Petit Jean Performance Festival, Atlanta Fringe Festival, and the HopKins Black Box in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In addition to her love for emo music, Nicole loves telling stories, going to shows, and spending time with her two cats (who often serve as an audience for her rehearsals).

## FUN FRINGE FACTS

- There are over 200 Fringe Festivals all over the world, but we're the only one in Arizona!
- Performers at most Fringe Festivals receive 80% - 100% of the ticket revenue.
- Since Tucson Fringe started in 2011, we've paid out over \$65,000 to over 200 performers. That's over 8,000 tickets sold!
- We've had performers from 15+ states including Arizona, New York, California, and Virginia. We've also had performers from India and the United Kingdom.



### The Women in Me

Joliet, IL

@ Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre

Sat, 1/10, 12:30pm; Sun, 1/11, 2pm

*Musical, Storytelling*

13+

#### The Show:

A deep, wildly authentic One-Woman journey of story and song exploring twelve powerful Feminine Goddess and Archetypal energies and how they bring wholeness to the world.

#### Artist Bio:

Rabbi Jenny is a seasoned writer, vocalist and performer. She is a Master Teacher of Energy Medicine, Shamanic Practitioner, and Vocal Healer. She is the acclaimed author of 'The Terrible and Wonderful Ugly and Beautiful Story of My Life So Far' and 'AHAVATAR' Workbook. A mother of 3 grown children, she currently lives in Joliet, Illinois with her husband Hector and their puppy Lucy.

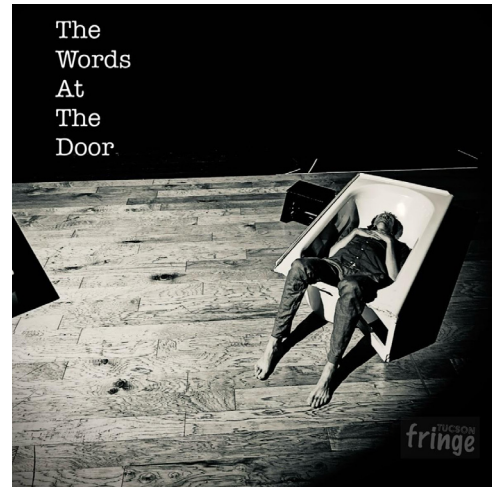
# The Words at the Door

Salt Lake City, UT

@ Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre

Sat, 1/10, 2pm; Sun, 1/11, 12:30pm & 5pm

*Drama, Theatre*



## The Show:

The Words At The Door is a surrealist romance about guilt, grief, the white-hot heat of love, and letting go.

## Artist Bio:

Sackerson creates new works in unconventional spaces for bold audience members. Based in Salt Lake City, Utah, they have created twenty-three productions since their formation in 2015. Sackerson is Artistic Director Morag Shepherd, Executive Producer Jesse Nepivoda, Artistic Producer Matthew Ivan Bennett and Associate Producer Brynn Duncan.

Kristina Shearer is an actor/educator based in Salt Lake City, Utah. She has worked with Sackerson, Creekside Theatre, New World Shakespeare and Wasatch Theatre Company.



# Things That Go Bump

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Vimeo

VOD from Thur, 1/8 - Wed, 1/14

*Film/Pre-recorded, Magic/Escape Art, Storytelling*



## The Show:

Follow your mysterious hostess, Lenore Kilgrave, into the shadows where the veil between worlds begins to blur and nothing is quite what it seems.

## Artist Bio:

From Saskatchewan, Canada, Lisa Krol, is a university administrator with an interest in the paranormal and all things magical. Integrating her storytelling talents with a flair for the unexpected, she crafts theatrical experiences that linger. After her successful 2024 run of 'Spoonful of Magic', Lisa brings her new show, *Things that go Bump* to the Tucson Fringe as her first solo venture which she describes as merrily macabre.



## Vamos a Reir Un Poco (Let's Laugh a Little)

Coolidge, AZ

@ Historic Y 2nd Floor Lobby

Fri, 1/9, 8:30pm

*Comedy, Drama, Storytelling*



### The Show:

Join Rick for a heartfelt and funny journey from his Brooklyn childhood to the uncharted territory of becoming a father.

### Artist Bio:

Rick “Wind” Herrera is an award-winning actor, writer and storyteller from Brooklyn, New York. Now living in Arizona, Rick continues to write and perform content that blends humor, honesty, and vulnerability. Being an artist and creating solo shows based on his life, has helped his personal growth; as it provided a space of healing, through laughter and truth.

For more information on Rick and his shows please visit [RHCOMEDY.COM](http://RHCOMEDY.COM)



## Whirlwind

Seattle, WA

YouTube

VOD from Thurs, 1/8 - Wed, 1/14

*Film/Pre-recorded, Storytelling*



### The Show:

When the illusion of his perfectly ordered life shatters into chaos, a man must re-discover himself in the storm.

### Artist Bio:

Parker Haynes is a 21-year-old, self-taught filmmaker from Seattle, WA. Despite attending the University of Arizona for aerospace engineering, Parker’s true passion has always been making movies. Over the past decade, his portfolio has blossomed from silly Lego stop-motion clips to several directed short films and a YouTube channel with over 100 videos. Parker is very excited to share a bit of his work with the greater Tucson community!

# Get Involved

## **VOLUNTEER:**

The Festival counts on people like you, who want to see and support diverse, low-cost entertainment. Volunteers get a free pass to the festival and a free t-shirt among other perks.

## **VENUE SPONSOR:**

Does your group, club, team, organization, or employer want to support Tucson Fringe and get the word out about them? If your group signs up for TEN volunteer shifts, they can become a venue sponsor, with signage all over that venue and a shout-out with every pre-show speech. You can also sponsor a venue financially. Visit our website for details, [tucsonfringe.org](http://tucsonfringe.org).

## **BOARD:**

Tucson Fringe is a non-profit 501(c)3, run by a board of people who understand the value of the Fringe Festival. If you'd like to be part of what Fringe has to offer Tucson, and artists from around the country, shoot us an email at [tucsonfringe@gmail.com](mailto:tucsonfringe@gmail.com).

## **ARTISTS:**

Do you have a great idea for a show? Do you have a burning desire to be a part of Fringe magic? Applications for the next festival will open July 1. We are unjuried and uncensored, which means we literally pick artists out of a hat and next year YOU could be in the hat! Check out [tucsonfringe.org](http://tucsonfringe.org) and follow us on social media for more info, [@tucsonfringe](https://twitter.com/tucsonfringe).

## **SPONSORS:**

Tucson Fringe offers a number of sponsorship packages, ranging in price from FREE to \$800. If your business or organization is looking for a way to help Tucson Fringe support more artists and grow in our community, visit our website for more details, [tucsonfringe.org](http://tucsonfringe.org).

