

Artwork By: Nathalie Bermudez

FESTIVAL GUIDE

150+ PERFORMANCES • 16 STAGES
 WED. JULY 16 - SAT. JULY 19, 2025
 BORDERLIGHTCLE.ORG

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2025 FESTIVAL ARTWORK: NATHALIE BERMUDEZ

FESTIVAL GUIDE DESIGN: ROB ORTENZI + DEANNA ZAMUDIO

CONTACT

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WEBSITE: www.borderlightcle.org PHONE: 216.356.6485

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@BORDERLIGHTCLE
#BorderLight

Welcome to the 2025 BorderLight Theatre Festival Where the unexpected takes center stage.

BorderLight's mission is to present innovative theatre that inspires, builds cross-cultural understanding and celebrates the diversity of the human experience.

Get ready for four exhilarating days of bold, original, and unforgettable performance. This year's festival is 100% Fringe—unfiltered, unconventional, and full of discovery. With 40+ productions across 16 stages in the Playhouse Square neighborhood, you'll binge on theatre, explore new ideas, and connect with artists from Cleveland, the U.S., and around the world.

From comedy and drama to storytelling, immersive works, and experimental gems, Fringe is the heart of BorderLight. Build your schedule with a 4-, 8-, or 12-Show Binge-on-Fringe Ticket Pack, and catch free outdoor performances on Playhouse Square Plaza and throughout the district—just look for the "Free" stamp in this guide.

FEATURES TO LOOK FOR: FRINGE JR.

On Saturday, July 19, the festival keeps rolling—but from 12–5 PM, it's all about kids at **Fringe Jr**. Enjoy family-focused shows and activities designed to delight all ages. See page 8 for the full lineup.

SOCIAL HUB

Take a break between shows at our outdoor hub on Playhouse Square Plaza. Enjoy free entertainment, prime peoplewatching, and a festive space to recharge and connect.

SPECIAL EVENTS

We're kicking things off Wednesday night with **Fringe Unleashed:** Previews, Pop-Ups, and Live Performances at the City Club. Then, join us Saturday night to celebrate the end of the festival at our **Fringe Finale Wrap & Awards Party.** See page 36 for details.

LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN.

Remember to tag us in your photos and videos!

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TH E GEORGE A R GUND S FOUNDAT ION

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gundfoundation.org 1660 West 2nd Street, Suite 900, Cleveland, OH 44113

CKETS + BOX OFFICE

HOW TO:

IN ADVANCE

ONLINE

Explore this season's shows and purchase tickets or ticket packs in advance at **www.borderlightcle.org**. After purchasing, you'll receive an email confirmation with electronic tickets. These can be shown at the door on your phone or as a printed copy.

VIA PHONE

Box office support will be available May 28 – July 19 by leaving a message at 216-356-6485.

IN PERSON

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AT BORDERLIGHT BOX OFFICES

From July 16 – 20, tickets can be purchased at our **MAIN BOX OFFICE** @ **CITY CLUB** 1317 Euclid Ave, 44115

Wednesday 7/16	5PM-9:30PM
Thursday 7/17	3PM-9:45PM
Friday 7/18	3PM-9:45PM
Saturday 7/19	10AM-8:45PM

Tickets are also available 1 hour prior to show time at:

- THEATRE & ARTS BUILDING @ CSU
 1901 E. 13th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114
- HERMIT CLUB 1629 Dodge Ct, Cleveland, OH 44114
- WIZBANG TENT @ PLAYHOUSE SQUARE PLAZA
 1350 Euclid Ave. Cleveland, OH 44115 Cash Payments not accepted at this location.

QUESTIONS? Call 216-356-6485 to leave a message or email boxoffice@borderlightcle.org.

PRICING:

FRINGE FESTIVAL + FRINGE JR. SHOWS

Standard	\$16.25
Students, Veterans, and Seniors 65+ (10% off)	
Kids (age 6-14)	\$11.25
Kids (5 and under)	

INTERNATIONAL TICKETS

(BLACK IS THE COLOR OF MY VOICE):

Standard\$36.25
Students, Veterans,
and Seniors 65+ (10% off)\$32.75

BINGE-ON-FRINGE PACKS

(DISCOUNTED PRICES ON STANDARD PRICING):

FRINGE:

4-PACK (8% off) \$58
8-PACK (10% off)\$111
12-PACK (15% off) \$156

Binge-on-fringe packs are flexible! Use packs however you like—see multiple shows, share with friends, or spread them across days.

FRINGE JR: <mark>4-PACK</mark>

.\$43

4 Fringe Jr. shows for both kids and adults at a discounted price. Fringe Jr. pricing is valid for any Fringe Jr. show on any day. The Fringe Jr. 4-Pack can be used flexibly across days, just like a Binge-on-Fringe Pack.



LOOK FOR THIS ICON IN SHOW LISTINGS!

The BorderLight Theatre Festival includes a number of free, all-ages performances and special events.

GETTING HERE

BorderLight Theatre Festival activities will take place in the Playhouse Square District. We recommend the following methods of getting to Downtown Cleveland:

PUBLIC TRANSIT	Ó	Cleveland's Regional Transit Authority (RTA) runs bus and train lines that connect throughout Downtown Cleveland. The Healthline, serves the Euclid Avenue Corridor, including the Playhouse Square neighborhood. Catch the Rail/Rapid at Tower City Center, and hop on the Healthline within minutes! Visit RTA's website to plan your trip and purchase fares online: www.riderta.com
BY BIKE & SCOOTER	<u>99</u>	If you live near Downtown, or in surrounding neighborhoods, consider bringing your bike or taking advantage of Cleveland's bike sharing options. Visit Bike Cleveland for more details: www.bikecleveland.org/bikeshare
BY CAR, CAB, RIDE SHARE		If you choose to drive, consider carpooling. For your convenience we have also provided a parking map with convenient spaces to park. https://bit.ly/25parking
WALK		Consider walking between venues to save time and money. <i>The longest distance between venues is .6 miles.</i>





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FESTIVAL MAP + VENUES





ERIE ST. CEMETERY

ADDRESS: 2254 E 9th St, Cleveland, OH 44115 Alternative entrance off E. 14th St between Erie Ct and Sumner Ave. (Shown on Map)



THEATRE & ARTS BUILDING

ADDRESS: Cleveland State University, 1901 E. 13th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44115

STAGES: Allen Rehearsal Hall (505), Black Box Theatre (521), Helen Rehearsal Hall (504), Large Dance Hall (523)



HERMIT CLUB

ADDRESS: 1629 Dodge Ct, Cleveland, OH 44114 STAGES: Patio, Grille, Great Hall

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IDEA CENTER @PSQ

ADDRESS: Playhouse Square, 1375 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115 STAGES: Gund Dance Studio, Miller Classroom, Miller Lobby

...

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

ADDRESS: 1260 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH 44115







Restrooms

Gender Neutral Restrooms



Bar/Alcohol



Food/Concessions

Festival Info + Festival Box Office





WIZBANG TENT

Cleveland, OH 44115

Cleveland, OH 44115

Plaza Stage

(5

ADDRESS: 1350 Euclid Ave.

PLAYHOUSE SQUARE PLAZA

ADDRESS: 1350 Euclid Ave.,

STAGES: Festival Social Hub,

PARNELL'S IRISH PUB

ADDRESS: 1415 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115 STAGES: Lounge, Snug

@ PSQ PLAZA

RED REHEARSAL HALL @ PSQ ADDRESS: 1650 Chester Ave Cleveland, Ohio 44115



MAIN BOX OFFICE + INFORMATION HUB



CITY CLUB OF CLEVELAND ADDRESS: 1317 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115





FringeJR is a curated slate of BorderLight shows appropriate for young audiences—but filled with creative artistry that all ages can enjoy. Whether you're attending with children or simply love whimsical, joyful theatre,

FringeJR welcomes you.

Fringe Jr. performances take place throughout the festival but are concentrated on Saturday, July 19 from 12–5pm in a walkable family zone in the Playhouse Square District. Enjoy circus arts, magical stories, dance battles, interactive theater, and more!

Look for the **FRINGE** badge in the show listings to explore your options!

Featured Fringe Jr. Lineup: ALL AGES

- The Critter Crew!, French Creek Theatre
- Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center
- Magic Bubble Circus, Wizbang!
- BorderLight Brawl Dance Battle, 10K
 Movement
- Toadstool Shadow and the Case of the Missing Potato
- The Girl Who Swallowed a Cactus, Flapjack Theatrics
- Poetry Free Cleveland
- Lúnatic
- The Improvaneers
- Instant Opera

AGES 8-13

• *PLAYGround 2025*, Talespinner Children's Theatre

AGES 14+

- Circus Bizarre!, Wizbang!
- You Go On
- Connection: An Autistic Magician Attempts the Impossible
- The Good Boys of Magic
- The Peace (co)Lab: Tony Play Experience, Happy Theater
- Informed Chaos: A Theatrical Acrobatic Circus Show, Sometimes Together Circus
- Sincerely, (The Diary Play)

FRINGE JR. PRICING:

Kids age 5 and under	FREE
Kids age 6–14	\$11.25
Adults	
Students, Veterans, and	
Seniors 65+, (10% off)	\$14.75

BorderLight needs your help to thrive!

BorderLig

With higher expenses and declining funding for the arts, our sustainability is at risk. If each festival attendee gave just \$5 a month, we could secure the festival's future.

Please donate today!



bit.ly/DonatetoBL

tlight: shows by interest

FAMILY FRIENDLY

• Visit page 8 for Fringe JR. shows.

SPOKEN WORD / POETIC STORYTELLING

- BUCKEYES: Buses & Baseball
- Traveling at the Speed of Life
- · Runaway Princess, a hopeful tale of heroin, hooking and happiness
- She was a Conquistawhore

- 18+..... A Burlesque Play on Modern Dating
- Highs and Lows Vybe Fest
- The Baby Daddy Project
- Remember December

PRIDE IN FULL COLOR

- Get With the Times, Jane! A Sufragista Play
- Mary Kay Vampires
- · In the Shadows: A Monologue Event with convergence-continuum
- Jacquesalope
- Five and a Half Feet of Fearsome
- rustbelt.
- Arachne
- Sharif
- D.O.C. Studios
- A Burlesgue Play on Modern Dating Highs and Lows - Vybe Fest
- · Mental Illness and Friends
- · She Was A Conguistawhore

QUIRKY & ALTOGETHER FUN

- Toadstool Shadow & the Case of the Missing Potato
- Black Metal Patio
- Welcome to the Club by Micro Theater
- The Waiting Room
- Connection: An Autistic Magician Attempts The Impossible
- Magic Bubble Circus!

LAYERED & THOUGHT PROVOKING

- Cloven
- SHARIE
- · In the Shadows: A Monologue Event with convergence-continuum
- YOU GO ON
- The Fibonacci Sequence
- Mother Nature's Tears
- Sankofa
- Sincerely, (The Diary Play)
- · The Right Room
- · Five and a Half Feet of Fearsome
- BorderLight Brawl

- Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center
- Informed Chaos A Theatrical Acrobatic Circus Show

DANCE

- BorderLight Brawl 1 vs. 1 Open Styles Dance Battle by 10K Movement
- Sankofa
- Erie St. Cemetery: An Invitation
- Mother Nature's Tears
- Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center

PHYSICAL THEATRE

- · Out With It
- This Is My Place
- · Informed Chaos: A Theatrical Acrobatic Circus Show
- Circus Bizarre!
- Magic Bubble Circus!
- Cloven

PLANET-FRIENDLY

- The Girl Who Swallowed A Cactus
- Mother Nature's Tears
- French Creek Theatre Presents: The Critter Crew!

LATINX PERSPECTIVES

- Lúnatic
- · Get With the Times, Jane! A Sufragista Play
- Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center

BIPOC

- The Baby Daddy Project
- Remember December
- "I AM" Resetting Live
- Sankofa
- SHARIF
- · Black Is The Color Of My Voice
- Unhinged: A Burlesque Play on Modern Dating Highs and Lows
- · BorderLight Brawl 1 vs. 1 Open Styles Dance Battle by 10K Movement
- The Life I Sing About
- D.O.C Studios
- Traveling At The Speed of Life
- The Fibonacci Sequence
- · She Was A Conquistawhore
- Sincerely, (The Diary Play)

IMAGINED WORLDS

- Arachne
- rustbelt.
- Jacquesalope
- · Out With It
- The Girl Who Swallowed a Cactus
- The Peace (co)Lab: Tiny Play Exp.
- PLAYGround 2025 by Talespinners Children's Theatre

LAUGHTER LINEUP

- The Improvaneers
- · Connections: An Autistic Magician Attempts The Impossible

MUSIC & SONG

· Welcome to the Club by Micro Theater

IMMERSIVE

INTERACTIVE

• The Peace (co)Lab: Tiny Play Experience

PLAYGround 2025 by Talespinners

French Creek Theatre Presents: The

SITE SPECIFIC

· Welcome to the Club by Micro Theater

HER STORY

· Get With the Times, Jane! A Sufragista Play

9

· Runaway Princess, a hopeful tale of

heroin, hooking and happiness

· Erie St. Cemetery: An Invitation

• Black Is the Color Of My Voice

The Girl Who Swallowed A Cactus

Toadstool Shadow & the Case of the

· Black Is The Color Of My Voice

BUCKEYES: Buses & Baseball

- The Baby Daddy Project
- · Mental Illness and Friends
- Mary Kay Vampires
- Jacquesalope
- · The Good Boys of Magic
- Circus Bizarre!

YOU GO ON

Lúnatic

Instant Opera

• This is My Place

Missing Potato

The Right Room

Instant Opera

"I AM" Resetting Live

• The Good Boys of Magic

Poetry Free Cleveland

Children's Theatre

Critter Crew!

· The Right Room

Mary Kay Vampires

•"I AM" Resetting Live

Arachne

The Improvaneers

Black Metal Patio

The Waiting Room

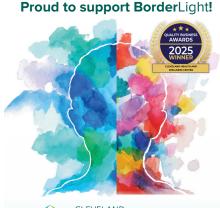
The Life I Sing About



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BLACK IS THE COLOR OF MY VOICE (UK/USA)

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 7PM • Fri 7/18 @ 7PM • Sat 7/19 @ 7:45PM



PRODUCING COMPANY Seabright Live

Inspired by the life of Nina Simone, and featuring many of her most iconic songs performed live. Apphia Campbell's acclaimed play follows a successful singer and civil rights activist as she seeks redemption after the untimely death of her father. She reflects on the journey that took her from a young piano prodigy destined for a life in the service of the church, to a renowned jazz vocalist at the forefront of the Civil Rights Movement. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

GENRE One-person show, Play (scripted) RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

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BORDERLIGHT BRAWL: 1 VS. 1 OPEN STYLES DANCE BATTLE 10K MOVEMENT

CREATED BY 10K Movement DIRECTED BY Samuel McIntosh RUN TIME 90

A dynamic mini-dance battle showcase featuring eight dancers from across Northeast Ohio. In this tournamentstyle event, each dancer will compete head-to-head, with the ultimate goal of being the last one standing.

SHOWS Sat 7/19 @ 2:30PM GENRE Dance/Dance Theatre RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS FREE



CIRCUS BIZARRE! WIZBANG THEATRE

CREATED BY Wizbang Theatre, and original content by featured performers **RUN TIME** 60

Enter a whirlwind of wild vaudeville, surreal sideshow acts, and outrageous talent. Hosted by mischief-makers Pinch and Squeal, this twisted variety show reimagines the circus with jaw-dropping stunts and spectacle.

SHOWS Wed 7/16 @ 6PM, Thu 7/17 @ 7:45PM, Fri 7/18 @ 8:45PM, Sat 7/19 @ 4:15PM GENRE Cabaret RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed



D.O.C. STUDIOS SHOWCASE D.O.C STUDIOS, ANANIAS J DIXON, CARL WALTON

CREATED & DIRECTED BY Ananias J Dixon, Carl Walton Jr. and Sierrayatis RUN TIME 50

D.O.C. Studios, founded by CSA alumni inspired by mentor Dr. Scott G. Miller, empowers underrepresented young adults through theatre and film. This vibrant showcase features scenes and monologues from their beginner and intermediate acting students.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 5:45PM, Fri 7/18 @ 7:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 4PM GENRE Play (Scripted) RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS FREE



Suitable for younger audiences. See age guidance in listing.

FRENCH CREEK THEATRE PRESENTS: THE CRITTER CREW! LORAIN COUNTY METRO PARKS

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY Kierstan Conway RUN TIME 15

A group of reptiles puts on a theatre fest—until Harry the turtle loses confidence. With help from a nature expert, this fun, family-friendly show celebrates wildlife, teamwork, and finding your spark.

SHOWS Sat 7/19 @ 12:15PM, 2PM GENRE Children's Theatre RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS FREE



IN THE SHADOWS: A Monologue Event with convergence-continuum

PRODUCED BY convergence-continuum DIRECTED BY Klae Bainter RUN TIME 60

Writers explore the unseen, the silenced, and the unsettling. This powerful monologue event uncovers what hides in the shadows, bringing forward stories that are often overlooked and voices that deserve to be heard. *CONTENT ADVISORY.*

SHOWS FRI 7/18 @ 8:30PM, SAT 7/19 @ 3PM GENRE Play (Scripted) RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

JULIA DE BURGOS CULTURAL ARTS JULIA DE BURGOS CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

DIRECTED BY Bianca Flores RUN TIME 15

Led by Bianca Flores, our young dancers (ages 5 to 18) bring the rhythms of salsa, bachata, merengue, and plena to life. Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center proudly presents Grupo Coqui and Sabor Latino, our youth dance groups.

SHOWS Sat 7/19 @ 12PM INDOORS CSU ALLEN, 12:45PM PSQ PLAZA GENRE Dance/Dance Theatre RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS FREE







MAGIC BUBBLE CIRCUS!

DANIELLE TILK

CREATED & DIRECTED BY Danielle Tilk **RUN TIME** 30

Step into a world of color, magic, and over 100,000 bubbles! The Bubble Witch blends science, silliness, and spectacle in this whimsical, all-ages performance sure to leave you amazed.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 6PM, Fri 7/18 @ 7:45PM, Sat 7/19 @ 12PM, 6:15PM GENRE Circus RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

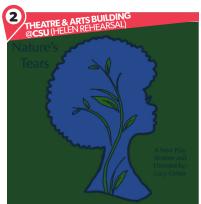


MOTHER NATURE'S TEARS LUCY GEISER

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY Lucy Geiser RUN TIME 40

Mother Nature is dying atop a pile of rice—symbolizing wealth's waste. Her children—Power, Intelligence, and Kindness—must overcome trauma and unite to save her in this moving story of climate and humanity.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 5:15PM, Fri 7/18 @ 7:15PM, Sat 7/19 @ 5PM GENRE Dance / Dance Theatre RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS FREE



PLAYGround 2025 TALESPINNER CHILDREN'S THEATRE

ASSEMBLED BY Talespinner Children's Theatre RUN TIME 90

A lively series of short plays for kids and families, where audience feedback helps shape future shows. Includes fun, interactive elements and take-home activities from Talespinner Children's Theatre.

SHOWS Sat 7/19 @ 12PM GENRE Children's Theatre RECOMMENDED 8-13 TICKETS Box Office Ticketed



Suitable for younger audiences. See age guidance in listing.

POETRY FREE CLEVELAND

CREATED BY Geoffrey Polk **RUN TIME** 120

Step up and give a word, image, or idea—Poetry Free Cleveland will craft a personalized typewriter poem on the spot. Spontaneous, heartfelt, and one-of-a-kind street poetry in action.

SHOWS Fri 7/18 @ 6:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 12:30PM GENRE Immersive/Interactive RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS FREE



THIS IS MY PLACE CSU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

CREATED BY Cleveland State University, Miranda Rowe, Zoë Frager, Dana Sumpter, Josie Wilka, Cecelia Brown, Katie Steim, Allison Mendoza, Abigail Allen, Sam Cohen, Malik Montgomery, Xavier Looney, Jaylen Binns **MUSIC BY** Corey Laitman and Samuel V. Perry **DIRECTED BY** Toby Vera Bercovici **RUN TIME** 30

A funny, bold musical exploration of the college experience created and performed by eleven Cleveland State University Department of Theatre & Dance students. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 5:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 5:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 4PM GENRE Musical/Opera RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS FREE



UNHINGED: A BURLESQUE PLAY ON MODERN DATING HIGHS AND LOWS ISSA VYBE WITH ISSA VYBE PRODUCTIONS

CREATED BY Issa Vybe Co-produced by Double D' Lee DIRECTOR Issa Vybe RUN TIME 60

Through drag and burlesque, artists unleash raw, unfiltered stories of love, trauma, and healing. Set to music and personal audio, each performance dives deep into the chaos of modern dating—completely unhinged. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 10PM, Sat 7/19 @ 7PM GENRE Burlesque RECOMMENDED 18+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed



PARTNER SHOWS

WELCOME TO THE CLUB MICRO THEATER CLE

CREATED BY Samantha Cocco, Jonathon Morgan, and Mindy Herman **DIRECTED BY** Jonathon Morgan **RUN TIME** 40

In a historic hideaway, misfits find their voice through music, dance, and mayhem. This heartfelt, site-specific cabaret is a tribute to weirdos, wallflowers, and anyone longing for a place to belong. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8PM, Fri 7/18 @ 7:30PM, 10PM, Sat 7/19 @ 3PM, 6PM, 8:15PM, GENRE Immersive/Interactive RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS FREE



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Find an organization (or two!) to support using this QR code!





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CONNECTION

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ARACHNE WHISPER THEATRE COLLECTIVE

CREATED & PERFORMED BY Britt Anderson RUN TIME 55

Arachne is a bold, hilarious solo show that reimagines the ancient Greek myth of Athena and Arachne, the first spider, in the American South. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 6PM, Sat 7/19 @ 2:30, 6:45PM GENRE One-Person Show RECOMMENDED 18+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

THE BABY DADDY PROJECT

PERFORMED BY Tania Timmons DIRECTED BY Johnathon Timmons RUN TIME 45

Get ready for a hilarious deep dive into the chaos, comedy, and occasional clarity of co-parenting.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 9:15PM, Fri 7/18 @ 10PM, Sat 7/19 @ 9:45PM GENRE Comedy/Stand-up Comedy RECOMMENDED Adults Only—Mature Content TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

BLACK METAL PATIO DAVE MAHER

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY Dave Maher RUN TIME 30

Part exorcism, part cooking show, this explosive performance blends black metal, fire, food, and fury. Join Dave Maher on a loud, ragefueled journey that's equal parts chaos, catharsis, and culinary delight. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 9:30PM, Fri 7/18 @9:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 6:30PM, 8:30PM GENRE Performance Art RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

BUCKEYES; BUSES & BASEBALL ERIC SCHMIEDL

CREATED BY Calil "Just C.O.S." Cage, Tina D. Stump, Eric Schmiedl **RUN TIME** 45

Combining spoken word, music, and movement, this piece explores the 1945 World Champion Cleveland Buckeyes and the role of the Negro National Leagues in shaping Cleveland, our country, and the world.

SHOWS Fri 7/18 @ 5:45PM, Sat 7/19 @ 3:15PM,7:15PM GENRE Play (Scripted) RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS FREE









Look for FRINGE

Suitable for younger audiences. See age guidance in listing.

CLOVEN

JACOB HENSS & BETSY BRANDT

WRITTEN BY Betsy Brandt DIRECTED BY Jacob Henss & Betsy Brandt RUN TIME 45

An experimental dance-theatre piece that explores the dairy cow as a symbol of exploitation and femininity. Through surreal movement, burlesque, and ritual, it challenges how we consume bodies and meaning.

SHOWS Fri 7/18 @ 7:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 6:15PM GENRE Dance/Dance Theatre **RECOMMENDED** 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

CONNECTION: AN AUTISTIC MAGICIAN ATTEMPTS THE IMPOSSIBLE JORDAN ALLEN

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY Jordan Allen RUN TIME 55

Magic, laughter, and mind reading collide in this interactive experience where one magician dares to do the impossible connect. Expect amazement, surprises, and a deeply human journey you will not forget. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 7PM, Fri 7/18 @ 8PM, Sat 7/19 @ 1:15PM, 5PM GENRE Magic RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

ERIE STREET CEMETERY: AN INVITATION THE BIRDS WHO WALK AT NIGHT

CREATED BY The Birds Who Walk at Night RUN TIME 60

Experience a 60-minute site-specific butch dance performance at Erie Street Cemetery, Cleveland's oldest burial ground. This meditative performance offers a peaceful escape, inviting quiet contemplation and reflection in a sacred, historic space amidst the city's bustle.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 5:30PM GENRE Dance/Dance Theatre RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS FREE

THE FIBONACCI SEQUENCE OATMAN PLAYERS

CREATED BY Michael Oatman **DIRECTED BY** Michael Oatman **RUN TIME** 57

An ex offender is confronted by his former victim. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 7:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 6PM, Sat 7/19 @ 7:30PM GENRE Play (Scripted) RECOMMENDED 18+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed











FIVE AND A HALF FEET OF FEARSOME NICOLAS SHANNON SAVARD

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY Nicolas Shannon Savard RUN TIME 50

Nicolas Shannon Savard hilariously unpacks the so-called 'trans agenda' in this bold solo show featuring satire, puppets, and Judy Blume. Come for the comedy, stay for the truth behind the headlines. *CONTENT ADVISORY.*

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 7:30PM (**S**), Fri 7/18 @ 9PM, Sat 7/19 @ 2PM, 6:30PM GENRE One-Person Show RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

GET WITH THE TIMES, JANE! A SUFRAGISTA PLAY HARTNELL COLLEGE THEATRE ARTS

CREATED BY Isabella Trejo, Aleah Aguilar, Lizbeth Rios Blanco, Jordan Russell, Melissa Muñoz, Karen Alfaro, & River Navaille **RUN TIME** 60

A Chicana suffragette wakes up in 2016... This fast-paced, witty, bilingual play explores how far we've come in 100 years, and how far we've yet to go. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 6:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 6:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 1PM, 4:45PM GENRE Play (Scripted) RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

THE GIRL WHO SWALLOWED A CACTUS FLAPJACK THEATRICS

WRITTEN BY Eric Coble DIRECTED BY Matt Bassett RUN TIME 55

Sheila and her friends escape summer boredom through junkyard adventures that lead to a magical desert quest. A one-actor, imaginative tale about courage, creativity, and caring for the planet. *CONTENT ADVISORY.*

SHOWS Fri 7/18 @ 5:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 1:30PM, 8PM GENRE Children's Theatre / Youth Theatre RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

THE GOOD BOYS OF MAGIC DAVID & BRAYDEN

WRITTEN & CREATED BY Brayden Deweese and David Newell RUN TIME 45

Chaos, charm, and clever tricks collide as David and Brayden deliver a wild mix of magic and unhinged comedy. Double the mischief, double the fun in this unpredictable and hilarious ride. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 7PM, Fri 7/18 @ 8:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 2PM, 6PM GENRE Magic RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed









Look for FRINGE

Suitable for younger audiences. See age guidance in listing.

"I AM" RESETTING LIVE LACY TALLEY

WRITTEN & CREATED BY Lacy Talley RUN TIME 60

Experience a solo journey of resetting and redefinition, brought to life through live painting, song, and poetry. This intimate performance continues the artist's story of letting go, self-discovery, and embracing new ways of being. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Fri 7/18 @ 6:30PM, 8:15PM, Sat 7/19 @ 5PM, 7PM GENRE Performance Art RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

THE IMPROVANEERS

THE IMPROVANEER METHOD

CREATED BY Rob Snow DIRECTED BY Rob Snow and Liz Kutinsky RUN TIME 45

The Improvaneers are the world's first all Down syndrome improvisation troupe. This incredible and perception changing troupe has performed over 75 times throughout North America. *CONTENT ADVISORY.*

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8:15PM GENRE Improvisation RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

INFORMED CHAOS: A THEATRICAL ACROBATIC CIRCUS SHOW SOMETIMES TOGETHER CIRCUS

CREATED BY Sometimes Together Circus **RUN TIME** 90

Through acrobatics, poetry, and powerful imagery, this heartfelt show explores disconnection in the digital age. A moving call to choose real connection, speak your truth, and rediscover the beauty of being present. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 5PM, 8:30PM GENRE Circus RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

INSTANT OPERA

CREATED BY Liz Huff RUN TIME 20

Opera meets improv in this interactive show where Liz Huff and you, the audience, create the story together. Expect music, comedy, and surprises in this one-of-a-kind operatic adventure. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8PM, Fri 7/18 @ 7PM, Sat 7/19 @2:40PM , 7:30PM GENRE Musical/Opera RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS Box Office Ticketed











JACQUESALOPE HAUS OF RUCKUS

WRITTEN BY T Green and Calvin Vo **DIRECTED BY** Calvin Vo **RUN TIME** 57

A fantastical surreal buddy comedy about two friends and their quest to defeat this French cryptid and make it to Burning Man on time. This irreverent one act production brings the world of the play to life with cartoonish characters, live music, and puppets. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 7PM, Fri 7/18 @ 8:45PM, Sat 7/19 @ 12:45PM, 5:15PM GENRE Play (Scripted) RECOMMENDED 18+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

THE LIFE I SING ABOUT DEBI TINSLEY

CONCEIVED & DIRECTED BY Debi Tinsley RUN TIME 60

Actor and Cleveland native Debi Tinsley returns home with an autobiographical cabaret weaving musical theatre, jazz, and bossa nova into a soulful journey of unexpected turns, personal discovery, and the music that saved her.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 9PM, Fri 7/18 @ 6PM, Sat 7/19 @ 5PM GENRE Cabaret RECOMMENDED 18+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

LÚNATIC

JULIA SOSA

CREATED BY Lúnatic RUN TIME 60

Performed live between Mexico and the U.S., this cross-border experience defies borders and genres blending alternativepop, rock, and electronic beats with immersive soundscapes and visuals.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 5PM, Fri 7/18 @ 8:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 7PM GENRE Music RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS FREE

MARY KAY VAMPIRES

WRITTEN BY Ciara Hannon CREATED BY Ciara Hannon and Saylor Lake RUN TIME 60

In 1980s suburbia, beauty is power and blood runs beneath the blush. A darkly funny, campy thriller where housewives hide fangs, secrets simmer, and the makeup empire has a hunger all its own. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 8:45PM, Sat 7/19 @ 3PM, 8PM GENRE Play RECOMMENDED 18+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed









Look for FRINGE

Suitable for younger audiences. See age guidance in listing.

MENTAL ILLNESS AND FRIENDS

DEENA NYER MENDLOWITZ

CREATED BY Deena Nyer Mendlowitz **RUN TIME** 60

Mental Illness and Friends is a live comedy talk-show combining stand-up, improv, and open, honest dialogue with other artists dealing with mental health issues. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 6:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 5:45PM, Sat 7/19 @ 5:30PM GENRE Comedy/Stand-up Comedy RECOMMENDED 18+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

OUT WITH IT ROUGH HOUSE PUPPET ARTS

CREATED BY Claire Saxe MOVEMENT DIRECTION BY Chih-Jou Cheng RUN TIME 55

A playful tale using clowning and puppetry, it follows a protagonist grappling with chaos, questioning whether order or wildness will prevail. Through found-object puppetry, clowning, and visual poetry, it explores the balancing act between both forces.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 7PM, Sat 7/19 @ 3:30PM, 8:30PM GENRE Physical Theatre RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

THE PEACE (CO)LAB: TINY PLAY EXPERIENCE HAPPY THEATER

CREATED BY Natasha Mirny, Tia Shearer Bassett RUN TIME 10

Step into a tender, one-on-one experience where you receive a personal play written just for you. Through stories, reflection, and whimsy, discover peace, release, and the quiet magic of letting go. Each 10-minute performance is ticketed separately and will take place within 3-hour blocks. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Thu 7/18 @ 7:15-10:15PM, Fri 7/19 @ 3-6PM GENRE Immersive/Interactive **RECOMMENDED** 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

REMEMBER DECEMBER MAIDEN VOYAGE THEATRE ENSEMBLE

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY Sharron McPherson Foxx RUN TIME 30

This short play explores the lives of a married couple, each secretly involved in online affairs. Unaware of each other's actions, they mask their emotional and sexual frustrations.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8PM , Sat 7/19 @ 3:15PM GENRE Staged Reading RECOMMENDED Adults Only—Mature Content TICKETS FREE











THE RIGHT ROOM

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WRITTEN BY David Hansen DIRECTED BY Jasmine Renee RUN TIME 60

A true story of one family, represented by four couples in one hotel room, across the 1930s, 1950s, and 1990s. This immersive, intimate love story explores identity, belonging, and intra-generational themes of love, loss, and commitment. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/18 @ **5:30PM** (2), 7PM, 8:30PM GENRE Immersive/Site Specific **RECOMMENDED** 18+ **TICKETS** Box Office Ticketed

RUNAWAY PRINCESS, A HOPEFUL TALE OF HEROIN, HOOKING AND HAPPINESS MARY GOGGIN

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY Mary Goggin RUN TIME 60

100% percent true story of trauma, addiction, and survival. Mary Goggin's award-winning solo show is a gripping journey from darkness to redemption, told with unflinching honesty and unexpected hope. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8:45PM, Fri 7/18 @ 5PM, 9:15PM, Sat 7/19 @ 2:45PM, 6:45PM **GENRE** One-Person Show **RECOMMENDED** 14+ **TICKETS** Box Office Ticketed

rustbeit. Theatre Nobody

CO-CREATED BY Ren Hill & Kevin Michael Wesson RUN TIME 55

Through lyrical storytelling, audience interaction, and live-feed puppetry, two urban explorers uncover stolen artifacts of the Rust Belt, raising questions about memory, ownership, and the working-class history that has been left to rot. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 6PM (2), Fri 7/18 @ 7:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 3:30PM, 8PM GENRE Puppetry RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

SANKOFA BLAKK JAKK DANCE COLLECTIVE

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY RonDale Simpson RUN TIME 45

This dance-theatre piece is an homage to Haile Gerima's groundbreaking 1993 film Sankofa. Through powerful movement, it explores ancestry, identity, and the enduring legacy of slavery.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 7:15PM, Fri 7/18 @ 6:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 4:15PM, 8:15PM GENRE Dance/Dance Theatre RECOMMENDED 18+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed









Look for FRINGE

Suitable for younger audiences. See age guidance in listing.

SHARIF (ISRAEL & US) DIRTY LAUNDRY THEATRE

WRITTEN BY Tomer Aldubi RUN TIME 60

Caught between love, identity, and survival, Sharif's journey reveals the harsh reality of being queer in the West Bank. Based on real stories, this gripping drama is raw, urgent, and unforgettable. There will be talkbacks after the performances on Thursday and Friday. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 9PM, Fri 7/18 @ 9PM, Sat 7/19 @ 6PM GENRE Play (Staged Reading) RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

SHE WAS A CONQUISTAWHORE

DIE-CAST

CREATED & PERFORMED BY Rachel O'Hanlon-Rodriguez **RUN TIME** 45

Legend has it The Conquistawhore drinks her weight in whiskey and brawls with her own vagina because...well, he makes terrible choices. An absurd, radical, and deeply personal exploration of gender identity, intergenerational trauma, and healing. CONTENT ADVISORY.

SHOWS Fri 7/18 @ 7:15PM, Sat 7/19 @ 4:15PM, 8:30PM GENRE Play (Scripted) RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

SINCERELY, (THE DIARY PLAY) THE VAGRANCY

CREATED BY Bryanna Lee **RUN TIME** 60

Drawn from real diaries and memories, this raw coming-of-age story follows Bryanna as she navigates identity, love, and faith. Honest, funny, and vulnerable, it's a window into growing up between worlds. *CONTENT ADVISORY.*

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 6PM, Sat 7/19 @ 1PM GENRE Play (Scripted) RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

TOADSTOOL SHADOW AND THE CASE OF THE MISSING POTATO TOADSTOOL SHADOW

CREATED BY Chris Till and Toadstool Shadow DIRECTED BY Chris Till RUN TIME 45

Help a country-folk trio solve the mystery of their missing potato. With music, laughs, and clues hidden in songs, this family-friendly show blends silly and surreal in a toe-tapping adventure.

SHOWS Sat 7/19 @ 12PM, 3:30PM GENRE Music RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS FREE









FRINGE FESTIVAL

TRAVELING AT THE SPEED OF LIFE VINCE ROBINSON

CREATED & DIRECTED BY Vince Robinson RUN TIME 60

Poet and multimedia artist Vince Robinson blends spoken word, film, photography, and original music in a powerful journey through relationships, injustice, and self-discovery. A soulful reflection on life, legacy, and truth.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 8:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 7:30PM, Sat 7/19 @ 5PM GENRE Spoken-word RECOMMENDED All ages TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

THE WAITING ROOM PHOENIX TEARS PRODUCTIONS

CREATED BY Phoenix Tears Productions **RUN TIME** 60

Welcome to The Waiting Room, where attendees check in, fill out forms, choose from three audio tracks, and wait for their number to be called. Will it be you? *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 5:30PM, Fri 7/18 @ 7PM, Sat 7/19 @ 4:30PM, 8:30PM GENRE Immersive/Interactive RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed



MATT GITTINS

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY Matt Gittins RUN TIME 60

Tyler navigates the quiet aftermath of a school shooting as prom season approaches. A moving story of grief, resilience, and community, based on real experiences of surviving and healing after tragedy. *CONTENT ADVISORY*.

SHOWS Thu 7/17 @ 6:45PM, Fri 7/18 @ 5:45PM, Sat 7/19 @ 1:15PM, 6:15PM GENRE Musical/Opera RECOMMENDED 14+ TICKETS Box Office Ticketed

Visit our Accessibility page where you can find the following:

- Our "Know Before You Go" Guides
- · Information about ASL interpretation and relaxed shows at BorderLight
- Where to find wheelchair-accessible restrooms
- How to contact our Accessibility Coordinator
- Parking Guide

QUESTIONS about where to dine or stay, what happens if it rains, or our ticketing structure? Find answers to frequently asked questions at: **www.borderlightcle.org/2025-Visitors-Guide**











Opera but make it Improv-Now at BorderLight!



"What a hoot AND tour-de-force!" - Eric Coble

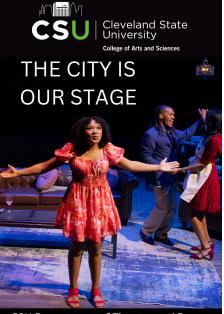


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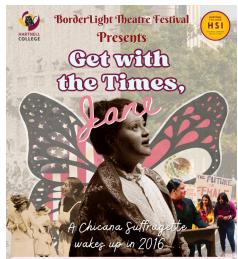
SOCIAL 7

Take a break on Playhouse Square Plaza!

Enjoy free shows, street performers, seating, and great people-watching, plus easy access to nearby food and drink options, with occasional pop-ups on the plaza.

HOFBRÄUHAUS DISCOUNT





Thursday 7/17 & Friday 7/18 - 6:30pm Saturday, 7/19 - 1:30 and 4:45pm

Hermit Club Great Hall 1629 Dodge Ct, Cleveland For more information visit borderlightcle.org @hartnell_theatre



Great things happen when good people collaborate!



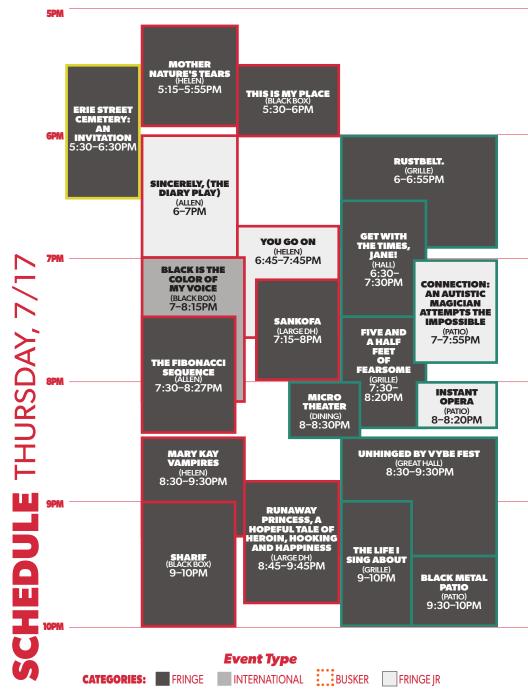
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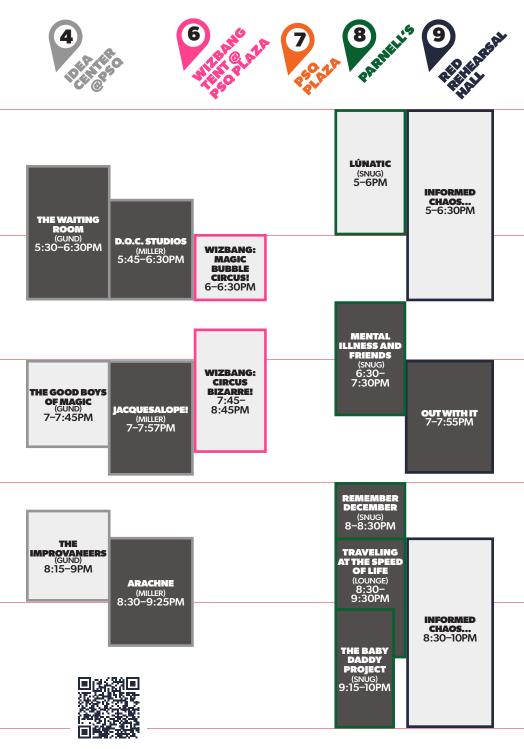










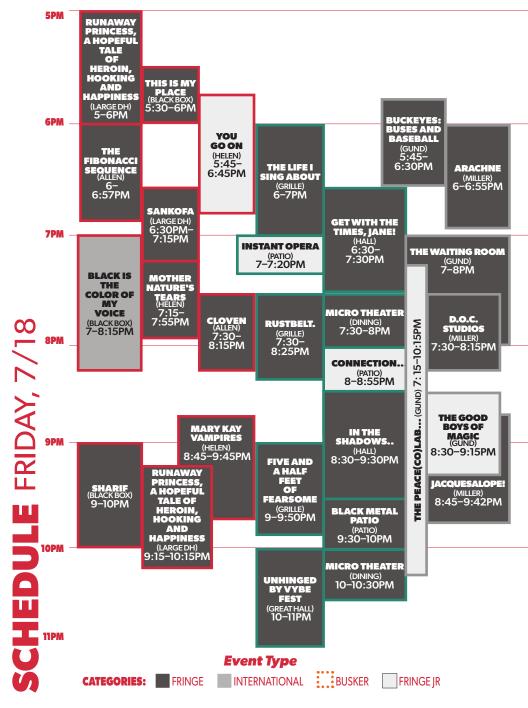


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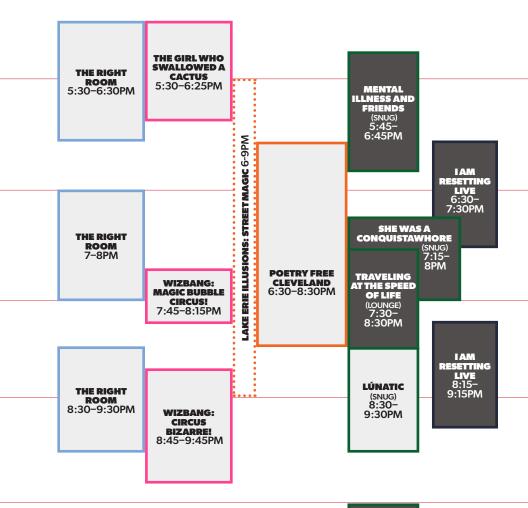












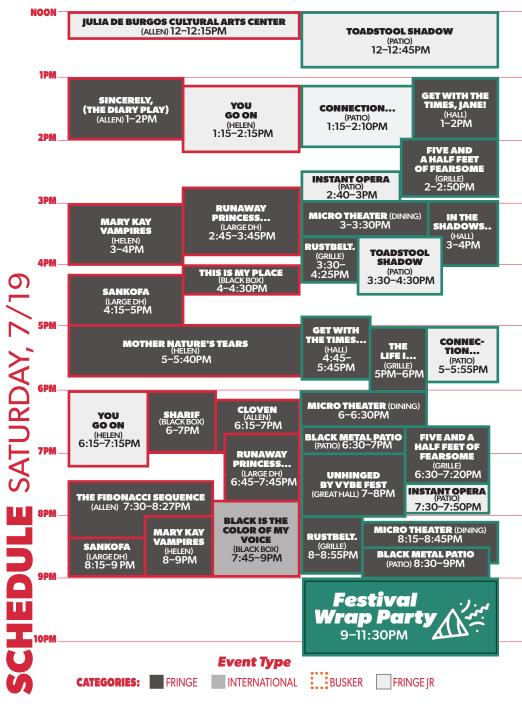


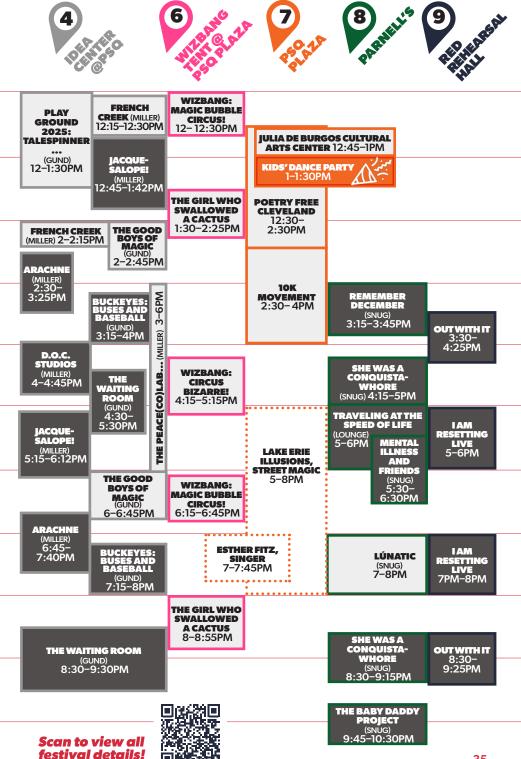
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THE BABY DADDY PROJECT (SNUG) 10-10:45











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City Club Wednesday, July 16 7–9:30PM | \$10

Enjoy previews, pop-up performances, and a first look at what's ahead. A chance to explore the lineup, meet artists, and jump into the spirit of the festival.

KIDS' DANCE PARTY



Playhouse Square Plaza Saturday, July 19 1–1:30PM **FREE**

A lively, music-filled dance party for kids 10 and under to move and groove on Playhouse Square Plaza. **Families welcome!**





Hermit Club | Saturday, July 19 9–11:30PM |\$10 (suggested donation)

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FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS, **THANK YOU!**

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