



FESTIVAL MARKS 30TH ANNIVERSARY WITH SECOND-BEST ATTENDANCE

Box Office sizzles as beautiful weather and great theatre draw enthusiastic crowds

WINNIPEG, July 31, 2017 - We invited theatre fans to celebrate 30 years of incredible live theatre with us and they came out in droves. The weather was hot but the theatre was hotter, leading to the festival's second-best attendance ever.

Indoor attendance for the 2017 festival totalled **104,908** with **138** sold-out performances and **\$875,157** in box office revenue that was returned to the performing companies. The total revenue represents a 21% increase over last year. The festival featured **186** companies with **1,583** total indoor performances.

“Last year’s rain was a distant memory as the sun shone on a fantastic festival,” said Chuck McEwen, Executive Producer for the Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival. *“We were thrilled to welcome big crowds at Old Market Square and the indoor numbers speak for themselves. A huge thanks to the performers, volunteers, sponsors, media partners and Fringe audiences for a memorable festival.”*

Sunday evening, the Manitoba Association of Playwrights (MAP) presented the 15th annual Harry S. Rintoul Memorial Award for best new Manitoban play to **Wren Brian** for her work *Anomie*. Congratulations to Wren and the other nominees: **Cory Wojcik** (*Joe Job*) and **Duncan Cox, Tanner Mason** and **Ben Townsley** (*KING*).

Next year’s Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival will run from July 18 to 29, 2018. For more details, please visit www.winnipegfringe.com.

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HIGH-RESOLUTION PHOTOS: For general festival shots and performer production photos visit the MEDIA section at www.winnipegfringe.com.

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