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2016 Hamilton Fringe Festival Most Successful in its History

Hamilton, ON - July 26, 2016 - The 2016 Hamilton Fringe Festival boasted the highest attendance and box office numbers in the festival's history. Over 10,000 people attended the festival, with a total of \$83,742 in revenue paid out to the artists – an increase of more than \$21,000 from 2015.

With 47 theatre companies from across Canada and the world, the downtown core came alive with dance, drama, comedies, clowning, and magic from July 14-24. "We had very high quality productions, and the Hamilton community really embraced both local and visiting artists," says Interim Festival Director Jessica Director.

The Tragedy of Othella Moore (Perplexed Productions) was the highest-grossing show and winner of the Hamilton Fringe Festival's Best of Fringe Award. **#dirtygirl**, a techno-horror play written and directed by 23-year old local artist Michael Kras of Broken Soil Productions, won the Audience Choice.

The Bathtub Girls (Kairos), a physical theatre piece created and performed by recent University of Windsor theatre graduates Natalia Bushnik and Robin Luckwaldt Ross, won The Hamilton Spectator Critics' Choice Award.

The Hamilton Festival Theatre Company announces the second annual Frost Bites Festival from **February 9-12, 2017**, held at the **Art Gallery of Hamilton**. Frost Bites is Hamilton's first site-specific winter performance festival. It features a diverse array of hot artists presenting performance 'bites' throughout the building. Companies include Kairos, Make Art Theatre, Mooncalf Theatre, Sage for Stage, Sector N Collective, Teresa Seaton Studio and Gallery, Tough Love Company, and Open Heart.

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About the Hamilton Fringe Festival:

The Hamilton Fringe Festival is an 11-day unjuried annual theatre festival that takes place each July in downtown Hamilton. Presenting live theatre in an informal, accessible and inexpensive environment, the Fringe strives to break down traditional boundaries between audience and artist, encouraging open dialogue between theatre-goers and theatre-creators.

For news and updates, check out HamiltonFringe.ca

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