



Contact: Kristen Evans or Dennis Monn
Tel. 504-941-3640, Cel. 703-717-1594

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 16, 2008

Announcing the call for submissions to the first annual New Orleans Fringe Festival.

New Orleans Fringe Inc. will be holding its first annual Fringe Festival on November 13-16, 2008 in the Bywater and Marigny neighborhoods in New Orleans.

Fringe Festival is a multi-day multi-venue event that promotes new and emerging theater and makes it affordable to the community. The Festival provides the venue, technical assistance, promotion, volunteers and the audience; the performers do the rest. Almost anything can be performed: cabaret, comedy, dance, drama, improvisational, magic, multimedia, musical theater, performance art, puppetry, storytelling, variety, burlesque, sideshow, spoken word, street theater, and other creative projects.

The submission deadline is July 15th. Applications are available at www.nofringe.org.

More than 30 theater groups from around the country will be selected to present over 100 shows at five venues. Estimated attendance is over 2500 and is expected to draw from throughout the Southeast.

The first Fringe Festival started in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1947 when eight performing groups were excluded from the mainstream annual arts festival. They decided to perform anyway, finding inexpensive or free venues on the fringes of the city. Since then, Fringe Festivals have been launched in cities throughout the US, the most well-known being the festivals in Minneapolis and New York. There is no better place for new theater than New Orleans, the city that embraces artists, where creativity flourishes and the avant-garde gravitates. These are the roots of the New Orleans Fringe Festival – the festival of the wild, weird, fresh, and original.