

CELEBRATING **15** YEARS

WPG COMEDY FESTIVAL



PRESENTED BY

MANITOBA
LIQUOR
& LOTTERIES



APRIL 3-10, 2016

WINNIPEGCOMEDYFESTIVAL.COM



CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

The Gas Station Arts Centre proudly presents...

WINNIPEG COMEDY FESTIVAL 2016: OUR 15TH ANNIVERSARY!

Some old friends, some brand new faces, and a lineup of some of Canada's most hilarious comics – what else would you expect from the Winnipeg Comedy Festival, especially as we ring in our 15th anniversary?

This year, we're all set to celebrate in style, thanks to an extended run, some high-octane talent, and a typically timely schedule of gala shows and club dates that are sure to have audiences rolling in the aisles.

"I am new to the gig," jokes Artistic Director Lara Rae. "But I am happy to continue the tradition with a lineup that is very special and star-studded. And we have really tried hard to reflect and celebrate not just our anniversary, but the positive new voices that are being heard in our community and our culture."

Running April 3-10, this year's Festival kicks off a few nights earlier than usual, with a special Sunday show by U.S. stand-up legend Louie Anderson (Life with Louie, Baskets) at Club Regent Event Centre on April 3.

Our Gala Series at Pantages Playhouse Theatre gets underway on Thu., April 7, with a "Born This Way" show – hosted by TV funnyman Brent Butt (Corner Gas) – that celebrates those character quirks and peculiarities that make us all interesting.

On Fri., April 8, we've got back-to-back galas. First up is "Customs and Integration," a celebration of first- and second-generation Canadians. Following that, we've got Canadian comedy legend Mary Walsh (CODCO, This Hour Has 22 Minutes), who'll help us drop some "Truth Bombs" on the crowd while exploring passionate, uncompromising worldviews.

Sat., April 9 begins with our 15th anniversary show – hosted by WCF repeat offender Sean Cullen – and featuring such Festival faves as Erica Sigurdson, John Wing, Elvira Kurt and Darryl Lenox. We'll close the night with our nerd-approved "All Geek to Me" show, hosted by TV's Naomi Snieckus (Mr. D, The Trailer Park Boys).

As always, there are plenty of new additions to this year's lineup, including a Weird Al Yankovic-inspired karaoke night, our new "Neighbourhoods" show (in which current and former Winnipeggers riff on their home turfs), a special taping of "The Inadequate Life" podcast, a "CRUMBS & Friends" improv showcase, and a panel discussion exploring issues facing Indigenous comics and audiences.

And of course, we're happy to welcome back a number of longstanding favourites, including "CBC's The Debaters", the all-female "No Bro Show", our all-local "Winnipeg Show", our beyond-edgy "All Foul, No Harm" show, and our closing event on Sun., April 10, "Best of the Fest" featuring the "Mics" award show.

For additional information or to schedule interviews, please contact:
David Schmeichel | 204.619.1663 | publicity@winnipegcomedyfestival.com

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CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

Milestone years are a time when we look back and forward. This year's 15th anniversary has some exciting programming that reflects both.

One of five talent packed galas, our 15th Anniversary Gala is cast with some of our favourites from over the years with the multi-talented and musical host Sean Cullen leading the way.

We've also returned with some great shows from our freshmen and sophomore years with "All Foul, No Harm", comedy that is dark and delicious, "Tales From Late Night" a celebration of comics who have been on the major talk show comedy slots. "Tales From Late Night" is a live talk show hosted by Bruce Clark with *comic's comedian* Andy Kindler as his second banana. And we have Brent Butt who literally saved the day a few years back as a last minute replacement returns with oodles of time to prep and be his usual grand self.

But let's get back to the future. Mary Walsh! What else can we say! An all "Women's Open Mic Comedy WCF edition" will provide new women to populate our popular "No Bro Show" in the years to come. Our associate Artistic Director Stephen Sim brings his skills to the table and serves up a banquet of new sketch and improv fare including the return of our sold out French and English Improv show "Lost In Translation, Perdu en quoi?".

We celebrate our One Great City with the return of "The Winnipeg Show" to its home at the Gas Station Arts Centre and a new standup storytelling show "Neighbourhoods". And we remember our neighbours in need with another slate of free and five buck shows plus a free show of new Canadian comics playing to a crowd of new Canadians. We take this concept to a gala with "Customs and Integration". A show about geeks, and a show of provocative opinions "Truth Bomb" make the Pantages fare the most compelling galas in years.

Our "BLT Comedy Show" (bi lesbian trans) and "The ALT Comedy Show" celebrate the happy fact we are not all the same and that's a good thing.

Our presenting sponsor Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries help us bring shows to the Club Regent Event Centre. They join us in presenting Louis Anderson to kick off the fun April 3rd, we have a national survey of Canada's best with "Coast to Coast" and we round out the weekend with the always popular "The Debaters" in its well received new home! And finally, the festival wraps with "Best of the Fest" which include "The Mics", an awards show as a bonus treat for attendees.

Some things may look a bit different (like me) but we are the same fest inside. Growing, learning, loving and laughing for hopefully another 15 years.

And three cheers to the best team in the world - our staff and volunteers.

Lara Rae, Artistic Director

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APRIL 3-10, 2016

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2016 LINEUP

GALA HOSTS

MARY WALSH
SEÁN CULLEN
NAOMI SНИЕCKUS
BRENT BUTT

COMEDIANS

Chad Anderson
Louie Anderson
Martha Chaves
Graham Clark
Caitlin Curtis
Mark Edwards
Mayce Galoni
Lori Gibbs
Tim Gray
Nour Hadidi
Cheryl Hann
Pete Johansson
Andy Kindler
Elvira Kurt
Darryl Lenox
Dave Merheje
Greg Morton
Doug Mutai
Nikki Payne
Tyler Penner
Vishal Ramesh
Nick Reynoldson
Erica Sigurdson
Stephen Sim
Dana Smith
Dan Taylor
Dan Verville
Ben Walker
Jordan Welwood
K. Trevor Wilson
John Wing
Jeremy Woodcock



**SUNDAY,
APRIL 3rd**

LOUIE ANDERSON

CLUB REGENT EVENT CENTRE | 8:00 PM

TICKETS: \$30.00-\$45.00

The two-time Emmy Award winner – and one of Comedy Central's 100 Greatest Standups of All Time – kicks off this year's Festival with a special Sunday show.

**MONDAY,
APRIL 4th**

819.7 FREE COMEDY

THE MILLENNIUM LIBRARY | 12:15 PM

TICKETS: FREE

You don't have to be quiet at this library show!

WCF THE UPPER DECK

THE KING'S HEAD PUB | 9:30PM

TICKETS: \$5.00 (18+ EVENT)

A comedy sampler of standup comics at the Festival.



TUESDAY, APRIL 5th

819.7 FREE COMEDY

THE MILLENNIUM LIBRARY | 12:15 PM
TICKETS: FREE

You don't have to be quiet at this library show!

THE HIGH SCHOOL IMPROV SUPER SHOW

THE GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE | 7:30PM
TICKETS: \$5.00

The best of the next generation of improv comedy.

WOMEN'S OPEN MIC COMEDY: WCF EDITION

JEKYLL & HYDE'S FREEHOUSE | 8:00PM
TICKETS: \$5.00 (18+ EVENT)

The top 10 up and comers from Jekyll & Hyde's monthly open mic.

WCF RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB SERIES

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB | 8:00 PM
TICKETS: \$12.00 (18+ NO MINORS)

The Winnipeg Comedy Festival features headliners at Winnipeg's favourite comedy club.

WCF THE UPPER DECK

THE KING'S HEAD PUB | 9:30PM
TICKETS: \$5.00 (18+ EVENT)

A comedy sampler of standup comics at the Festival.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6th

819.7 FREE COMEDY

THE MILLENNIUM LIBRARY | 12:15 PM
TICKETS: FREE

You don't have to be quiet at this library show!

GASTROCOMIQUE

THE FUSION GRILL | 6:00PM
TICKETS: \$150 (INCLUDES MEAL AND WINE PAIRING)

A delicious meal at the famed bistro, followed by an intimate comedy show.

THE WINNIPEG SHOW

THE GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE | 7:30PM
TICKETS: \$10.00

A cross section of the Winnipeg stand-up comedy scene.

WCF RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB SERIES

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB | 8:00 PM
TICKETS: \$12.00 (18+ NO MINORS)

The Winnipeg Comedy Festival features headliners at Winnipeg's favourite comedy club.

THE INADEQUATE LIFE PODCAST (LIVE TAPING)

THE KING'S HEAD PUB | 8:00PM
TICKETS: \$5.00 (18+ EVENT)

A live recording of a live podcast featuring live comedy.

WCF THE UPPER DECK

THE KING'S HEAD PUB | 9:30PM
TICKETS: \$5.00 (18+ EVENT)

A comedy sampler of standup comics at the Festival.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 7th

819.7 FREE COMEDY

THE MILLENNIUM LIBRARY | 12:15 PM
TICKETS: FREE

You don't have to be quiet at this library show!

MANITOBA LIQUOR & LOTTERIES GALA: BORN THIS WAY

THE PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE | 7:15PM | TICKETS: \$37.00

Comics who are unapologetically themselves, doing autobiographical material discussing or demonstrating what makes them unique or interesting.

SKETCH COMEDY REVUE Hosted by Kevin McDonald with very special guests

THE GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE | 7:30 PM
TICKETS: \$15.00

Sketch comedy inspired by the festival's 15 year anniversary.

WCF RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB SERIES

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB | 8:00 PM
TICKETS: \$12.00 (18+ NO MINORS)

The Winnipeg Comedy Festival features headliners at Winnipeg's favourite comedy club.

WCF PRESENTS: WEIRD AL KARAOKE

JEKYLL & HYDE'S | 9:00PM
TICKETS: \$10.00 (18+ EVENT)

A comedy show all about music and parody.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 8th

MANITOBA LIQUOR & LOTTERIES GALA: CUSTOMS & INTEGRATION

THE PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE | 7:15PM | TICKETS: \$37.00

Comparisons and contrasts between old and new culture, and older and younger generations. A look at what it means to be a Canadian in 2016.

NEIGHBOURHOODS

THE GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE | 7:30 PM
TICKETS: \$20.00

The festival shines a comedic light on Winnipeg neighbourhoods.

WCF RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB SERIES

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB | 7:45 PM
TICKETS: \$15.00 (18+ NO MINORS)

The Winnipeg Comedy Festival features headliners at Winnipeg's favourite comedy club.

LOST IN TRANSLATION, PERDU EN QUOI?

CCFM | 20H | TICKETS: \$10.00

The French-English Improv show that makes fun of miscommunication.

COAST TO COAST COMEDY

THE CLUB REGENT EVENT CENTRE | 8:00PM
TICKETS: \$20.00

Standup comics from one coast of Canada to the other.

MANITOBA LIQUOR & LOTTERIES GALA: TRUTH BOMB

THE PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE | 9:15 PM | TICKETS: \$37.00

We're dropping truth bombs, hilarious truth bombs. Comics with passionate, uncompromising opinions, doing material about how they see the world/society.

TALES FROM LATE NIGHT

THE PARK THEATRE | 10:00PM | TICKETS: \$20.00

A late night-inspired talk show, all about comedy.

WCF RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB SERIES

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB | 10:30 PM
TICKETS: \$15.00 (18+ NO MINORS)

The Winnipeg Comedy Festival features headliners at Winnipeg's favourite comedy club.

CRUMBS & FRIENDS

THE GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE | 10:30PM
TICKETS: \$15.00

World-class improv theatre that you won't believe wasn't written down ahead of time.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 9th

CBC'S THE DEBATERS

CLUB REGENT EVENT CENTRE | 2:00 PM
TICKETS: VARIOUS

Canada's hottest comedians go toe-to-toe, debating topics in the news and on people's minds.

DINNER & A MOVIE

THE MET | 6PM DINNER + 7PM MOVIE
TICKETS: \$30 DINNER AND MOVIE | \$10 JUST MOVIE

The cult classic film "The Princess Bride"... with something better than popcorn.

MANITOBA LIQUOR & LOTTERIES GALA: THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW

THE PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE | 6:45PM
TICKETS: \$37.00

Celebrate our 15th year of bringing you comedy. Past Festival favourites return for the ultimate "best-of" show.

WCF RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB SERIES

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB | 7:15 PM
TICKETS: \$17.00 (18+ NO MINORS)

The Winnipeg Comedy Festival features headliners at Winnipeg's favourite comedy club.

THE NO BRO SHOW 3

THE GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE | 7:30PM
TICKETS: \$20.00

The best standup comedy – that just happens to feature an all-women cast.

MANITOBA LIQUOR & LOTTERIES GALA: ALL GEEK TO ME

THE PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE | 9:15PM | TICKETS: \$37.00

Comedy for all the nerds, geeks and super-fans out there. Self-identified nerds, geeks and dorks doing material about their life, struggles, joys and geeky interests and obsessions.

WCF RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB SERIES

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB | 10:00 PM
TICKETS: \$17.00 (18+ NO MINORS)

The Winnipeg Comedy Festival features headliners at Winnipeg's favourite comedy club.

ALL FOUL, NO HARM

THE MET | 10:00PM | TICKETS: \$20.00 (18+ NO MINORS)

The late-night comedy show that's all about crossing the line and pushing the envelope.

"BLT" COMEDY SHOW

THE GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE | 10:30 PM
TICKETS: \$15.00

The Bisexual, Lesbian, Transgender sandwich of comedy.



**SUNDAY,
APRIL 10th**

CBC'S THE DEBATERS

CLUB REGENT EVENT CENTRE | 2:00 PM

TICKETS: VARIOUS

Canada's hottest comedians go toe-to-toe, debating topics in the news and on people's minds.

WCF PRESENTS

BEST OF THE FEST

THE CLUB REGENT EVENT CENTRE | 7:00 PM

TICKETS: \$25.00

Join us as we celebrate the best performers of the Festival, and the best in Canadian comedy through our very own Mics Awards.

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**We gratefully acknowledge the
generous support of our partners.**



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