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**Charm City Fringe Gears Up For November Arts Festival**

Planning team uses summer months to expand upcoming theatre and performing arts festival across two Baltimore neighborhoods

BALTIMORE, Md. – Charm City Fringe Fest, Baltimore’s newest theatre and performing arts festival, is preparing for its return engagement on November 6-10, 2013. The festival is planned for venues throughout Baltimore City’s Station North and Mount Vernon neighborhoods.

Charm City Fringe Fest is the first of its kind and Maryland’s only active Fringe festival.

The expanded festival will provide more exposure and performance opportunities than last year. Accepted artists will perform four times each, where they only performed once in 2012 at the *Nights on the Fringe* festival.

Charm City Fringe Fest also expanded from a weekend showcase to a five-day festival. The planning team is anticipating an audience five times larger than last year.

Co-founders Zachary Michel and Michael Brush believe the festival highlights a fringe arts community that already exists in Baltimore.

“One question we are asked time and again is why Baltimore might need a fringe festival when so much of the theatre is already of the Fringe variety,” said Michel.

“We’re not here to bring fringe to Baltimore,” said Brush. “Baltimore has a fabulous selection of fringe arts. We’re here to celebrate our city and these performers and artists as they are.”

The festival lineup will be announced in August. Michel and Brush received applications from artists in three states and Washington, D.C., as well as Canada and France.

To begin raising awareness for the November festival, Charm City Fringe Fest participated in Artscape, America's largest free arts festival, held in Baltimore July 19-21, 2013.

**About Charm City Fringe**

Charm City Fringe, Inc. aims to connect and develop Baltimore's theatre community, engage existing audiences, attract non-traditional theatergoers, and reach out to communities not commonly represented. Through an annual theatre festival and regular educational community workshops, they look to cultivate Baltimore as a hub for theatre and the performing arts and expand, strengthen, and enhance creative learning opportunities for Baltimore's youth.

Visit [www.charmcityfringe.com](http://www.charmcityfringe.com) for more information.

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