



**a collaboration between the Cincinnati Fringe Festival and Art on the Streets
in an effort to encourage independent and free range public performance**

Every year Know Theatre's Cincinnati Fringe Festival welcomes hundreds of artists to unleash their creativity — and we're always looking for ways to involve more motivated and passionate participants.

In 2017, we began developing **Fringe on the Streets** in collaboration with [Art on the Streets \(AotS\)](#) as a way to encourage local musicians and performers to [street perform and busk](#) during the Festival in an effort to help bathe the sidewalks and public areas of (specifically) Over-the-Rhine in **as much arts and entertainment as possible**. Our overall goal, as is the mission of **AotS**, is to help strengthen the footprint of busking and street performance in Cincinnati year round by continuing to familiarizing the public with the activity — **and encourage them to tip you!**

This year our primary focus will be on allowing artists to independently choose when and where they perform, what we call **Open Busking**. While there is **no guaranteed compensation from the Festival or AotS** for Open Busking, we *will* give you some sweet **Fringe swag** if you participate *and* toss you a **free drink** at Fringe HQ (Know Theatre) for each day you're performing. **AND encourage our patrons to toss you some precious tips if they see you out and about.**

Read on below for more information!

OPEN BUSKING

The heart and core of Fringe on the Streets, Open Busking is simply this:

You, as an artist, have every right to perform in public spaces and gather tips from those who support your work, so long as you adhere to rules and regulations provided.

While we encourage you to perform whenever/wherever best suits your needs and abilities, we do have some tips and suggestions, especially regarding times and locations you chose to perform:

TIPS, SUGGESTIONS, and “RULES”

- You’ll want to avoid performing **directly outside Fringe venues while performances are occurring** — though being there for when performances let out is perfect! Check out cincyfringe.com anytime after **April 24th, 2018** to find the **full schedule of venues and performance times**.
- The highest concentration of foot traffic in OTR, especially Festival foot traffic, occurs in these blocks:
 - a. **12th Street between Central and Main**
 - b. **Elm Street between Central and 14th**
 - c. **Race Street between Central and 14th**
 - d. **Vine Street between Central and Liberty**
 - e. **Jackson Street between Central and 13th**
 - f. **Walnut between Central and 13th**
 - g. **Main Street between Central and Liberty**

That being said, you’re encouraged to perform anywhere you’d like in Downtown or OTR. **Or ANYWHERE!**

- *Every night that we have regularly scheduled performances (5/30–6/9) ends with the **Fringe Bar Series** at Know Theatre (~10p–1a), after-parties that typically feature a special theme or event. But it’s almost always a laid back atmosphere where lots of folks gather out front to enjoy the fresh air and delightful weather (if it’s not raining - unless you like standing in the rain, I guess). While certain Bar Series nights are better suited than others, **it’s always a guaranteed time and place to find a large gathering of Fringe Fanatics to entertain.***

If you’re interested in popping by to perform outside during Bar Series, your best bet is to drop Chris a line at cincyfringe@knowtheatre.com and check with him about timing for that night’s events.

- **THIS IS THE BIG ONE.** (That’s why the font is even bigger!) Whether you’re performing at/for Fringe or doin’ your own thang the rest of the year, [please thoroughly digest this document provided by Art on the Streets](#). It covers not only AotS’s history and mission but also provides you with additional tips, rules, and regulations about public/sidewalk performance that **you’ll want to abide by 110%** to keep from causing any issues.

LETTING US KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING AND WHAT YOU GET IN RETURN

Made up your mind and decided to go out and perform? Great! There's two ways and rewards systems for doing so:

1. **Totally Independent Busking**

Artists don't need to be sanctioned or affiliated with any group or event to perform, and that's the way it should be. Just head out the door and do your thing, collect some tip money and call it a day. We'll just be glad you're out there entertaining, as is your right!

2. **"Official" Fringe on the Streets Busking**

That being said, we'd be eternally grateful if you helped us spread the good word of Fringe and AotS by being an "official" busker. What does that mean? Here you go:

- a. First, email **Chris** at cincyfringe@knowtheatre.com and let him know when and where you're planning on performing.
- b. Each time before you go perform, stop by Fringe HQ (Know Theatre, 1120 Jackson Street 45202) to pick up the following:
 - A free Fringe t-shirt and/or other free swag** (*first time only*).
 - A postcard copy of Artists Tips and Rules from AotS.**
 - Some Cincy Fringe postcards to hand out.**
 - Some very short talking points about Fringe and AotS to share if anyone asks for you more info.**
- c. If you're displaying any signage (requesting tips, etc), we'd love it if you tagged us on it:

@cincyfringe* @artonthestreets*

The next step would be including the following info, too:

Official Busker of the 15th Annual Cincinnati Fringe Festival*

**Remember, you don't HAVE to do this, like, legally. We just think it's rad and helps us with promotion.*

- d. When you're finished busking, you can drop off any remaining marketing materials, at which point you'll receive **a token good for one free drink at the Fringe HQ bar!** And a hug, if you want.
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IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS, DROP US A LINE!
CINCYFRINGE@KNOWTHEATRE.COM | SUBJECT LINE: FRINGE ON THE STREETS