

# Nextfest

MAY 30 - JUNE 9 | NEXTFEST.CA



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Photo & Interview Opportunity

## **Coming up Nextfest: Edmonton's Only Emerging Arts Festival Celebrates a Fresh Crop of Brand New Works**

**(Edmonton, AB - May 21, 2019)** - The Nextfest Arts Company ushers in 11 days of creative newness and experimentation with the 24th annual Nextfest Emerging Arts Festival.

Bringing together more than **500 artists** to present more than **90 events** across a wide range of disciplines, Nextfest takes over venues in and around Old Strathcona in celebration of the next generation of movers, shakers, makers, and creators.

"Nextfest meets emerging artists in the early years of their career," says Festival Director Ellen Chorley. "Over the 11 days of Nextfest, we will bear witness to creative experimentation presented by the emerging generation of Edmonton's artists. Each year, we celebrate an all-new line-up of risk-taking, daring work that is sure to take your breath away."

Giving a platform to emerging artists in music, theatre, dance, poetry, visual art, film, design, comedy, and multimedia, Nextfest is in the business of supporting and rewarding creative risk. From full-scale theatre productions and curated gallery exhibitions, to dance works from across the country and the festival's infamous NiteClub series, to the festival's newly minted professional development Workshop Series and fast-paced Collaboration Project, Nextfest promises something surprising and fresh.

Theatre Network live at the Roxy presents  
the 24th annual Nextfest Emerging Arts Festival  
May 30 - June 9, 2019

**500+ Artists | 50+ Events | 11 days | Old Strathcona**  
Passes \$40 | Tickets \$12 | Many Free Events

For schedule information, show descriptions, tickets, and more visit [nextfest.ca](http://nextfest.ca)  
[@NextfestArtsCo](https://twitter.com/NextfestArtsCo) | [#nextfst](https://twitter.com/#nextfst)

## What's new this year?

- True to the spirit of Nextfest's commitment to developing artists in the early stages of their career, the 2019 festival welcomes the **mainstage production of Teneil and Miika Whiskeyjack's AYITA**, merging a **reclamation of truths through the vessel of dance and Cree culture**. They premiere this mother-daughter collaboration at Nextfest 2019.
- Back again, the **Nextfest Mural Project** reveals a new mural . The brainchild of visual artists Coleen Ulliac and Deanne Lee of **trashhecticcollective**, this will be **Nextfest's fifth mural contribution to the Edmonton community**. Media and community are invited to join us for the **unveiling on May 29 at 12Noon** in the alley behind 8215 102 Street.
- Returning for the second year, the **Nextfest Workshop Series** invites emerging artists to build skills, refine practices, and engage in critical discussion about the business of art. The best part? The Workshop Series is **free and open to all emerging artists** in the Edmonton community (yes, even those not participating in Nextfest!);
- A wide variety of daring and unique **Nite Club cabaret experiences** hit the city during Nextfest 2019, bringing performance art inspired by the themes of Pride, collage, and earthly delights to the forefront of Edmonton's underground stages.
- Artists walk into a Nextfest party...and walk out with a brand new collaborative work. Like speed dating for creatives, this year's **Collaboration Project** invites artists of different disciplines to madly create new works over the first ten days of the Festival, **mentored by Steve Pirot**. It's a fast and furious test of creative wit and collaborative spirit. Audiences are invited to see the fruits of this labour on the closing day of festival.
- Nextfest welcomes local music icon **Olivia Street** to the curatorial team as our new Music Curator. Olivia leads two Edmonton-based bands: alternative rock band King of Foxes, as well as cover band, Vegas Wives; is a self-managed artist; and an experienced digital marketer. Check out the banging **music showcase** Olivia's lined up on Saturday, June 1 at the Roxy on Gateway Theatre featuring Calgary-based hip-hop sensation **Cartel Madras**, abstract human song-maker **Astral Swans**, and Edmonton's newest three piece, **Bitters**.
- We've lovingly dubbed them NEXTNextfesters. A festival within a festival, our high school programming provides students the opportunity to showcase their artistic chops alongside Edmonton's emerging heavyweights. This year's lineup includes a roster of theatre, dance, and musical acts, and for the very first time, a **High School Cabaret** featuring a rocking line up of multidisciplinary mashups in **one night of emerging artistic brilliance**.

Nextfest is made possible by our incredible supporters, including Syncrude Canada Ltd.

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### Media Contact:

Megan Dart | Communications Manager  
780.994.7113 | mdart@catchthekeys.ca

### Interview Contact:

Ellen Chorley | Festival Director  
780.906.2365 | ellen@nextfest.ca