



## Montreal Fringe 2022: A resounding success

### Description

# Frankie Awards honour the best of the Montreal St-Ambroise Fringe Festival

By **Byron Toben**

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After a mostly virtual 2021 **Montreal Fringe**, what a pleasure to see the 2022 version all live in person. A few new venues, lots of new performers, both solo and groups, all went well as masked audiences enjoyed distanced entertainers. All ended with a rousing late night on June 19 as the annual **Frankie awards** were announced.

**A full list of the winners and nominees**, English language and French, can be found via **a link at the end of this article**.

For now, a few highlights of the English-language winners arranged by the theatre or company sponsoring that award. Whether that foretells a possible later re-mounting in Montreal, I know not.

Anyway, here 'tis:



Midsummer Night Bushwa

Outstanding English production – Segal Centre  
**Josephine – Dynamite Lunchbox**

Patron's pick (English company)  
**Josephine – Dynamite Lunchbox**

MainLine Creativity Award – MainLine Theatre  
**Midsummer Night Bushwa – Mossy Fae**

Outstanding English Comedy – Just For Laughs  
**Is This Yours? – Al Lafrance**

Outstanding Choreography Award – Bouge d'ici  
**Seven – Naomi Gwynn**

Freestanding Room Award for Making Big Things Happen in Small Places – L'Espace Freestanding Room  
**Alone in the Living Room – Nicole Jacobs**

The Frankies, named after Frank Hopkins, an early supporter of the Montreal Fringe, are sort of a Fringe equivalent of the Hollywood Oscars.

Most Promising English Text – Playwrights Guild of Canada  
**Would Virginia Woolf Contemplate on Suicide if She Were Filipino? by evan Badingham III**



Would Virginia Woolf Contemplate on Suicide if She Were Filipino?

Most Promising Emerging Artist – YES Employment & Entrepreneurship  
**Christine ML Lee – kalianore productions**

### **Some special notes of my own on the above list**

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**Josephine** appears to be the only show which won two Frankies.

**Tango, to the Pointe** is the only nominee that received special attention bordering on a tie in the dance category.

As mentioned above, here is the [link to the full list of Frankie winners and nominees](#).

*Images: courtesy of Montreal St-Ambroise Fringe Festival*

*Feature image: Outstanding English production – Josephine – Segal Centre*

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**Byron Toben**, a past president of *The Montreal Press Club*, has been *WestmountMag.ca*'s theatre reviewer since July 2015. Previously, he wrote for since terminated web sites *Rover Arts* and *Charlebois Post*, print weekly *The Downtowner* and print monthly *The Senior Times*. He also is an expert consultant on U.S. work permits for Canadians.



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1. Byron Toben
2. Frankie Awards
3. Montreal St-Ambroise Fringe Festival

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