



Keeping the Spark Alive Since 2014

WHAT, WHEN, & WHERE: Six-time nominee for *Best Live Arts Event in Vermont* by *Seven Days* readers, the Vermont Burlesque Festival (VTBF) is an annual, multi-day, multi-city celebration of performing arts that uses burlesque as a medium to highlight body positivity, inclusivity, community, & creativity.

Each year, the festival welcomes performers, musicians, comedians, and artists from Vermont and around the world. For 2026, VTBF will feature three days of events centered in **Central Vermont**, with the main showcase at **the Barre Opera House** on **January 23**, with additional activities being explored in Montpelier and Burlington.

This year's edition will be a more intimate and focused experience — a “slimmed down” version of the festival that keeps its spirit, message, and community alive. The Barre Opera House event will also be **live-streamed** for virtual audiences.

Since its debut in 2014, more than 12,000 people have attended the Vermont Burlesque Festival in person, with thousands more tuning in online.

WHO: Founder & Executive Producer: Cory Royer, Associate Producer: Karen Dorey
Supported by a dedicated part-time staff and volunteer family of more than 200 individuals.

Corporate and community partners have included **Hendrick's Gin**, the **Vermont Department of Tourism**, **Boston Beer Company**, **Seven Days Newspaper**, and **Polly Insurance**.

WHY: The Vermont Burlesque Festival exists to entertain, connect, and celebrate — to bring together artists, audiences, and community members through creativity, laughter, and expression.

In a time of change, VTBF continues to shine as a space where people come together to share art, tell stories, and celebrate our diversity. We believe in the power of performance to inspire joy, empathy, and connection — and in the ability of art to make the world a little brighter, bolder, and more expressive, one show at a time.

CHARITY & COMMUNITY: Since 2014, the festival has raised over \$10,000 for Vermont-based charities, including: Breast Cancer Research at the University of Vermont & The Pride Center of Vermont. VTBF also promotes body positivity and inclusion, exposing local charities and causes to an audience of more than 18,000 followers and subscribers.

EXPECTED 2026 FESTIVAL ATTENDANCE: Approximately 800–1,000 participants, including attendees, performers, and staff, with additional virtual viewers via the Barre Opera House livestream.

OUR AUDIENCE: Adults 21+ who value creativity, expression, and community.

VTBF audiences are diverse, open-minded, and engaged — a blend of locals and visitors (about 70% Vermont-based and 30% from out of state) who support the performing arts, body positivity, and local culture.

Long time partners & sponsors include...

