

# Circadium

SCHOOL ● OF CONTEMPORARY CIRCUS



## STUDENT CATALOG

*5900A Greene Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144*

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# **CIRCADIUM – The School**

## **Educational Philosophy and Objectives**

The demand for artistically minded circus training is on the rise. Modern, animal-free representations of circus are proliferating. In the United States, circus exists not only in the traditional 3-ring formula, but in performance and storytelling of all kinds. Circus travels the world, transcending different cultures and crossing many boundaries. In order to fully embody this movement, circus in the 21st century must incorporate other art forms, such as theatre, dance, music, and visual arts.

Circadium is a full-time, 3-year, professional training school for circus artists. There are currently no institutions of this scope for circus in the United States, although there are many excellent examples abroad. As part of our learning process, we need to understand and respect all cultures' contributions to the art of circus. At Circadium, we believe that circus students need a well-rounded educational experience. They have to be polyvalent and multi-talented.

Our goal is to produce the finest circus artists of the current generation. These are the artists who will definitively change how circus is perceived in America. They will start and develop their own companies. They will build new apparatuses. They will create new disciplines. They will continue to challenge our definition of circus; and by doing so they will make circus a relevant form of artistic expression in today's society. They will also be able to forge bonds with circus artists throughout the world.

Circadium will develop students who have the skills to offer exceptional performances; the acumen to manage the administrative tasks that support performance; and the versatility to bring circus to both new and traditional places, across boundaries of culture, space, and expectations.

# Academic Program Overview

In **Year 1 (Discovery)**, students will be exposed to the full range of circus disciplines. They will try everything in the areas of acrobatics, aerial work, equilibristics and object manipulation. They will also build core strength and flexibility, and learn other types of physical preparation, such as Alexander Technique. They will be spending half of their days in movement, theatre, and academic classes, building skills and vocabulary necessary to become versatile artists and strong entrepreneurs. By the end of Year 1, students will have a better sense of their career path, and can choose their specialization.

In **Year 2 (Refinement)**, students have chosen their major and their minor. They will no longer train in all the disciplines; instead they will focus time on their chosen technical apparatus. They will still spend half of each day in movement, theatre, and academic classes. By the end of Year 2, students will have reached a level of proficiency in their majors and minors. They will also have any rigging, props, or equipment that they need for their specializations completely built and available.

In **Year 3 (Presentation)**, the focus is on act development. Alongside their theatre and dance training, students will develop all aspects of their final solo or duo pieces. This includes planning and coordinating costumes, music, lighting, and marketing materials. Professional performances will take place at the end of the 3rd Year.

# Student Timetables (Years 1-3)

## Year 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-8:15	Arrival/Warmup	Arrival/Warmup		Arrival/Warmup	Arrival/Warmup
8:15-8:30					
8:30-8:45					
8:45-9:00	A: Juggling and Aerials B: Acro and Equilibristics	Dance		A: Juggling and Aerials B: Acro and Equilibristics	A: Juggling and Aerials B: Acro and Equilibristics
9:00-9:15					
9:15-9:30					
9:30-9:45					
9:45-10:00					
10:00-10:15	Break	Break		Break	Break
10:15-10:30					
10:30-10:45	B: Juggling and Aerials A: Acro and Equilibristics	A: Juggling and Aerials B: Acro and Equilibristics	Creation Time	B: Juggling and Aerials A: Acro and Equilibristics	B: Juggling and Aerials A: Acro and Equilibristics
10:45-11:00					
11:00-11:15					
11:15-11:30					
11:30-11:45					
11:45-12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:00-12:15					
12:15-12:30					
12:30-12:45					
12:45-1:00					
1:00-1:15	History	Theatre	Movement Fundamentals	Writing	Dance
1:15-1:30					
1:30-1:45					
1:45-2:00					
2:00-2:15					
2:15-2:30					
2:30-2:45	Dance	A: Acro and Equilibristics, B: Juggling and Aerials	Creation Time	Theatre	
2:45-3:00					
3:00-3:15					
3:15-3:30					
3:30-3:45					

3:45-4:00					
4:00-4:15	Theatre	Music			Presentation
4:15-4:30					
4:30-4:45					
4:45-5:00					
5:00-5:15					
5:15-5:30					

## Year 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-8:15	Arrival/Warmup	Arrival/Warmup		Arrival/Warmup	Arrival/Warmup
8:15-8:30					
8:30-8:45					
8:45-9:00	Group Acro	Theatre		Group Acro	Dance
9:00-9:15					
9:15-9:30					
9:30-9:45					
9:45-10:00	Dance		Body Work	Theatre	
10:00-10:15					
10:15-10:30					
10:30-10:45					
10:45-11:00	Coffee break	Coffee break		Coffee break	Coffee break
11:00-11:15	Movement	Minors		Theatre	Minors
11:15-11:30					
11:30-11:45					
11:45-12:00					
12:00-12:15	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:15-12:30					
12:30-12:45					
12:45-1:00					
1:00-1:15	Academic	Majors	Creation Time	Academic	Majors
1:15-1:30					
1:30-1:45					
1:45-2:00					
2:00-2:15					
2:15-2:30					
2:30-2:45	Majors	Majors		Majors	Majors
2:45-3:00					
3:00-3:15					

3:15-3:30					
3:30-3:45					
3:45-4:00					
4:00-4:15	Minors	Academic		Minors	Presentation
4:15-4:30					
4:30-4:45					
4:45-5:00					
5:00-5:15					
5:15-5:30					

### Year 3

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-8:15	Arrival/Warmup	Arrival/Warmup		Arrival/Warmup	Arrival/Warmup
8:15-8:30					
8:30-8:45					
8:45-9:00	Group Acro	Group Acro		Group Acro	Group Acro
9:00-9:15					
9:15-9:30					
9:30-9:45					
9:45-10:00	Theatre	Movement	Body Work	Movement	Theatre
10:00-10:15					
10:15-10:30					
10:30-10:45					
10:45-11:00	Coffee break	Coffee break		Coffee break	Coffee break
11:00-11:15	Movement	Minors		Theatre	Minors
11:15-11:30					
11:30-11:45					
11:45-12:00					
12:00-12:15	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:15-12:30					
12:30-12:45					
12:45-1:00					
1:00-1:15	Academic	Majors	Creation Time	Academic	Majors
1:15-1:30					
1:30-1:45					
1:45-2:00					
2:00-2:15					
2:15-2:30					
2:30-2:45	Majors			Majors	

2:45-3:00					
3:00-3:15					
3:15-3:30					
3:30-3:45					
3:45-4:00					
4:00-4:15	Minors	Academic		Minors	Presentation
4:15-4:30					
4:30-4:45					
4:45-5:00					
5:00-5:15					
5:15-5:30					

# Course Descriptions

## Circus Arts Courses

### Acrobatics 101, 102, 103

Instructor: Aidan O'Shea

Course Schedule: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

Course Length: 45 minutes per day, 4 days per week, 34 weeks (total 102 hours)

The first-year Acrobatics course develops all core physical movements that are necessary to practitioners of circus arts. Muscle control, coordination, and kinetic energy are the key concepts at work. Students will work on skills in tumbling, handbalancing, trampoline, and partnering.

### Aerials 101, 102, 103

Instructor: Adam Woolley

Course Schedule: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

Course Length: 45 minutes per day, 4 days per week, 34 weeks (total 102 hours)

The first-year Aerial course introduces students to the fundamentals of movement on a variety of circus arts apparatuses, including trapeze, fabric and rope. Students will learn basic skills and will progress on each apparatus, becoming comfortable at a variety of heights and building the strength needed for basic aerial performance.

### Juggling & Manipulation 101, 102, 103

Instructors: Greg Kennedy, Richard Kennison



Course Schedule: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

Course Length: 45 minutes per day, 4 days per week, 34 weeks (total 102 hours)

The first-year Juggling course instills fundamentals of toss-juggling with balls, clubs and rings, with a particular look at the physical properties of each and how they react with their environment. The course continues with other, more complex juggling equipment such as diabolo, balancing objects, and cigar boxes, examining how more complex apparatuses can open up more possibilities in manipulation. Students will then work to create alternative apparatuses, using the principles learned from standard equipment. Skills training with traditional and experimental equipment will be stressed to build a large vocabulary of tricks. We believe that object manipulation is a vast and unexplored territory, and from the beginning of their studies at Circadium, students will be encouraged to experiment.

### **Equilibristics 101, 102, 103**

Instructor: Richard Kennison & Adjunct Faculty

Course Schedule: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

Course Length: 45 minutes per day, 4 days per week, 34 weeks (total 102 hours)

Equilibristics is the art of balancing oneself, and this first-year course presents a variety of apparatuses for balancing. Some areas of specific discipline include German wheel, Cyr wheel, rola bola, rolling globe, stilts and tightwire.

### **Physical Theatre 101, 102, 103**

Instructor: Ben Grinberg

Course Schedule: Mondays 4:00pm-5:30pm, Tuesdays 1:00pm-2:30pm, Thursdays 2:30pm-5:30pm

Course Length: 6 hours a week , 34 weeks (total 204 hours)

This first-year class will concentrate on the student's performance presence and ability to transform. Students will focus on seeing an audience and being seen, creating characters, and writing theatrical pieces.

### **Physical Theatre 201, 202, 203**

Instructor: Ben Grinberg

Course Schedule: Tuesdays 8:45am-10:45am, Thursdays 9:45am-10:45am & 11:00am-12:00pm

Course Length: 4 hours a week , 35 weeks (total 140 hours)

The second-year course will help students develop styles and theatrical territories such as half mask and clown. Students will start concentrating on integrating circus skills and theatricality.

### **Physical Theatre 301, 302, 303**

Instructor: Ben Grinberg

Course Schedule: Mondays 9:45am- 10:45am, Thursdays 11:00am-12:00pm, and Fridays 9:45am-10:45am

Course Length: 3 hours per week, 34.5 weeks (total 103.5 hours)

The third-year course provides an opportunity for students to make their own pieces. Students will concentrate on making a solo piece and a group number. They will also focus on writing , design and execution from both a theatrical standpoint and a qualitative analysis of skills.

### **Dance 101, 102, 103**

Instructor: Ryan Tuerk

Course Schedule: Mondays 2:30pm-4:00pm, Tuesdays 8:45am-10:15am, Fridays 12:30pm-3:30pm

Course Length: 6 hours a week , 33.5 weeks (total 201 hours)

This first-year class will concentrate on the student's embodied presence and ability to listen and respond with their full body. Students will practice moving alone and with an ensemble.

### **Dance 201, 202, 203**

Instructor: Ryan Tuerk

Course Schedule: Mondays 9:45am-10:45am & 11:00am-12:00pm, Fridays 8:45am-10:45am

Course Length: 4 hours a week , 32.5 weeks (total 130 hours)

This second-year class will concentrate on integrating circus skills and theatrical physical presence. Students will create and perform short movement studies individually and in groups.

### **Dance 301, 302, 303**

Instructor: Ryan Tuerk

Course Schedule: Mondays 11:00am-12:00pm, Tuesdays 9:45am-10:45am, and Thursdays 9:45am-10:45am

Course Length: 3 hours a week , 35 weeks (total 105 hours)

This third-year course will build on the previous year's work, integrating circus skills and theatrical physical presence. Students will create and perform short movement studies individually and in groups.

## **Movement Fundamentals 101, 102, 103**

Instructor: Susan Deutsch

Course Schedule: Wednesdays 1:00-2:30pm

Course Length: 1.5 hours a week, 35 weeks (total 52.5 hours)

The first-year Movement Fundamentals class will help students develop a deeper understanding of the human body and the way it moves. This course takes elements from dance, Bartenieff Fundamentals, Feldenkrais Method, Franklin Method, Zero Balancing, and the study of Anatomy. Students will learn to move more efficiently and mindfully, helping to prevent and recover from injuries. The practice will enable students to understand their anatomy and movement preferences, which they can then take with them into their circus disciplines.

## **Movement Fundamentals 201, 202, 203**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Wednesdays 1:00-2:30pm

Course Length: 1.5 hours a week, 35 weeks (total 52.5 hours)

## **Movement Fundamentals 301, 302, 303**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Wednesdays 1:00-2:30pm

Course Length: 1.5 hours a week, 35 week ( total 52.5 hours)

## **Majors (year 2) 201, 202, 203**

Instructors: Adam Woolley, Greg Kennedy, Richard Kennison, Aidan O'Shea

Course Schedule: Mondays 2:30pm-4:00pm, Tuesdays 1:00pm-4:00pm, Thursdays 2:30pm-4:00pm, Fridays 1:00pm-4:00pm

Course Length: 9 hours per week. Term 1 – 101.25 hrs, Term 2 - 99 hrs, Term 3 – 105.75 hrs

In the second year, students will choose disciplines in which they wish to specialize. During their Major class, they will intensively build skills within their chosen specialization, including development of unique abilities. Students will be continuously required to present concepts and choreography in front of their peers.

## **Minors (year 2) 201, 202, 203**

Instructors: Adam Woolley, Greg Kennedy, Richard Kennison, Aidan O'Shea

Course Schedule: Mondays 4:00pm-5:30pm, Tuesdays 11:00am-12:00pm, Thursdays 4:00pm-5:30pm, Fridays 11:00am-12:00pm

Course Length: 5 hours per week. Term 1 - 55 hrs, Term 2 - 55 hrs, Term 3 – 58.75 hrs

In the second year, the students will have chosen disciplines in which they wish to specialize. During their Minor class, they will intensively build skills within their chosen sub-specialization, including development of unique abilities.

### **Group Acrobatics (year 2) 101, 102, 103**

Instructor: Aidan O'Shea

Course Schedule: Mondays and Thursdays, 8:45am-9:45am

Course Length: 2 hours per week, 33 weeks (total 66 hours)

This group acrobatics class is for the entire second-year class and will continue throughout the year. Students will be building foundational skills in multi-person pyramids, teeterboard, Russian bar, and banquine.

### **Group Acrobatics (year 3) 201, 202, 203**

Instructor: Aidan O'Shea

Course Schedule: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 8:45am-9:45 am

Course Length: 4 hours per week, 35 weeks (total 140 hours)

This group acrobatics class is for the entire third-year class and will continue throughout the year. Students will be building foundational skills in multi-person pyramids, teeterboard, Russian bar, and banquine.

### **Majors (year 3) 301, 302, 303**

Instructors: Adam Woolley, Greg Kennedy, Richard Kennison, Aidan O'Shea

Course Schedule: Mondays 2:30pm-4:00pm, Tuesdays 1:00pm-4:00pm, Thursdays 2:30pm-4:00pm, Fridays 1:00pm-4:00pm

Course Length: 9 hours per week, 35 weeks (total 315 hours)

This third-year class, Act Development, is about bringing those technical skills to a level of performance prowess. For 9 hours each week, students will be immersed in their chosen specialization, experimenting with physical techniques and artistic qualities as they build their graduation act.

### **Minors (year 3) 301, 302, 303**

Instructors: Adam Woolley, Greg Kennedy, Richard Kennison, Aidan O'Shea

Course Schedule: Mondays 4:00pm-5:30pm, Tuesdays 11:00am-12:00pm, Thursdays 4:00pm-5:30pm, Fridays 11:00am-12:00pm

Course Length: 5 hours per week, 35 weeks (total 175 hours)

In the third year, students will determine the specific format of study for their Minor

subjects through individual consultations. For example, some students may just continue to work on physical technique in their Minor area. Others may want to develop their Minor into an aspect of their graduation act - incorporating both Major and Minor skills. Others may want to hone in on performance elements within their minor.

## **Academic Courses**

### **Year 1**

#### **History 101 - History of Circus**

Instructor: Shana Kennedy

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 10 weeks (total 15.5 hours)

Using texts, videos, and photo studies, this course explores the rich history of circus arts throughout the world, from Greek and Roman circuses through to the modern day.

#### **History 102 - History of Theatre**

Instructor: Richard Kennison

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 9 weeks (total 13.5 hours)

A brief overview of theatre history, with a focus on the evolution of performance aesthetics in theatre in the past 200 years.

#### **History 103 - History of Dance**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

The history of dance in the modern era, including theories of the body, movement as metaphor, and the evolution of dance in the 20th century.

#### **Music 101 102 103**

Instructor: Nicole Paulino-Trisdorfer

Course Schedule: Tuesdays 4:00pm-5:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Students will be learning basic concepts of music including, rhythm, melody, pitch, harmony, analysis, and basic concepts of piano, recorder and guitar. Students will be taught primary music education through Kodaly, Dalcroze, Gordon and Orff methodologies.

### **Writing 101 – Personal writing – grammar and fundamentals of copywriting for creative artists**

Instructor: Jackie Fetzner

Course schedule: Thursdays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 11 weeks (total 16.5 hours)

Writing is a core competency for any artist or entrepreneur. In this course, students will develop basic copywriting skills in a variety of contexts that apply to performing artists, including: short biographies, project descriptions, and grant applications.

### **Writing 102 – Storytelling**

Instructor: Lauren Feldman

Course schedule: Thursdays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

This course introduces theories of storytelling with an emphasis on story structure and character development, rather than writing prose. Focus will be on creating dynamic character arcs and compelling storylines.

### **Writing 103 – Script analysis**

Instructor: Lauren Feldman

Course schedule: Thursdays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Students will learn to analyze scripts and screenplays for dramatic content, character analysis, themes, and artistic statements.

## **Year 2**

(Two required academic courses, one elective)

### **Marketing 101 – Marketing basics**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 10 weeks (total 15 hours)

This course will introduce the basic ideas behind effective marketing: identifying target markets, creating compelling messages, and choosing appropriate mediums for marketing.

### **Marketing 102 – Social media**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 9 weeks (total 13.5 hours)

Social media is the most important marketing tool available to young artists. This course

will familiarize students with the basic social media marketing platforms and equip them with practical skills for utilizing Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and newer sites, including strategies for creating effective conversions.

### **Marketing 103 – Strategic planning**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

This course will introduce tools and methods of strategic business and marketing plans. Students will practice creating strategic plans and using different methods for a variety of different scenarios.

### **Design 101 – Photography and editing**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Tuesdays 4:00pm-5:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Students will first begin with photography basics: composition and tools. From there, they will use Adobe Photoshop for photo editing for the web, culminating in an online photo portfolio.

### **Design 102 – Videography and editing**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Tuesdays 4:00pm-5:30pm

Course Length: Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 11 weeks (total 16.5 hours)

Students will first begin with videography basics: composition and tools. From there, they will use Final Cut Pro for film editing for the web. Students will create a demo and skill reel as a final project.

### **Design 103 - Web site design**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Tuesdays 4:00pm-5:30pm

Course Length: Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

This course will introduce students to website design using a variety of platforms (primarily WordPress and SquareSpace), including the basics of html and CSS coding.

## **Year 2 Electives**

### **Introduction to Lighting & Sound Tech**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Thursday 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 11 weeks (total 16.5 hours)

Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Students will learn the basic equipment used in theatrical lighting & sound systems, and practice practical skills including: laying cord, hooking up lights, focusing lights, installing gels, running a basic board, using a mic pack, using a hand mic, running sound and light boards and programming cues. They will also learn how to write a tech rider. This course is offered for three semesters.

### **Costume Design**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Thursday 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 11 weeks (total 16.5 hours)

Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

In this course, students will learn the basic elements of circus costume design and construction, and practice practical skills, including: making hand repairs to basic equipment, using a sewing machine, cutting cloth from a pattern. This course is offered for three semesters.

## **Year 3**

(One required academic course, two electives)

### **Business 101 – Financial Management**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once per week, 11 weeks (total 16.5 hours)

Students will learn to use QuickBooks for financial planning and tracking. They will go over basic accounting concepts, learn to read statements, practice forecasting, and design budgets.

### **Business 102 – Business Planning**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 10 weeks (total 15 hours)

In the first nine weeks of the course, students will create a basic business plan, using a number of software tools: Excel, Word, QuickBooks, Powerpoint, Prezi, Google Docs, Dropbox, and others. Before the course begins, students will be given a list of software programs that they will need to be familiar with. In the final three weeks, students will present their plans to instructors and fellow students, and receive feedback.



## **Business 103 – Career Paths**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 10 weeks (total 15 hours)

In this course, students will examine the basic career paths open to circus artists, pick the one that suits them best and develop a three-year action plan for pursuing their career.

## **Year 3 Electives**

### **Costume Design (Year 2)**

### **Lighting and Sound Design (Year 2)**

### **Teaching Circus 101, 102, 103**

Instructor: Adam Woolley

Course Schedule: Thursday 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 11 weeks (total 16.5 hours)

Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

For many circus artists, teaching becomes a valuable source of income, and a different way of connecting with the art form. Teaching work can range from social circus programming to training elite athletes. Students in this course will explore the different avenues of teaching work available, understand the demands, coursework and certifications required to teach, and get some hands-on practice teaching beginner-level students. This course is offered for three semesters.

### **Building Circus Props & Apparatus 101, 102, 103**

Instructor: Greg Kennedy

Course Schedule: Thursdays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

Students will learn basic skills in carpentry, metalwork and mechanics. They will spend time studying how different materials interact, take apart and reassemble various types of circus apparatuses, and brainstorm ideas for new props and apparatuses. This course is offered for three semesters.

### **Intro to Rigging**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Thursdays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: First trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

This course will cover the basics of rigging for aerial circus and theatre, including proper

equipment, distinctions between working load limits and breaking limits, and practicing basic solutions to common rigging problems. This course is offered for one semester.

### **Introductory French**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Thursdays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Second trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

France and Quebec have been, thus far, the most groundbreaking regions of the world in contemporary circus; speaking their language opens the door to performance experiences, historical study, and collaborative projects. Students will learn basic conversational French with a focus on vocabulary relevant to circus and artist training. This course is offered for one semester.

### **Public Speaking / Making a Pitch**

Instructor: TBD

Course Schedule: Thursdays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Course Length: Third trimester - 1.5 hours once a week, 12 weeks (total 18 hours)

In this course, students will get to practice public speaking and pitch making, an essential skill for the modern artist. Students will develop a project to pitch and practice speaking in public and in small groups about their art and circus in general as practice for speaking to grant makers or investors. This course is offered for one semester.

## **Program Description**

### **Student Life**

Students at Circadium will be training each day in the Mt. Airy section of Philadelphia, an urban and multicultural environment. We have designed the study week to have very intense days on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. This enables students to use Wednesdays, as well as weekends, to train alternate skills, take care of their health, and spend free time in the creation process. We will be using some of these Wednesdays for field trips as well.

Circadium is intended to be a comprehensive experience that transforms the student's perspective as much as it develops his or her physical and artistic skills. The rigor of the curriculum will find an echo in the expanding community of relationships that each student will develop, in and beyond class times. We encourage students to find shared housing with one another, and to support one another in exploring the rich cultural and recreational resources of Philadelphia. While our staff will be available to help settle students into life and work in this part of the city, we encourage them to explore on their own as well.

Circadium students will be giving their best physically and mentally. They will need to keep themselves in the best condition by balancing their intense work and study with opportunities for rest, reflection, and wholesome nutrition. We will do everything we can to help the students eat well, through shared farm co-ops, trips to organic grocery stores, and a kitchenette facility available at the school.

When students experience illness or injury, they will need to make sensible choices to enable recovery and avoid further stresses on their resources. We have relationships with health providers; whether students need massage therapists, holistic healers, physical therapists, chiropractors, osteopaths, or general practitioners, Circadium staff will be able to indicate resources. All students must provide proof of current health insurance with their Enrollment Agreement.

## **Program Length**

Circadium's program is three years, with 35 weeks of coursework each year. The school weeks themselves have approximately 34 hours of classwork, plus an additional 5-10 hours per week of open training and creation time.

## **Diploma in Circus Arts**

Circadium grants a Diploma in Circus Arts at the end of the 3-year program. This Diploma is recognized by the Pennsylvania Board of Education.

Grading will be assigned on a pass/non pass basis, which are determined by a system of grading rubrics and quantitative assignments. While the final grades will be issued at the end of the third trimester of each academic year, students will have progress reports at the end of each trimester. Faculty will meet weekly to discuss student progress, and any concerns will be addressed directly with the students in the following week. While some quantitative tools will be used in skills-based courses, grading will focus on qualitative evaluation of each student's strengths, weaknesses, and artistic growth. Each evaluation will be followed by one of the four grading distinctions:

**Pass (P)** – Reserved for sufficient mastery of course training, a decrease in a specified weakness, an increase in a specified strength, and/or for general artistic growth in relation to course training (unless otherwise indicated in course syllabus, requires a 60% total score of grading rubrics and/or quantitative assessments throughout course)

**Not Passed (NP)** – Reserved for insufficient mastery of course training, inadequate decrease in a specified weakness, increase in a specified strength, and/or inadequate artistic growth in relation to course training

**Withdraw (W)** – Denotes that the student withdrew from the course before completion (see Withdraw policy for complete details); a plan for make-up work and/or academic recovery will accompany this grade

**Incomplete (I)** – Indicates that the student did not satisfactorily complete course training, and did not withdraw from the course or program; at the discretion of the teaching faculty or School Director, a plan for make-up work and/or academic recovery may accompany this grade; in some cases, an incomplete grade may result in termination of training

Additionally, each instructor will provide a written evaluation of progress at the end of each twelve-week trimester, and will be generally available to address strengths and weaknesses throughout training.

**Requirements for Graduation**

Students must pass all courses to be eligible for graduation.

**Notice of credit transfer**

As a non-degree bearing post-secondary institution, Circadium cannot guarantee the transfer of credit to other educational institutions, and generally will not accept transfer of credit from other institutions into the School.

**Observed Holidays**

Circadium and its administrative offices will observe all scheduled holidays of The Philadelphia School of Circus Arts. This includes the following holidays:

Labor Day	New Year's Eve
Columbus Day	New Year's Day
Thanksgiving	Martin Luther King Day
The days before and after Thanksgiving	Presidents' Day
Christmas Eve	Good Friday
Christmas	Memorial Day
	Fourth of July

**2017-2018 Calendar**

**1<sup>st</sup> Trimester (11 weeks and 2 days- 55 days)**

September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017

*Break: 9/4 Labor Day, 10/9 Columbus Day, 11/22- 11/26 (Thanksgiving)*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester (11 weeks and 2 days- 57 days)**

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017- February 24<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

*Break: 12/24- 1/1 (Christmas/New Years), 1/15 MLK Day, 2/19 Presidents Day*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester (11 weeks and 4 days- 59 days)**

February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018- May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

*Break: 3/30- 4/8 (Spring)*

# **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

## **Admissions Requirements and Procedures**

### **Overview**

Entrance requirements:

Ages 18-35

High School Diploma or equivalent.

Experience in Circus / Dance / Theatre / Gymnastics / or other physical artistic discipline.

### **Application Process**

December 31, 2017 - Online Applications due

January 31, 2018 - Notification of students' invitations to live auditions.

March 14-15, 2018 - Live auditions in Philadelphia

April 15, 2018 - Students notified of their acceptance into the program

May 15, 2018 - Accepted students must submit Enrollment Agreement and \$1000.00 deposit

Remaining balance of tuition (\$14,000.00) is due August 1, 2018.

## **Withdrawal Policies and Procedures**

If initiated by school...

### **Rejection**

An applicant rejected by the school at any stage of the process prior to the start of the course is entitled to a refund of all monies paid, minus the non-refundable \$50 application fee.

### **Probationary Period**

All students are subject to a probationary review that can last up to 10 weeks. The School reserves the right to terminate training at the conclusion of the probationary period if a student's progress is determined to be unsatisfactory.

Tuition will not be refunded for the current term.

If initiated by the student....

## **Withdrawal Procedure**

In case of injury or special circumstances, a student may request a leave of absence, which should include the beginning and ending dates of the absence. If the leave is due to injury, the student must submit a doctor's recommendation of absence. If a student requires an extension of the leave of absence, he/she must communicate with the Executive Director to avoid being permanently withdrawn from the course.

A student will be determined to have withdrawn from the course if the student misses five consecutive days of instruction with no written explanation.

All refunds, if applicable according to the paragraph below, will be returned to the student within 30 calendar days of the withdrawal date.

Tuition refunds will be determined as follows. Please note that the following text provides the minimum refund policy pursuant to ACT 174 of 1986 and The Regulations of The State Board of Private Licensed Schools, Title 22, Ch. 73.134:

Refund and withdrawal policies.

(1) For a student cancelling after the fifth calendar day following the date of enrollment as defined in § 73.132 (relating to application or registration fee) but prior to the beginning of classes, monies paid to the school shall be refunded except the nonrefundable amount of the application or registration fee as calculated in § 73.132.

(2) If a student enrolls and withdraws or discontinues after the term, semester or quarter has begun but prior to completion of the term, semester or quarter, the following minimum refunds apply:

(i) For a student withdrawing from or discontinuing the program during the first 7 calendar days of the term, semester or quarter, the tuition charges refunded by the school shall be at least 75% of the tuition for the term, semester or quarter.

(ii) For a student withdrawing from or discontinuing the program after the first 7 calendar days, but within the first 25% of the term, semester or quarter, the tuition charges refunded by the school shall be at least 55% of the tuition for the term, semester or quarter.

(iii) For a student withdrawing or discontinuing after 25% but within 50% of the term, semester or quarter, the tuition charges refunded by the school shall be at least 30% of the tuition.

(iv) For a student withdrawing from or discontinuing the program after 50% of the term, semester or quarter, the student is entitled to no refund.

## **Attendance Policy**

Regular, punctual attendance is mandatory. Excessive unexcused absences or lateness will result in academic probation, and may result in being withdrawn from the program. Late entry into classes is at the discretion of each instructor.

**Excused Absences:** Students are required to notify their instructors prior to being absent. Students will be required to arrange a makeup class during scheduled free periods, after scheduled class time, or after the official end of the trimester. If a student does not make up excused absences, the absence will be considered unexcused.

**Unexcused Absences:** If students do not notify their instructors prior to being absent, they will be considered unexcused. Three non-consecutive unexcused absences will place the student on academic probation. Students will be determined to be withdrawn from the program if they accumulate more than six non-consecutive or five consecutive instructional days and all of the days are unexcused.

**Academic Probation:** If placed on probation, the student's progress will be evaluated at the end of the trimester to determine their future in the program. More than two consecutive periods of academic probation will result in a student being withdrawn from the program.

Attendance is mandatory to all classes, rehearsals, and performances. All absences will be considered unexcused unless student provides the School Administrator with a note from a doctor or other verification of an emergency situation. Students may submit a written request to the Executive Director to excuse absences related to audition and career development opportunities. The decision to excuse such an absence is by the discretion of the Executive Director.

Missing three individual classes without verification of an emergency situation will count as one unexcused absence. If a student accumulates more than five unexcused absences (defined as either a full day or three individually missed classes), disciplinary action may include probationary status for the remainder of the 10-week term.

## **Leave of Absence and Make up Work policy**

### **Leave of Absence**

**Leave of Absence:** In case of injury or if special circumstances arise, a student may request a leave of absence, which should include the date the student anticipates the leave beginning and ending. If the leave is due to injury, then the student must submit their request with a doctor's recommendation of absence. If a student requires an extension of the leave of absence, it is necessary for the student to communicate extension with the

Executive Director to avoid withdrawal. If a student fails to return on the scheduled date and does not request an extension, then the student will be considered withdrawn.

If the student is absent due to serious injury, illness, or family emergency and does not provide a realistic make up work scenario, then the student and Executive Director will arrange either a temporary hold, allowing the student to be reinstated in the following year's class, or a permanent withdrawal, which will invoke the refund procedures and policies, and would require the student to reapply in the following year.

## **Mandatory Leave of Absence**

If the Executive Director determines that an injury or illness creates a safety hazard to other persons at the school, or otherwise significantly prevents a student from participating in his or her program of study at the desired level of commitment and/or skill, the Executive Director may, with or without warning, issue a Mandatory Leave of Absence.

Notification will be via a written notice indicating the date range and reason for the Mandatory Leave of Absence. The Executive Director will propose a means whereby the student can make up incomplete coursework.

This Mandatory Leave of Absence is in lieu of dismissal from the school because the Executive Director has determined that upon healing from the injury or illness, the student will be able to re-enter their program of study at the desired level of participation. If a student does not agree to the terms of the Mandatory Leave of Absence, the student can choose to withdraw from the school (See "CANCELLATION AND WITHDRAWAL REFUND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES").

## **Make Up Work**

**Make Up Work:** When a student returns from a Leave of Absence, the School will make every effort to provide adequate and meaningful make up work that will be catered to the circumstances of the Leave of Absence. In general, this make up work will manifest as a student driven solo project that will be developed with scheduled one-on-one meetings with the Executive Director. When possible, a student will be expected to observe classes to minimize the amount of classroom and creation hours missed.

## **Tuition and Fees**

1. Tuition will be \$15,000 annually for three years. It includes all coursework and training times. It does not include any outside trips or show tickets, which students may participate in optionally.



2. There is one \$50 application fee, due at the time of an applicant's submission. Tuition and fees must be paid by check or money order to Circadium.

## **FACULTY BIOS**

### **Shana Kennedy, Executive Director**

Shana is the Founding Director of the Philadelphia School of Circus Arts, and the Executive Director of Circadium. She trained as an aerialist and a juggler at Circomedia, in England, and performed for many years in both capacities. She began teaching aerial skills in her home and backyard in 2001. In 2006, Air Play was founded as a performance and teaching company and it evolved in 2008 to the full-fledged PSCA facility. From 2010-2014, Shana accompanied her husband, Greg, on tour with Cirque du Soleil's *Totem*, and brought back a wealth of information and ideas from circus schools around the world. She is actively involved with Circus Now and the American Circus Educators Association, and has founded a Director's Roundtable of circus school leaders across North America. She is deeply committed to the growing influence of circus artistry and education in the US, and to furthering the sector as a whole.

### **Greg Kennedy, Juggling & Manipulation Instructor**

Originally trained as an engineer, Greg uses the principles of geometry and physics to create groundbreaking work with original apparatus. As a young juggler, he quickly made a name for himself in the juggling community, not only by his mastery of traditional juggling technique, but also for creating entirely new forms of manipulation. He is now renowned for his many original contributions to juggling as an art form. Jugglers know him for his award-winning creativity; audiences know him for his entertaining performance, making visual spectacles out of everyday objects.

After performing around the world, winning numerous juggling awards, and being featured on magazine covers and in viral YouTube videos, Greg spent 5 years as a solo artist with Cirque de Soleil's *Totem*. In 2014, he returned to Philadelphia to re-start the creation of new work, and launched the show *Theorem*.

### **Aidan O'Shea, Acrobatics Instructor**

Aidan O'Shea was born on Long Island, June 16th, 1975. In 1987 he first auditioned for the Pickle Family Circus, with a self taught artistic trampoline choreography. He trained initially with Wendy Parkman, who introduced him to his core teacher, Master Lu-Yi of the Nanjing Acrobatics Troupe. Aidan trained with Lu-Yi and eventually did perform with the Pickles, from 1992-2005.

Film credits include 'The Polar Express', and the initial design drawings for the 'Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe' movies. In 2006 Aidan attended The New School for Drama, where

he earned his Masters degree in acting. Aidan has taught in NY, LA, SF, and in Brattleboro Vermont at the New England Center for Circus Arts. He is excited to bring his skills to the town where his Mom & Dad met, way back when...

### **Richard Kennison, Juggling Instructor**

Richard Kennison has taught thousands of people how to juggle. For the past two decades he has been the juggling coach at Circus Harmony, located in St. Louis, Missouri. He also taught acting, unicycle, and tightwire there. He also was an act creation coach for a variety of circus disciplines.

Richard has coached award-winning jugglers, many from a young age, including Book Kennison, Casey Boehmer, The St. Louis Arches, Tony Pezzo, Thom Wall, Kellin Quinn, Ashley Ellis, Christopher Haaser, Zak McAllister, and Delaney Bayles.

In 2012 the International Juggling Association presented Richard with the Excellence in Education Award. In 2016 the IJA presented Richard with the Bobby May Award for Coaching. For the past six years he has coached an award-winning act for the Juniors Competition at the IJA.

Richard has coached 15 "Phil" award winning acts at the Groundhog Day Festival in Atlanta, Georgia. Richard is also a competitive pinball player.

### **Adam Woolley, Aerial Program Designer**

Adam's education and career in the performing arts has been marked by a variety of roles both on and off stage. After graduating from the conservatory program at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, he went on to the first full time Professional Track program at the New England Center for Circus Arts. After continuing his training in San Francisco, Adam moved to New York in 2010, where he founded his private studio, CircusEdge, becoming a sought-after Rope/Fabric coach as well as teaching Contortion and Handbalancing.

In 2012, concerned about the needs of a growing sector, Adam joined the Board of Directors of the American Youth Circus Organization and chaired a committee of dedicated industry leaders in the creation of the Safety Program, a recognition program for circus arts programs and teacher training programs that meet excellent risk management standards. AYCO created the American Circus Educators Association in 2014, and Adam now works as the Safety Program Manager while continuing to hold his seat on the Board.

In 2013, Adam partnered with Duncan Wall to form Circus Now, a non-profit organization that serves the circus arts community and the public through education and advocacy for circus arts. Adam serves as CN's Managing Director, curating events, workshops and programming opportunities for emerging companies to showcase new work.

## **Ben Grinberg, Physical Theatre Instructor**

Ben Grinberg is a Philadelphia based physical theatre and circus teaching artist. A graduate of the inaugural class of the Pig Iron School for Advanced Performance training, he has been investigating how to bring sophisticated theatricality to the sheer spectacle of circus arts since 2011. As a co-founder of Almanac Dance Circus Theatre, he has created 5 full-length works of genre-defying physical performance, which have toured to 11 states, Canada, and Mexico (with more to come!). He was a 2013-2014 Fresh Tracks artist at New York Live Art, a 2016 Christian A. Johnson Resident in theatre at Colgate University, and has recently performed in Philadelphia for George and Co, the Philadelphia Artists' Collective, Pig Iron Theatre Company, and Shakespeare in Clark Park. Ben has been an instructor and staff show and soiree director at PSCA since 2012, and has taught theatre and theatrical creation workshops at the University of Pennsylvania, Colgate University, Bearnstow, and for Pig Iron Theatre Company, as well as in countless elementary and middle schools. He is thrilled to be a part of Circadium.

## **Ryan Tuerk, Dance Instructor**

Ryan Michael Tuerk is a teacher, choreographer and dancer from Philadelphia. Ryan holds a Master of Fine Arts from Temple University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of the Arts. Also, Ryan has been granted certification in the Vaganova methodology in classical ballet. Ryan has performed for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and Carnival Cruise Lines and has performed the role of Doody in GREASE. He has performed works by choreographers such as Brian Sanders, Roni Koresch, and Roberta Mathes. Ryan is on faculty at The Pennsylvania Academy of Ballet and teaches at several local Universities and privately owned studios in the Philadelphia area. Since 2011 Ryan has been a visiting guest artist for Dissonance Dance Theatre in Washington D.C., creating three original choreographic works for the company and instructing students for DDT's summer DANCELAB at the University of Maryland. Ryan believes the position of a teacher is awarded through an unyielding commitment to excellence; he notes that success achieved by students in any field of study requires a high level of capacity and dedication from their teachers.