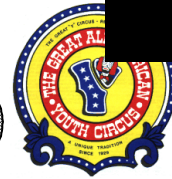


# Circus

JANUARY 2008



## Quote of the Month:

“People prefer to follow those who help them, not those who intimidate them.”

**- C. Gene Wilkes**

## 2008 Show Title: “Circus Through the Ages”

**W**ith great excitement, we can finally announce that we have selected a title for this year’s show: “Circus Through the Ages”!

This theme was inspired by our own circus’ history as well as the many faces of circus art in the world today, and in years past.

As we prepare to move forward with our Act Development phase of the program, many of our Circus Trainers have already found the perfect clip of music for their act. A few are frantically searching for music to suit their act and the theme, and would welcome your thoughts and suggestions!

Our CCAC wardrobe team is hard

at work to find the perfect costumes to complement the Trainers’ choice of music and choreography. The costume department always needs more enthusiastic volunteers, so if you are talented with a needle and thread, please let us know if you’re interested in helping out!

Our plan with this show theme is to pay tribute to as many circus eras as possible. If you have any great ideas about how we can incorporate music or choreography of your favorite circus show into our performance, please feel welcome to bring your suggestions to your child’s Head Trainer or to Melanie Ramiro. You can call Melanie at (909) 798-9622 ext. 205; you are also welcome to email your ideas to [melanie@ycircus.org](mailto:melanie@ycircus.org).

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## January Dates to Remember

- **Tues., Jan. 1—New Year’s Day—YMCA Closed.**
- **Sat., Jan. 5th—YMCA Open House.** From 9 am to 12 noon. Come see the Circus showcase!

- **Mon., Jan. 7 — Circus Classes resume.** Act Development begins.
- **Mon., Jan. 15—Martin Luther King Jr. Day—The YMCA IS OPEN.** Circus classes will run as scheduled!

# 2007 Show Act Combinations

 One of our ongoing challenges is fitting all of our fantastic performance material into a show that runs less than three hours! In response to feedback given about last year's show, we have combined similar or complementary disciplines; and whenever possible, we have gone to great lengths to avoid overlapping performers in the act combinations.

This year, the following acts will be performing together in show:

**Opening Extravaganza** (grouped into 3 parts):

**Group 1:**

Beginning Wire  
Beg Teeterboard  
Rings (group 1)

**Group 2:**

Beginning Unicycle  
Beg. German Wheel  
Rings (group 2)

**Group 3:**

Beginning Circus  
Beginning Juggling  
Rings (group 3)

Mini Acro I & II

Balance Perch & Chinese Pole

Static Single Trapeze & Bungee Trapeze  
*Followed by*

Duo Trapeze

*Followed by*  
Swinging Single Trapeze

Contortion

*Followed by*  
Int Acro & Adv. Acro

Int. Handbalancing & Adv. Handbalancing

German Gym Wheel & Int/Adv/Elite Unicycle

**Any acts NOT listed here will be performing individually.**

We're not sure how many Transitions we will need for show yet. For those who are interested in doing a Transition in show, more information will follow in the February newsletter about how to audition for a Transition spot.

## Circus Equipment Policies

**A**s part of the YMCA's risk management policy, we are not allowed to loan out Circus equipment for participants to use either at home or at non-YMCA-sponsored events.

We understand that students often wish to get in extra practice time outside of class hours; however we cannot permit our YMCA owned equipment to leave the premises for a number of reasons. First and foremost, the equipment is not covered under our insurance policy if it is not being used as part of a YMCA-sponsored function. Secondly, too often in the past, equipment has gone missing, and we have a difficult time finding it again once it's gone.

For instance: **we have been missing a GENERATOR since 2005.** The YMCA Facilities manager said that someone who claimed to be part of the Circus program asked to borrow it one afternoon, and we have not seen it since. If you know anything about the whereabouts of the generator, or any other YMCA-owned circus equipment, please speak to Melanie Ramiro. We would greatly appreciate your help, as Circus equipment can be very expensive and difficult to replace!

## CCAC Updates

**M**ark your calendar for Friday, **March 28th**: CCAC will host "An Evening to Remember" — A semi-formal dinner with entertainment and dancing at The Mitten Building in historic downtown Redlands. Tickets will be on sale soon. **Save the date!**

Also, keep your eyes open for the **new Circus merchandise!** We will have it on sale in the lobby soon after the New Year. Lots of things that have been out of stock will be available again, and we'll also have a few new items on hand.

The next **CCAC Meeting** is scheduled for 6pm on Wednesday, January 16th. This meeting will be held in the upstairs conference room at the YMCA. Remember: CCAC meetings are open to everyone, so if you're curious about what CCAC does, please come see what we're about!

Lastly, May might seem like it's far away, but shows will creep up on us faster than you can imagine! It's never too early to start thinking about which volunteer position is right for you. There are no Circus class fees in the month of May because parents are needed to volunteer in at least one position to help support the shows. You can usher, sell concessions or tickets, sew or embellish costumes, help with parent patrol or kid watch, be an act parent, sell ads for the printed program, be a backstage manager, help manage the dressing trailers, be a spotlight operator, help with bleacher construction, or be a roust. There are so many positions, you're bound to find one that fits your talents!

## New Circus Safety Committee & YMCA Risk Management Policy

**L**ike any sport, Circus carries with it a risk of injury. We do our best to prevent accidents from happening, but when they do, we need parent cooperation to ensure that the injured person is fully healed before resuming activity in the circus program. Circus is not a "normal" activity; it is highly specialized and therefore the Circus Safety Committee and the YMCA both feel strongly that a doctor's note that releases a child to resume all "normal" activities may not apply to circus classes. Starting in 2008, anyone who is returning from an

injury will need to provide a special note signed by their doctor that details the exact exercises and/or skills required to participate in a circus act, before they can resume regular class activities, regardless of whether the injury took place in circus class.

This policy has been adopted to prevent chronic injuries from developing in our young performers, and parent cooperation is very much appreciated.



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# New Non-Performing Circus Classes

For those people who would like to join Circus but who missed the enrollment cut-off date of November 30, we have good news!

We have created a new **NON-PERFORMING** Beginning Circus Class that will meet on Tuesday & Thursday afternoons from 5pm-6pm. This class is for all persons **OVER** age 6. This class is open to YMCA Full Facility Members **ONLY**. The class fee will be \$52 per month.

For anyone under age 6, we offer GymMinis classes. GymMinis was created as a Circus "feeder" program, intended to teach circus skills to children who are not yet old enough for the regular circus program, or who do not want to commit to the shows.

Starting this January, we will offer two new GymMinis **EVENING** class times!

GymMinis offers classes according to these

age groups at the times listed below:

**10 mos. to 18 mos.:** T/Th @ 8:30am-9:15am

**18 mos. to 2 1/2 yrs:** T/Th @ 9:30am-10:15am

**2 1/2 to 3 1/2 yrs:**

- M/W @ 10:30am-11:15am
- T/Th @ 10:30am-11:15am
- T/Th @ 5:30pm-6:15pm—NEW!

**3 1/2 to 4 1/2 yrs:** M/W @ 9:30am-10:15am

**4 1/2 to 5 1/2 yrs:**

- M/W @ 4:00pm-4:45pm
- T/Th @ 4:45pm-5:30pm—NEW!

GymMinis classes are open to Basic Members and Full Facility Members alike. Fees are \$36 for FFM and \$52 for Basic Members.