

Circus

JANUARY 2009



Quote of the Month:

*“Winter,
spring,
summer, or
fall...
All you’ve got
to do is call.
And I’ll be
there,
yes, I will...”*

2009 Show Title: “Seasons of Circus”

With great excitement, we can finally announce that we have selected a title for this year’s show (drum roll please): “Seasons of Circus”.

As we prepare to move forward with our Act Development phase of the program, many of our Circus Trainers have already found the perfect music for their act that will reflect their respective season. The first half of our Show will present Acts representing Spring and Summer. The second half of the Show will be Acts representing Autumn and Winter, closing with a Grand Spectacle depicting a celebration of the “new year”.

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 can sew, hot glue or bedazzle, please let CCAC Costume Coordinators Diane Kimble &/or Tammy Seheult know by calling 792-8414 x218, or by emailing ccac@ycircus.org.

As a gentle reminder, it’s important that you register your child(ren) in their classes by the 10th of each month so that all of your circus class fees are kept up to date. Any payments or balances due must be paid before rehearsals begin in April.

Should you have any questions pertaining to your respective class fees and/or payment arrangements, please contact Jolene Edwards. She can be reached at 798-9622 x316.

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Jan./Feb. Dates to Remember

- **CCAC Merchandise for sale** on Thurs, Jan. 22nd 4:30-7pm
- **CCAC Fundraising** @Rubio’s Fresh Mexican Grill on Orange St. on Thurs.,Jan. 29th 4-10pm

- **Mon., Jan. 19** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ~ The YMCA is open; classes will be held.
- **Sat., Feb. 7** Lincoln Parade & Program @ Redlands Bowl. Need parade participants! Sign up with Robin.

2009 Show & Rehearsal Info.

One of our ongoing challenges is fitting all of our fantastic performance material into a show that runs less than three hours! In an effort to create a Show that flows well and is pleasing to our audience, we will have several Acts combined as well as, have some that will follow one another in order to demonstrate the progression of skill students can learn as a Circus performer.

We've also made the decision to place some of the beginning & intermediate levels of Acts into the Second Half, as well as, have a couple of the advanced Acts take place in the First Half in order to create a better balance of skill and experience throughout the entire Show. We will "post" the Act Order on the Circus bulletin board in the front lobby when it's finalized.

The Acts performing in our first half will be representing Spring and Summer and the Acts performing in our second half will represent Autumn and Winter. This year's Show will end with a Grand Spectacle depicting a "New Year's" celebration.

Our Show rehearsals will begin one week earlier this year, so please make a note of this on your (already

busy) calendars. By the way, our Spring Break from Circus classes will be the week of March 22-March 29. This will be the week we'll get the rigging done in the Coble Gym for rehearsals. Our first week of rehearsals will begin the week of March 30 with the first half run through on Tues. (3/31) at 5pm, and the second half run through on Thurs. (4/2). We will have a 2nd week of first & second half rehearsals the week of April 6, starting at 5pm. The full run through rehearsals will take place the week of April 13 & 20; scheduled for Tues. and Thurs., beginning at 5pm. Our last week ~ prior to our opening weekend ~ will be busy with Mon. night's rehearsal just for the sound & lighting crew; technical rehearsal with the rousts on Tues. night; and then full show dress rehearsals taking place on Wed. and Thurs. nights, starting at 6pm. Parents are encouraged to provide a light meal and/or snack during rehearsal times for their children.

We're not sure how many Transitions we will need for show as of now. Those of you who are interested in performing a transition will be able to audition sometime late Feb. or early March. Watch for more information about this on our Circus bulletin board in the front lobby.

Circus Community Events

Along comes another parade for the Circus to participate in! We've been invited to participate in the Lincoln Pilgrimage Parade that takes place on Saturday, Feb. 7th at 10:00am. We would like to rig the Circus trailer with equipment like we did for the Christmas parade, so if anyone is interested in helping with that, let Robin know right away.

Circus participants interested in unicycling, tumbling, and juggling should also consider being a part of this

community event. The parade route is much shorter than the Christmas parade route, and it ends at the Redlands Bowl. There will be a short program in honor of Lincoln's 200th birthday after the parade at the Bowl, and we've been invited to perform at this as well. I'll be talking with some of our Head Trainers to encourage them to take the "lead" in putting together a short performance.

CCAC NEWS

Mark your calendars for Thurs., Jan.22nd, 4:30-7:00pm, as your next chance to buy Circus merchandise in the lobby at the YMCA. On Thursday, Jan. 29th, CCAC has made arrangements with Rubio's on Orange St. to donate a portion of their proceeds to the Circus, so you are encouraged to eat dinner there between 4-10pm. Come hungry!

CCAC will also host sewing classes for those of you who would like to help with the costumes this year. On Wed., Feb. 4th, at 6:30pm, Denise Stewart will give tips on applying appliqués to costumes. This is a great way to use some of our existing costumes...we simply modify them with creative, new appliqués! On Thurs., Feb. 5th, also at 6:30pm, Denise will demonstrate the art of sewing a leotard, and will help you work with stretchy fabrics and elastics.

Both of these sewing classes will take place in the AOA Center, and are FREE. Please consider attending these classes, because we're always in need of help with creating, sewing, and embellishing costumes for the Show.

Contact Lisa Godin or Kathi Cochran if you have questions about CCAC, 792-8414 x218 or email ccac@ycircus.org.

SPOTTERS for ACTS

We're in need of parents stepping up to be spotters for a lot of our Acts. Those of you who attend class(es) with your child(ren) are encouraged to learn how to spot by the Head Trainer of each class. We'll also host a spotting clinic in February and again in March to have all of you better prepared to safely and effectively spot the performers during the Show. (more info to come)

New Circus Safety Committee & YMCA Risk Management Policy

Like 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. It is important that the doc-

tor be made aware of the exact exercises and/or skills required to participate in a circus act, before the doctor has "signed off" on a release to return to classes. Please be aware that this policy has been adopted to prevent chronic injuries from developing in our young performers, regardless of whether the injury took place in circus class or not. Parent cooperation is greatly appreciated, so please be aware that a special note from the doctor might be requested by your child's Head Trainer before returning to class. Thank you for your support.



THE GREAT ALL-AMERICAN YOUTH CIRCUS

C/O: YMCA of the East Valley
500 East Citrus Avenue
Redlands, CA 92373

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ATTENDANCE

Since we're in "Show mode" with all of our classes, it's extremely important that participants (kids & adults) don't miss their classes. So many of our classes rely on partners, so when even 1 person is missing it can affect the entire class's ability to practice their routine safely and effectively. In classes where participants are still learning new tricks and trick sequences, missing even 1 class can put them behind the rest of their class. Participants and Trainers must maintain regular attendance during this time; missing more than 2 classes per month might result in being removed from the Act. Please call Robin if your child is unable to attend class due to illness...this is an excused absence. Thanks.



*We build strong kids,
strong families,
strong communities.*

Baby Acro & Dance Class Participants

For those parents who have children participating in Baby Acro and/or Dance classes this year, you have a decision to make about having your child perform in our annual Shows (held in May).

We encourage everyone to participate in the Show, but feel that it's appropriate to allow you ~ the parent ~ to decide on what that participation means for you & your family. Especially since we're working with children as young as 20 months of age. It is a H U G E commitment once you've decided to have your child perform in the Show...rehearsals begin in April; taking place on Tuesday and/or Thursday depending on the week.

We perform 9 Shows, all taking place at the YMCA. Three week-ends in May, beginning Friday, May 1st. Our Friday shows occur at 7:00pm, Saturday shows are at 5:00pm, and the Sunday shows are at 3:00pm. We're telling you this now, so that you're able to consider all

that is involved before you let us know what you decide to do. Head Trainers and our dance instructor, Miss Jamila, will soon begin working on the routines for their respective classes. Your child can certainly continue with his/her class if you decide not to perform in the Shows, by the way. We just want you to be informed that we'll be moving our class participants into the "act development stage" after returning from the Holiday break.

Our dance participants will have the opportunity to perform in this year's Show. We'll be adding dance to some of our Circus acts, as well as, have some of the dancers perform as a transitional act. Miss Jamila will be choreographing the dance routines so that they represent a specific "season" for this year's Show. We're looking forward to an exciting time, and hope that you'll decide to be a part of it too!