

Circus

JANUARY 2010



Quote of the Month:

A true friend is the best possession.

Good friendships are fragile things and require much care.

2010 Show Title: "Circus Dreams"

With great excitement, we can finally announce that we have selected a title for this year's show ~ "Circus Dreams".

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 dream idea. They are busy at work choreographing their routines, and are anxious to share what they've put together to their classes.

During our Act Development phase, I spend a great deal of my time developing the "story line" that will help us portray our theme throughout the Show. Should there be anyone interested in helping me with this for "Circus Dreams 2010", I

welcome the help. You can call me (798-9622 x206), or just let me know when you see me at the YMCA. The sooner we "get to work" on it, the better. I'll be talking with all of our Trainers during the first couple of weeks of January to find out what their Act ideas are, so that their ideas can be incorporated in the "story line".

I would like to have some "brainstorming sessions" to bounce off any and all ideas on how to portray our theme throughout this year's Show. These sessions would occur during T or TH Circus practices, and wouldn't be any longer than an hour at a time. I wait to hear from all those interested; including participants, trainers, parents and grandparents! Thank you! Robin~

Inside This Issue:

Quote of the Month	1
2010 Show Title: "Circus Dreams"	1
January Dates to Remember	1
2010 Show & Rehearsal Info.	2
"Circus Dreams" Costumes	2
CCAC NEWS	3
Circus Policies ~ a review	3
Mini Acro & Dance Classes	4

January Dates to Remember

- CCAC Merchandise for sale on Tues through Thurs., Jan. 19-21 from 4:30-7:00pm in the lobby of the YMCA.
- CCAC Fundraising @ Olive Avenue Market will take place on Thursday, Jan. 21st.

- Mon., Jan. 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ~ The YMCA is open; classes will be held.
- Sun., Jan. 10 Circus Workshop at 4pm; Circus Trainers' meeting at 5pm; CCAC meeting at 6pm.

2010 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 March.

Spring Break for our Circus classes will be the week of March 21-March 28. This will be the week we begin rigging the Coble Gym with the equipment we'll be using for our "Circus Dreams" Show.

During the week of March 29, after returning from Spring Break, the M/W classes will meet at their regular class times. Our T/TH classes will meet either on Tues. or Thurs. ~ a schedule will be distributed to class partici-

pants prior to going on Spring Break.

Our Show rehearsals will begin the 1st week of April~ first half run through on Tues. April 6th and the second half run through on Thurs. April 8th. These run throughs will begin at 5pm in the Coble Gym. During this week, classes will also have additional practice time either on Monday or Wednesday. First half & second half run throughs will take place the 2nd week of April as well.

The full run through rehearsals will take place the week of April 19 & 26; 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 5pm. 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 are encouraged to let Robin know. Should additional transitions be needed, we'll hold an audition for those interested in March (before Spring Break).

"Circus Dreams" Costumes

The Great Y Circus has a very extensive inventory of costumes that CCAC has taken great care of throughout the years. Parent volunteers under the leadership of Diane Kimble, will select the costumes for "Circus Dreams". Diane will get ideas from the Trainers as to what they have in mind for their participants, and she'll "go to work" on choosing the most appropriate costumes. CCAC also buys new costumes, embellishes some of our "seasoned" ones,

as well as, designs and sews other ones. In some cases, there are Trainers and/or parents of participants that also design and sew costumes for their own Acts. Parents are responsible for purchasing fishnets which are needed for all of our Aerial acts, all of our Pyramid Acro acts, Beginning Combo Circus Act, Beginning/Intermediate Wire Act, and Artistic Hoops. (nets are available through CCAC)

CCAC NEWS

Mark your calendars for Tues-Thurs., Jan. 19-21, 4:30-7:00pm, as the next chance to buy Circus merchandise in the lobby at the YMCA. On Thursday, Jan. 21, CCAC has made arrangements with Olive Avenue Market to donate a portion of their proceeds to the Circus, so you are encouraged to eat dinner there between 4-8pm. Come hungry!

CCAC is recruiting volunteers to help with a variety of positions during this time of year! Please let us know if you're able to help by contacting Lisa Godin or Kathi Cochran at 792-8414 x218 or email ccac@ycircus.org.

*Costumes ~ need help sewing and embellishing costumes, as well as, working

in the dressing rooms during the Shows. Contact Diane Kimble through CCAC.

*Ad Sales ~ need help selling Ads for the annual Circus Program.

*Ticket Sales ~ need help selling show tickets during the month of April and May.

*Spotters in Classes/Acts ~ need parents 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 or Assistant 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.

Circus Attire ~ a gentle reminder for everyone involved in classes!

Like any sport, Circus carries with it a risk of injury. We do our best to prevent accidents from happening...one way is to have everyone dressed appropriately for their classes. Please do not wear jewelry, street clothes, or revealing clothes in any of your classes. The most appropriate clothes are: leotards with bike shorts or fishnets for girls; fitted shirts with workout shorts or pants; appropriate undergarments that do not show

through your clothing; and appropriate shoes for ground acts. Class participants with long hair should also have their hair pulled away from their faces ~ boys, included.

Please do not chew gum during your classes either. Snacks and/or meals should be eaten in the AOA Center so that we keep food out of the Coble Gym. The only beverage allowed in the Coble Gym is bottled water.



THE GREAT ALL-AMERICAN YOUTH CIRCUS

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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.*

Mini Acro & Dance Class Participants

For those parents who have children participating in Mini 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 three years 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 7th. 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" upon returning from the Holiday break.

Our dance participants will have the opportunity to perform in 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! Please feel free to talk with Miss Jamila at 798-9622 x205.