



## Audition Packet – Performance Season 2019-20 Circus Spire & Circus Gilly

### Circus Spire & Circus Gilly Audition Dates and Deadlines

*(Auditions for both programs happen simultaneously. Indicate on your application form which program you are applying for)*

**Audition Date: Sunday, June 23, 2019**

**9:30am – Check-In**

**10:00am – Start**

**Apply Here:** <https://forms.gle/7yNwevmnQC7ZWGUf6>

**Materials Due: June 7, 2019**

**Audition Location: Kinetic Arts Center, 785 7<sup>th</sup> St, Oakland, CA 94607**

Thank you for your interest in Kinetic Arts Center's Youth Training Programs: Circus Spire and Circus Gilly. The following will provide you with an overview of the program and audition expectations. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out [Mariah@kineticartscenter.com](mailto:Mariah@kineticartscenter.com).

### **Program Description**

Kinetic Arts Center's Youth Training Program is currently comprised of two components: Circus Spire and Circus Gilly.

**Circus Spire** (13-18 years old) is a pre-professional, multi-disciplinary circus youth troupe committed to excellence in circus arts training and performance. The program is limited to 26 students. Circus Spire provides many formal and informal performance opportunities in as many circus disciplines as are available to us. These opportunities include (but are not limited to): a multi-week, full-length production; individual act development; local off-site festivals and events; on-site special events (e.g., birthday parties), youth coach training; and showcases/cabarets. This is an 11-month training program (Sept 1 – July 31).

**Circus Gilly** (9-13 years old) is an audition-based performance training program designed for the younger circus student who is serious about their circus training and is looking to add more performance skills to their experience. The program size is limited to 16 students. The objectives of Circus Gilly include (but are not limited to): a more detailed understanding of the language used throughout all circus disciplines; increased awareness in body posture and engagement; increased training in physical theatre, aerial arts, balance, acrobatics, partner acrobatics, juggling, and strength and conditioning. The class structure is designed to teach kids how to perform circus skills, including linking skills and practicing incorporating character and mood into their performances. This is a nine-month training program (Sept 1 – May 31).

## The Commitment

Although Kinetic Arts Center knows that not everyone participating in the Circus Spire or the Circus Gilly programs dreams of a circus career, we provide training and focus as if they do. Although many of our students go on to enroll in professional circus training programs in other places as well as tour with other circuses around the country, what is most important is that every child in our programs learn that throughout their lives, they can reach personal goals, because they have already done so in circus.

The students enrolled in these programs are committed to physical and artistic training in circus arts. They take the training time seriously and their hard work pays off through their fabulous shows and performances.

**Circus Spire** commitment is a minimum of 6+ hours per week in ensemble training plus additional rehearsals, performances and add-on classes. This program runs eleven months (September through July) and students are committed to this high level of training. Circus Spire is the highest level of our Youth Training Program.

**Circus Gilly** commitment is a minimum of 4+ hours per week in ensemble training plus additional rehearsals, performances, and add-on classes. Circus Gilly is a nine month program (September through May).

## Acceptance

These programs are a commitment for both the student and the parents/guardians. We will notify you and your child within one week after auditions regarding acceptance, schedule a planning meeting with you and your child, and formulate a training plan for the next year. We often have enough interest to generate a list of alternates.

Once you and your child agree to participate in the program, we expect that you understand the commitment and are supportive of your child's choice to pursue circus arts with us. We have many opportunities for your child to grow and become more confident in their abilities. We have a great group of parents and their children and we encourage you to take advantage of any of the outside or additional group activities. Sometimes we go as a group to see other performances; we hold retreats with the troupe; and we have potlucks at KAC. We will always have plenty of things to do around the facilities to help us keep up with things and try to make 'work parties' and performance chores as playful as possible.

## Rehearsals and Performances

Both Circus Spire and Circus Gilly are performance-based programs in addition to developing individual stand-alone acts. Attendance is mandatory during all rehearsal processes for any production or performance. A position in the ensemble in the spring shows is guaranteed (provided your child is present for all rehearsals) for every Trouper. **A solo is never guaranteed in any performance** and is determined based on several factors (e.g., strength, readiness, artistic balance, etc.). We also try to add as many performance opportunities as we can throughout the year, for example, Oakland's Art & Soul, Out & About Rockridge, on-site birthdays, and special events.

It is mandatory that every Trouper attend every rehearsal scheduled for any production or performance. If your child is not present at rehearsals, the integrity of the act and the production is jeopardized for everyone. A production/rehearsal calendar is posted on the online registration system for easy access and is updated regularly. **Attendance is mandatory during all rehearsals and**

**subject to change throughout the rehearsal process. It is important that you understand we do what we can to accommodate your time off with your family, but rehearsal absences, planned or not, can impact the roles or acts in which your child is cast.**

### **Fees and Payment Policy**

We strive to keep tuition as low as possible and offer multiple payment options. All production expenses (including costumes for the in-house spring shows), extra production-specific rehearsals and insurance ARE included in your tuition. Group activities like field trips are not included, nor are additional classes. In addition, make up, uniforms, and wearables will need to be purchased separately. Generally, a \$500 deposit is expected no later than August for the following season for new students. Many families will arrange for automatic monthly payment schedules and discounts are available on a need basis TBD upon acceptance to the program.

*Below is a tuition and fee payment schedule for the current season. Due to a variety of factors, fees and payment schedules may change for the upcoming season.*

**Circus Spire:** \$6,200 (final payment due June 1)

**Circus Gilly:** \$4,415 (final payment due May 1)

### **Enrollment, Cancellation & Vacations**

Enrollment in the Circus Spire program runs from Sept through July (eleven months). The Circus Gilly program runs from Sept through May (nine months). Please note: fees are not discounted due to vacations or holiday closures. It does not happen often, but unforeseen events can lead to withdrawal from the Youth Training Programs. Please see below (subject to change).

<b>Withdrawal Date</b>	<b>Terms</b>
September 1-30	Any paid tuition will be refunded in-full, less the non-refundable deposit.
October 1-December 15	Tuition will be pro-rated to 50% of total fees and due payable immediately, less the non-refundable deposit.
December 16 - After	Any remaining tuition balance will be due payable immediately. No refunds.

### **The Audition**

Please upload your music using the online application form and complete the online application form no later than June 7, 2019 (<https://forms.gle/7yNwevmnQC7ZWGUf6>). Wear clothing you can move around in comfortably – no metal belts, zippers, or rivets.

Bring all your enthusiasm, a good work ethic, and a positive attitude. In addition to your act, you will be asked to run through ground work like (but not limited to): acrobatics, improvisation, clown, juggling, etc. You do not need previous circus arts experience to audition, but it does help. KAC has several coaches who can help design acts and training programs to help with the audition process. Email [Shayna@KineticArtsCenter.com](mailto:Shayna@KineticArtsCenter.com) to arrange for private lessons.

## Act Guidelines

**Circus Spire:** Please prepare a three – to five – minute act accompanied by music to audition on the date above. Be prepared to stand in front of the audience, state your name, your age, respond to questions, or do an activity requested of you by the Artistic Director.

**Circus Gilly:** Please prepare a three-minute act accompanied by music to audition on the date above. Be prepared to stand in front of the audience, state your name, your age, respond to questions, or do an activity requested of you by the Artistic Director.