



Audition Packet – 2021-22 Performance Season Circus Spire & Circus Gilly

As of June 29, 2021

Circus Spire & Circus Gilly Audition

Circus Spire and Circus Gilly auditions will be held later in the summer than usual this year. We're doing this to give auditionees adequate time to rebuild circus skills now that Kinetic Arts Center is able to welcome students back into the facility for camps, classes, and specialty audition prep training. There are TWO options for the audition this year: in person or by video submission.

Submission Deadline for All Audition Materials: Monday, July 19, 2021

Audition Location: In person auditions will be held by appointment at Kinetic Arts Center on Sunday, July 25, 2021. Video submissions will be reviewed on the same date as the in-person auditions.

Thank you for your interest in Kinetic Arts Center's Circus Spire and Circus Gilly Youth Performance Programs! The following includes a brief description of each program and this year's audition process. Please submit the following items [via the online form](#) by the July 19, 2021 deadline:

1. Auditionee & parent/guardian contact information
2. All video or photo materials (detailed below)
3. Medical Information (as relevant to our training programs)
3. Kinetic Arts Center's Release and Waiver (if you are not already a client in our system)

We are looking for students that are committed to the rigorous training required to succeed in our Circus Spire and Circus Gilly - and who approach that training with enthusiasm and excitement!

Please remember that every performer brings something unique to a circus ensemble. Some artists are strong, some are flexible, some have exceptional balance, some are graceful and some are outrageously funny. There are circus artists who have only one of these traits and some who have multiple strengths. We are most interested in seeing what you can do and are not concerned with the things you cannot do...yet.

Program Description

Kinetic Arts Center's Youth Training Program features two sections: 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. Performance opportunities include a multi-week, full-length production, individual act development, local off-site festivals and events, on-site special events (i.e., birthday parties), showcases/cabarets.

Circus Gilly (9 – 13 years old) is a performance program for the circus student who is ready for the challenge of more rigorous training. The primary aim of the program is to elevate circus skills to circus art by incorporating character and mood into performances. Circus Gilly training includes (but is not limited to): developing an understanding of vocabulary used across all circus mediums, increasing body awareness and engagement, and augmenting training in physical theatre, aerial arts, balance, acrobatics, partner acrobatics, juggling, and strength and conditioning disciplines.

The Commitment

Although Kinetic Arts Center knows that Circus Spire and Circus Gilly participants may not wish to pursue a professional career in circus, we provide the training necessary to do so. We love it when students continue on to professional circus training programs or when they go on tour with companies in the US and abroad! However, we believe it is most important that every child emerge from our program with the confidence that they can attain personal goals because they have already achieved success in the circus.

Students enrolled in Circus Spire and Circus Gilly programs are committed to physical and artistic training in circus arts. They seriously apply themselves during training times and their hard work pays off through their fabulous performances.

Circus Spire requires a minimum commitment of 8+ hours (per week) in ensemble training plus additional rehearsals, performances and add-on classes. Circus Spire is the pinnacle of our Youth Training Program, is audition-based, and highly focused.

Circus Gilly requires a minimum commitment of 4+ hours (per week) in ensemble training plus additional rehearsals, performances and add-on classes.

Acceptance

Circus Spire and Circus Gilly programs are a commitment for both the student and the parents/guardians. It's essential to our program's success to have enthusiastic families who support the student's choice to pursue circus arts training at Kinetic Arts Center.

You will be notified within two weeks following the audition submission deadline if your child has been accepted into the program. A follow up meeting will be scheduled where we will formulate a training plan for the season ahead.

We have a magnificent blend of families and we encourage you to take advantage of any group activities. We'll sometimes attend performances as a group outside of Kinetic Arts Center; other times we'll head over to someone's house for a potluck dinner. Our community only becomes more tightly knit in the lead up to and during show runs when we come together to support our performers and to welcome audiences.

Rehearsals and Performances

Both Circus Spire and Circus Gilly are ensemble-based programs that also facilitate the development of individual stand-alone acts. **Attendance is mandatory during all rehearsals and the rehearsal schedule is subject to change throughout the show development process.**

A position in the ensemble for the Circus Spire show and the Circus Gilly show is guaranteed (provided there are no missed rehearsals) for every student. **A solo is never guaranteed in any performance** and is determined based on several factors (i.e., strength, readiness, artistic balance, etc.). We also try to add as many performance opportunities as we can throughout the year i.e., Oakland's Art & Soul, Out & About Rockridge, on-site birthdays and special events.

The integrity of the production is jeopardized whenever a performer skips a rehearsal. We plan rehearsals carefully in an effort to match your student's stated availability. **If your student is absent during any part of the rehearsal period (whether planned or unplanned), it may impact the roles or acts your student is assigned in our shows.** A rehearsal calendar is always accessible on our online registration system and you can look here for the most up-to-date information.

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, additional classes/workshops are NOT included. In addition, make up, uniforms, and wearables will need to be purchased separately.

*Below is the tuition and fee payment schedule for the 2019-20 Season. **At this time the fees are not set for the 2021-2022 season.** We will publish this information as soon as possible. We offer a variety of payment options and exclusive discounts for any of our regularly offered classes that are taken in parallel. Financial arrangements are made (following acceptance into one of our programs) through Michelle Post, Client Services Manager.*

Circus Spire: \$7,200 paid in-full by June 1, 2022

Circus Gilly: \$4,915 paid in-full by May 1, 2022

Enrollment, Cancellation & Vacations

Fees are not discounted due to student vacations or holiday closures. It does not happen often, but unforeseen events can lead to withdrawal from the Youth Training Programs. Please refer to the charts below for withdrawal deadlines and associated terms (subject to change).

Circus Spire

Withdrawal Date	Terms
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 – July 31	Any remaining tuition balance will be due payable immediately. No refunds.

Circus Gilly

Withdrawal Date	Terms
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 – May 31	Any remaining tuition balance will be due payable immediately. No refunds.

The Audition

Please fill out our [online audition form](#) - you can find a link to the form on our website. If you have any questions about our Circus Spire or Circus Gilly programs or about the audition process that are not covered in this information packet, please email Kate Hutchinson, Artistic Director at katherine@kineticartscenter.com.

Spire and Gilly auditions will be held later in the summer than usual this year. We're doing this to give auditionees adequate time to rebuild circus skills now that Kinetic Arts Center is able to welcome students back into the facility for camps, classes, and specialty audition prep training.

There are TWO options for the audition this year: in person or by video submission.

In person: You will be invited to schedule a one-hour audition time slot. The first half hour will be spent warming up in the studio. During the second half hour, you will present yourself and an act of no longer than three minutes to the adjudicators. We will lead you through some character work and will ask you to demonstrate some skills.

Video submission: You will submit a video introduction, a video of an act you created as well as demonstrate the prescribed skills outlined in the online audition form. Acts will be reviewed on July 25, 2021. You may submit a completely original act or you may create an act using the prompt on the following page.

****Special option for current Circus Gilly members:** You may submit your trapeze act to satisfy the act requirement for your audition. You will also be required to submit a video where you introduce yourself and another where you demonstrate the strength and flexibility skills outlined in the online application form.

Preparing for Audition

Preparing an act for an audition can be a daunting task. We have the following resources available for auditionees:

Act Creation for Gilly/Spire Auditions: A Series With Colin Epstein

Sundays, June 13 - July 18, 2021 (no class on July 4, 2021)

Each class is limited to eight (8) students: 9 - 10:30 am or 11 - 12:30 pm

This class is designed for aspiring circus performers who already have ground-based or aerial skills they can draw upon to build an act for the audition. Students must enroll for the series - no drop-ins permitted.

SUPERVISED Youth Open Gym - Gilly & Spire Audition Prep Time

Saturdays, 10:45 am - 12:45 pm

Run your act as many times as possible before the audition date! A coach will be onsite and able to answer any questions. Attendance is limited to eight (8) students. Pre-registration is required (\$25 per visit).

What Makes A Good Audition According To Kate Hutchinson

1. Presence is the number one thing we look at. We want to see your student looking confident on stage. We could care less if they "nail" every skill included in their act. We care a lot more about how they recover from missteps and how capable they are of staying "in character" and present until the end of their performance.
2. I love pointed feet and straight knees! This is part of presence for me. Being able to engage the legs and feet fully demonstrates good body awareness and the ability to direct energy (this is a must for Spire auditionees. Gilly auditionees are not expected to have mastered this yet.).
3. Energy! We love artsy, emotional, concept-driven acts. However, we recommend creating an act that makes you smile. When choosing audition act music, go for bright, joyful music.
4. Auditionees should incorporate skills into their act that they can perform consistently. We are looking for students who can perform precisely rather than trying to present skills within an act that aren't as solid just because you are trying to impress us. Clean double footlocks are much more impressive to me.
5. Be yourself. Be you x10. You're awesome. We want to see you!

Bonne Chance! Good Luck! Break a leg! Merde! And all that jazz!

Required Video Audition Content

Please submit links to video content that you have uploaded to a platform like YouTube or Vimeo and remember to modify the privacy settings so that we may view it. We will contact you if we run into any trouble accessing any material.

Please Introduce Yourself!

In a one minute or less video recording, please tell us your name, age, and about any relevant training and experience in circus and/or other performance or movement disciplines (ex. dance, theater, singing, musical instruments, gymnastics, capoeira, etc.).

Show Us Your Flexibility!

We'd like to see the following: splits (left, right, and middle), bridge/backbend, flat back forward bend, and a pike. If you would prefer, you may submit a link to a photo album of still images instead of a video for this section.

Show Us Your Strength!

We'd also like to see the maximum number of pull-ups and the maximum number of push-ups you are able to complete. Video duration will be variable based on the time needed to complete pull-ups and push-ups.

Show Us Your Balance!

Please video yourself doing a handstand (either freestanding or against a wall) for 15 seconds.

Show Us You Act!

You may submit a completely original act or you may create an act using the prompt below.

NOTE: Doors were not designed to be used as a circus apparatus - please use caution during the creation of this act.

Use a doorway in your house as your performance space and circus apparatus (hint: doors are great for entrances, exits, to support handstands, and climbing). You may install a pull-up bar and incorporate it into your act. You may use any or none of the following: music, sound effects, props, juggling equipment, costume(s), and makeup. Please video the act (one to three minutes MAXIMUM) in a single continuous shot. Please refrain from using any filters or special effects - we are interested in seeing you and what you can do!

Kinetic Arts Center, LLC 785 7th Street Oakland, CA 94607 www.KineticArtsCenter.com

Participant Agreement, Release, and Assumption of Risk

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____ Age: _____ Male Female
 Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email Address: _____ Check here if you DO NOT want emailed updates
 Use first?: Hm Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Wk Phone: _____
 If Under 18 Years – Parent or Guardian Name(s): _____
 Address: Same as Above: _____
 In Case of Emergency Call: Name: _____
 Use first?: Hm Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Wk Phone: _____

Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement

1. In consideration of the services of Kinetic Arts Center, LLC, I hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue Kinetic Arts Center, LLC, their officers, agents, servants, or employees (hereinafter referred to as releasees) from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, or any of the property belonging to me, whether caused by the negligence of the releasees, or otherwise, while participating in such activity, or while in, on or upon the premises where the activity is being conducted as well as on other premises where activities have been contracted to perform or teach.

2. I am (or acting on behalf of my child/ward) fully aware of the risks involved and hazards connected with Circus Arts activities, performing, learning or teaching including but not limited to minor or major injuries, paralysis, death, emotional distress or damage to myself or my child, to property, or to third parties. I understand that certain risks associated with Circus Arts (including but not limited to: dance, tumbling, all physical theatre activities) simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity. Without a certain degree of risk students, performers, teachers would not improve their skills and the enjoyment of the arts would be diminished. Circus Arts and related activities expose its participants to the usual risks of cuts and bruises. Other more serious risks exist as well. Participants can fall off equipment, sprain or break wrists and ankles, and can suffer more serious injuries. Traveling to and from shows, exhibitions, or performances raises the possibility of any manner of transportation accidents. In any event, I understand that if I or child/ward is injured, I or my child/ward may require medical assistance at my own expense. I hereby elect to voluntarily participate in said activity (or my child/ward to participate in) with full knowledge that said activity may be hazardous to me and my property. I voluntarily assume full responsibility for any risks of loss, property damage or personal injury, including death, that may be sustained by me or my child/ward, or any loss or damage to property owned by me, as a result of being engaged in such an activity, whether caused by the negligence of releasees or otherwise.

3. I further hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the releasees from any loss, liability, damage or costs, including court costs and attorney fees, that they may incur due to my participation in said activity, whether caused by negligence of releasees or otherwise.

4. I understand that Kinetic Arts Center, LLC does not maintain any insurance policy covering any circumstance arising from my (or my child/ward's) participation in this event or any activity associated with or facilitating that participation. As such, I am aware that in event of injury or accident no insurance coverage of any kind is available except that which I provide myself (or my child/ward) at my own expense. I certify that I and/or my child/ward has health, accident and liability insurance (or performers insurance) to cover any bodily injury or property damage that may be caused or suffered while participating in the event or activity, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage to myself and/or child/ward. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition me or my child/ward may have or else I am willing to assume and bear the costs of all risks that may be created, directly, indirectly, by any such condition.

5. It is my express intent that this Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement shall bind the members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns and personal representative, if I am deceased, and shall be deemed as a release, waiver, discharge and covenant not to sue the above-named releasees. I hereby further agree that this Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

6. I agree to allow Kinetic Arts Center, LLC use of photographed images in public relations and marketing materials including but not limited to print, video and electronic media.

7. In signing this release, I acknowledge and represent that I have read the foregoing Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement, understand it and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements, or inducements, apart from the foregoing written agreement, have been made; I am at least eighteen (18) years of age and fully competent; and I execute this release for full, adequate and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by same.

Signature of Participant (parent, guardian, teacher, performer, staff):

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Additional Indemnification (must be completed for participants under the age of 18).

In consideration of _____ (Print Minor's Name) being permitted by Kinetic Arts Center, LLC to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Kinetic Arts Center LLC from any and all claims which are brought by, or on behalf of Minor, and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor.

Signature of Parent/Guardian of Minor:

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

10/09: Yellow 1 Copy with Invoice; 1 Copy to File