



CALGARY  
MAY 3-5 2024



# CIRCO FEST 2024

Competitive Aerial Arts,  
Acrobatic, and Dance Festival



## **OUR MISSION:**

Circo Festival goal is to bring the circus performance community together and provide performance experience and constructive critiques for the growth of the next generation of circus performers.



# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All registrations will be made through dancebug, you can find the link on our Circo Festival Website when registration opens.

Circo Festival will be accepting registration from May 1, 2023 - January 31, 2024.

- On January 31, 2024, the following is due:
  - Full Payment
  - All information regarding pieces includes names, ages, the number of persons in groups, and which categories they will be in attendance for.
- This festival is non-refundable, with the following exceptions:
  - Doctor notes will be required for injury or illness.
  - In the case of a pandemic or natural disaster causing the event to be cancelled, a credit will be given to rescheduled/future events.
    - Refunds will be made available for graduating seniors who cannot return the next year for Circo Festival in the event of a cancellation due to a pandemic or natural disaster.

## DEPOSITS

Deposits are required to make reservations for Circo Festival. Reservations will be accepted from May 1, 2023, to October 31, 2023. This gives your studio the opportunity to reserve your place at our competition without knowing the full details of your registration.

5% Early Bird Rates will apply to the final payment for reservations made between May 1, 2023, to October 31, 2023.

Based on the estimated amount of entries from the studio, this money will be used towards your registration.

Deposit required:

- 1-3 entries: \$50 deposit
- 4-10 entries: \$100 deposit
- 11-20 entries \$500
- 21-50 entries: \$1000 deposit
- 51+ entries: \$1500 deposit

To reserve placement in the Circo Festival all deposits for all entries are due by October 31, 2023, afterwards participants will need to register.

Your full payment and registration amount must be submitted by January 31, 2024. If registration is not fulfilled after this date, the deposit will be considered forfeited. There is a \$20 late fee per entry to complete registration after this date.

Studios and organizations qualify for a bulk discount for registration once they provide proof of organization ownership. Independent entries also qualify if they have 5+ registrations.



# DATES AND LOCATION

Dates:

May 3-5, 2024

Location:

The Grand

Address: 608 1 St SW, Calgary, AB

## GENERAL RULES

- Performers, instructors, and individuals helping set up props are allowed backstage. No parents are allowed. Instructors must be wearing a registration lanyard in the backstage area at all times.
- By entering the competition participants are giving their permission for any video or photographs to be used by Circo Festival Canada. These photos can be used for promotion for future year's competitions without the dancers receiving compensation or royalties.
- All performers must sign a waiver.
- Videography and photography are not permitted in the audience. Failure to follow this rule will result in the removal of the audience member, without reimbursement.
- Cowbells and air horns are not permitted in the audience.
- Performers that are sick are requested not to come to the competition and should remain home to prevent the spread of germs.
- Studios are responsible for the age and placements to be accurate. Students/parents will have to provide document proof if the level or age is questioned.
- Studios/organizations must carry their own insurance for their students. Please provide a certificate of additionally insured. Independent entries are covered under Circo Fest Insurance.
- No performers or teacher is permitted in the wings unless their own piece is on the stage.

## AERIALS/ ACROBATICS RULES

- Instructors have to be present in the wing during an Aerial performance or Acrobatics performance with tosses or a minimum of three-person lifts. The instructor needs to be prepared to step in should anything go wrong, and their presence is required to help the performer.
- Performers must be registered in their appropriate levels, if the performer fails to register in the correct level based on the description provided they will be switched to their respected levels and adjudicated based as such.
- Live lifts will only be present in elite-level categories.



# ENTRY INFORMATION



## LEVELS

### Novice

- 1-2 years of training in the category and/or 0-5 hours of training/rehearsals per week.
- 1st year competing.
- Amateur- no professional (paid) performance experience.

### Intermediate

- 3-4 years of training in the category and/or 5-10 hours of training/rehearsals per week.
- 2-3 years competing.
- Amateur- no professional (paid) performance experience.

### Elite

- 5+ years of training in the category and/or 10+ hours of training/rehearsals per week.
- 4-5+ years competing.
- Any contestants with professional (paid) performing experience required to enter in this category.

## CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

**Note:** Max of three Acrobatic tricks in dance categories. Pieces with more than three will be moved to the Acro Dance category and adjudicated as such.

**Acrobatic Gymnastics:** Routine that uses Gymnastic discipline to perform Acrobatic Duo and Trio routines set to music with adjudication focusing on dynamic elements, balance elements and tumbling passes.

**Acrobatic Dance:** Routine that combines dance technique with Acrobatics elements. Adjudicated as per technique outlined in common Acrobatic dance syllabuses

**AcroYoga:** Routine that combines Yoga and Acrobatics. This includes many types of partner and group Acrobatics in which at least someone is lifted and may present less dance elements.

**Aerial Lyra:** Routine that uses an Aerial apparatus that consists of a circular hoop-shaped suspended from a rig point. A performer can use a lollipop or Wegg Sphere.

**Aerial Silks:** Routine that uses an Aerial apparatus that consists of fabric suspended from a rig point that has either single or two fabric pieces. Fabric is used to wrap, suspend, drop, swing, or spiral their bodies into and out of various positions.

**Aerial Straps:** Routine that uses Aerial apparatus that consists of single or two straps suspended from a rig point. The performer wraps straps around the hands and wrists. This style features strength and flexibility while manipulating the apparatus.

**Aerial Alternate Apparatus:** Routine uses an Aerial apparatus that is not considered a part of Lyra, Silks, or Straps.

# ENTRY INFORMATION



## CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

**Ballet:** Routine uses Ballet technique. Classical Ballet and Character Ballet.

**Character:** Routine uses music from movies or musicals to portray certain characters, without lip SINC or singing.

**Contemporary:** Routine uses Contemporary, Contemporary Ballet or Modern technique. May be set to instrumental and does not require a clear connection or story with lyrics (not to be confused with Lyrical).

**Contortion:** Routine where performers showcase their skills of extreme physical flexibility and strength.

**Cultural:** For all cultural/national dances, routines such as Native American hoop dancing, Irish dancing, partner Swing, Highland dancing, Ukrainian dancing, Bollywood, Cuban, West Africa, etc.

**Dance Line:** Routine for 15+ dancers, consists of NON-Acrobatic styles.

**Hip Hop:** Routine has Street style, and incorporates Hip Hop music and culture.

**Jazz:** Routine uses Jazz technique, stylization and steps and usually dances to high-energy music.

**Lip SYNC:** Routine uses dance styles, more commonly musical theatre or imitation, NON-Acrobatic, and performed with lip SINC rather than singing.

**Lyrical:** Routine uses a combination of Jazz and Ballet techniques. The fusion of movement is performed to showcase emotions and highlight lyrics. The Lyrical category is reserved for pieces with a clear story or emotional connection with the lyrics of the song. (This is not to be confused with contemporary and modern techniques).

**Mixed Style:** Routine that does not clearly fit into one category and has elements from two or more categories. ex. Contemporary and Hip Hop

**Musical Theatre:** Routine uses dance styles, NON-Acrobatic, and performed with singing and acting. Music volume will be lowered so we can hear singers project.

**Manipulations:** Routine includes juggling, diablo, and manipulating others such as smaller apparatuses, mime, and illusions.

**Open:** Solos or duets that do not fit in a set category. Example dancers may have too many Acrobatic skills for a dance category or not enough for an Acrobatic category.

**Tap:** Routine is performed in Tap shoes, no pre-recorded Tap sounds are allowed. Music volume will be lowered so adjudicators can hear tap sounds clearly

**Trapeze:** Routine that uses a short horizontal bar hung by ropes or metal straps from a rig point. Acts may be static, spinning (rig from a single point) or swinging. No flying Trapeze can be accommodated in this venue.

**Wheel:** Routine uses an Acrobatic apparatus that consists of a Cry Wheel or German Wheel.

# ENTRY INFORMATION



## AGE GROUPS

Tiny: 3-5

Mini: 6-8

Junior: 9-12

Teen: 13-18

Adult: 18+

Calculated for groups using the average age (all ages added then divided by the number of performers)  
Round down if age is

Age calculated as of March 1, 2024

## GROUP SIZE AND TIME LIMITS

TYPE	NUMBER OF DANCERS	TIME LIMIT
Solo	1	2.5 mins
Duet	2	2.5 mins
Trio	3	3 mins
Small Group	4-9	3 mins
Large Group	10-14	4 mins
Line	15+	5 mins
Production	15+	10 mins

# PERFORMERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- No soliciting other students from other studios or talent scouting at the event.
- We encourage all performers to cheer on their fellow performers when they are on the stage. Everyone should be respectful of other studios, race, gender, level, size and skills.
- Warm-up space is to be shared by all studios. Studios are required to take turns using the space.
- Dressing rooms may be shared by multiple studios. There will be no reserving of spaces in the dressing room, and we ask that you clean up after yourself.
- Any vandalism or theft will result in immediate disqualification and you will be asked to leave the competition.
- No coaching of other students unless you have been directly asked.
- No coaching from the wings is permitted. Students must be fully prepared to perform. Instructors in the wings for Aerial or risk-taking acrobatic pieces must be present in case of emergency but not there to help from the wings.
- Respectful attitudes are required throughout the festival. Any disrespect or bullying towards staff, instructors, or other performers will not be tolerated and will result in immediate disqualification.
- Circo Festival fosters a positive environment and wants all performers to have a good experience. No gossiping or negative comments are permitted from students, parents or instructors.



# PROP REGULATIONS

- Dancers must bring their own aerial apparatus for Circo Festival.
- Prop time limits to set up and take down
  - All dance styles
    - 30sec take down, 30 sec up for normal props
  - Productions
    - 3-5mins
  - Aerial and Trapeze
    - 2 minutes
- Must provide information of apparatus upon registration for approval.
- Must provide your own apparatus.
- Must not cause structural damage, scratching of flooring.

# RIGGING INFO

Michael King Certified Rigging  
ISAIT Certified Theatre Rigging

Circo Festival will have three adjustable rig points upstage, and a live rig point downstage center set at 25ft. The live rig will have a manual 3-1 pulley system set up.

If you require a live lift in your pieces, please communicate via email the following by January 31, 2024:

- Whether you require a tech or have your own
- Which piece
- The weight of the performer(s)

There is a \$25 fee if you require a tech to operate your lifts. You will receive time to practice with this tech before performing on stage.

All live lifts will receive an extra rehearsal time in the space before the competition commences.