



CIRCUS HARMONY'S TUMBLING TIMES

Fall 2010

Our Mission:

Circus Harmony teaches the art of life through circus education. We work to build character and expand community for youth of all ages, cultures, abilities and backgrounds. Through teaching and performance of circus skills, we help people defy gravity, soar with confidence, and leap over social barriers, all at the same time.

Our Methods:

Circus Harmony is a non-profit social circus organization that uses circus arts to motivate social change. By inspiring individuals and connecting communities with our circus education and entertainment programs, we have a positive impact on the St. Louis area and beyond.

Our programs teach valuable life skills like perseverance, focus, and teamwork. Learning circus with others teaches trust, responsibility and cooperation. Perhaps the most important experience we give our participants is the opportunity to meet and interact with children from different socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds than their own.

We believe the path to peace is a path of cooperation and communication. Teaching children from different neighborhoods how to stand on each other's shoulders may seem like a strange way to take this path. But it's the technique we use! Circus Harmony promotes peace through pyramids, joy through juggling and harmony through handsprings.

CIRCUS HARMONY: GRAZIOSO

Our Annual Full Length Show!

Is circus art? Come see for yourself at our annual confluence of music and circus arts! This year's full length Circus Harmony production is titled **Grazioso**, which is a musical term that means 'with grace'. The show is set in an art gallery where statues come to life, paintings balance and etchings fly.



Grazioso will be presented at City Museum on January 22, 23, 29 and 30th. Order tickets from our website at www.circusharmony.org. It is important that you get your tickets in advance. You can also pick them up at the circus office on the third floor of City Museum. This show features amazing new acts set to live music by the Circus Harmony band, featuring some of St. Louis' finest musicians under the direction of Adam Rugo. Our annual shows are a not-to-be-missed event that will make you feel fantastic! You will be blown away by the ability and creativity of Circus Harmony's flying children.

COME SEE THIS SHOW! GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

LEARN MORE:

Visit our website at www.circusharmony.org

Check out our blog at www.circusharmony.org/blog/main

Like us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/circusharmony

Follow us on Twitter at:

www.twitter.com/circusharmony

Watch our videos at:

www.youtube.com/circusharmony

Letter from the Director

Dear Friends of the Flying Children,

Wow!!! We're a movie!
 The documentary *CIRCUS KIDS* made its world premiere in Chicago in October. There was juggling and tumbling on the red carpet and clown noses all around! The film chronicles our first amazing journey to Israel to work with the Galilee Circus. I am very excited about the film being shown around the world. It is a great illustration of the power of social circus. I hope you will come and see for yourselves on Nov 21 in St. Louis and at various other film festivals in the coming year. Join us for our gala reception after the screening. See more on the back page.



photo by Maike Schulz

The film shows us in 2007 and it is amazing how much the children have grown. And the work continues! Since the film was made, the Israelis have come here and we have gone there again! We are now planning to send two of our student teachers to Israel next spring (can anyone out there donate Frequent Flyer Miles for this?). Our programs here in St. Louis continue to grow and evolve. We have welcomed new teachers, new offsite locations and new students.

This is also a time when we really need your support more than ever. Grants and other donations are down across the board; our needs are up as more children find that circus is where they can learn to defy gravity in all forms. We especially need money to provide scholarships, for new computers and for a new sound system. *Your donation can truly help a child to soar!* **Please consider sending a donation to support a child learning to fly physically, emotionally and socially. To paraphrase Galilee Circus' Rabbi Marc, "it may seem like a drop in the bucket but we hope the drops accumulate". Help us fill our bucket so we can continue to build pyramids *with* people that build bridges *between* people.**

Thank You!
For Harmony,
Jessica Hentoff
Artistic/Executive Director

Flying Around Town!

Circus Harmony's flying children perform at a variety of venues for an array of events. We've done everything from school assemblies, to company picnics, to weddings to birthday parties. We are available to come to perform for YOUR next special event with dynamic entertainment that is appropriate for and appreciated by all ages. We are also available to come and teach at your location as a one-time workshop or an ongoing class. We also offer workshops at City Museum. Call us at 314-436-7676 to make your place a real circus!



One of our regular offsite shows is our annual appearance with Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey ---- an opportunity we are grateful for and truly enjoy.

Flipping Over Our New Coaches!

Circus Harmony is thrilled to have some new specialty teachers joining us. This fall we welcomed Fernando Brown, talented tumbling coach from Cheer Legendz, Ryan Rose, dance master and founder of Blackwell Dance Project and Kevin Scott, national trampoline champion and coach. We keep reaching new heights at Circus Harmony!



Fernando Brown



Ryan Rose



Kevin Scott



CIRCUS HARMONY WELCOMES MASTER CLOWN, TOM DOUGHERTY

Tom Dougherty has captivated audiences in theaters and circuses around the world. He has headlined Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey and Big Apple Circus, toured with Cirque du Soleil and was artistic director of Circus Chimera. Tom founded the theater company Theatricks, where he mentored many working clowns and actors in addition to his role as director, playwright and actor. He has performed his solo stage show in such venues as the Wolf Trap and Lincoln Center and numerous schools, festivals, arenas, hospitals, and theaters throughout the world. Tom has taught at Clown College, the Baltimore School for the Arts as well as being guest instructor at schools throughout North America. He has won the Silver medal at the International Circus Festival in Hanoi, the Felix Adler Award in 2007 and 2008 and the Maryland Governor's Excellence in Arts Award for his work in theater clowning. This year, he and his partner Pepe won the Prix d'Image at the Albacete Festival in Europe.

Tom will be offering circus classes for both children and adults in our spring session. Come explore the history, the lore, and the practical application of the ancient art of clown as seen in royal courts, market squares, stages, circuses and streets throughout the world. Clowning is one of the world's oldest art forms. In these classes, you will be taught circus skills, stage presence, gag construction, and history by clown extraordinaire, Tom Dougherty.



SPRING CLASSES START IN THE WINTER

Our new class session starts the end of January. We offer a wide variety of classes for children and adults. You can see the new schedule and register online at www.circusharmony.org. Want a class at another time? Consider scheduling a private or semi-private lesson. Circus classes are a great way for the whole family to stay in shape and have fun! Hmm, maybe this is a way to fulfill a New Year's resolution....



Level 1 Spring 2010



Level 2 Spring 2010

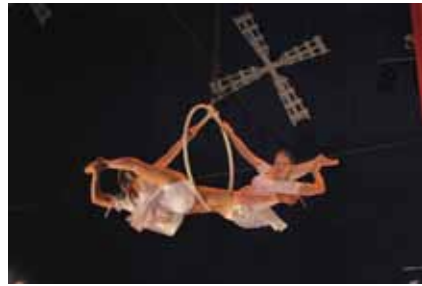
Kibler Sisters



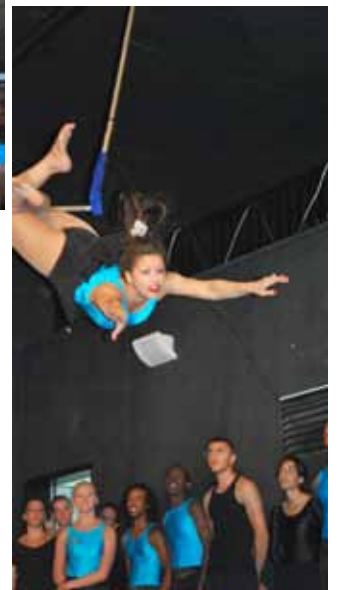
Homeschool Class Spring 2010

SUPER CIRCUS

CIRCUS FLORA 2010



ISRAEL 2010



SUMMER 2010

CIRCUS PERFORMANCE CAMPS 2010



Flying with Flora



Contortionist Meghan performing at JCC

This past summer, once again, Circus Harmony's St. Louis Arches joined with some great professional performers to present Circus Flora! This season, the show was *Ingenioso*, inspired by the impossible dream of Don Quixote. In addition to our fabulous, flying St. Louis Arches' power partner acrobatic act, our amazing aerialists, the Elliaire Duet, presented their breath taking double lyra act on this show. Critics raved:

"Ranging in age from 10 to 18, the St. Louis Arches just about stopped the show with the sheer exuberance of their acrobatics. With performers like these, who needs 3-D?"

and *Dangling from the roof, the Elliaire Duet (aerialists Elliana Hentoff-Killian and Claire Kuciejczyk-Kernan) turned in one of the evening's most imaginative performances. Coordinating their bodies in a ballet of daring and often surprising moves, they made resourceful use of their feet in staying aloft..."* Calvin Wilson St. Louis Post Dispatch. See photos from this summer in our centerfold section.



T-Roc and Iking's Acrobalance at the JCC

This year, people don't have to wait until next June for Circus Flora! As part of the American Arts Experience, the St. Louis Arches joined other Flora stars to present *West by Midwest* at the Jewish Community Center in October. Coming up, we'll be sharing a very Flora First Night in Godfrey, Illinois on December 31. Then, we are thrilled to be part of The Floating Palace, Circus Flora's collaboration with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra on January 8th and 9th. You can learn more at www.circusflora.org.



St. Louis Arches at Circus Flora

It's a Date!

The World Circus Federation held an international photo contest to choose the images for their 2011 calendar. The photos were supposed to answer the question "What makes a circus a circus?" We are excited to tell you that our director, Jessica Hentoff, had one of the winning photos! Her picture of the St. Louis Arches caught in mid-flight at Circus Flora will be part of this year's World Circus Federation calendar. You can order yours at www.circusfederation.org. Let us know via email if you would like to see an entire calendar of our flying children for 2012. If enough people are interested--- we'll make it!

Frequent Fliers

Can you help our flying children fly farther? If you have frequent flier miles you can share, we have students who are planning to go to Montreal to audition for the Ecole National De Cirque and we are also planning to send two of our student teachers to Israel to teach at the Galilee Circus this spring. Please call us at 314-436-7676, if you can help. Or let us know if you know of any airline that would like to sponsor the flying children--- we'd make a great commercial!



Circus Teacher Training Institute

Circus Harmony is St. Louis' only full circus school and social circus program. Circus school means we teach a wide variety of circus arts. Social circus means we use circus arts to motivate social change. We are part of the growing youth circus movement. In the last decade, there has been a huge increase in the number of circus schools around the world but there is a tremendous dearth of circus teachers. Circus Harmony is exploring the idea of developing the Circus Harmony Teacher Training Institute. We will train the trainers who will teach children to defy gravity. If you are interested in learning more, please email us at circusday@circusharmony.org.

BOOK FAIR



We had our first-ever Barnes and Noble Circus Harmony Book Fair last May. It was so successful that we are scheduling another Book Fair on Saturday, May 21, 2011. Watch our website for details and join us in Balancing the Books!



NEXT!

We really are like a family. So, it fills us with a combination of pride and a little sadness when our students head off to the next chapter in their lives. This year, **Melvin Diggs** and **Claire Kuciejczyk-Kernan** went going north and south, respectively.

We are thrilled to announce that **Melvin** has started at the prestigious Ecole Nationale De Cirque (right next door to Cirque Du Soleil) in Montreal where he joins Arch alum Renaldo "Junior" Williams! **Claire** is attending Florida State University in Tallahassee where she is with former Arch, Matt Viverito, in their Flying High Circus! We look forward to seeing them all over Winter break!

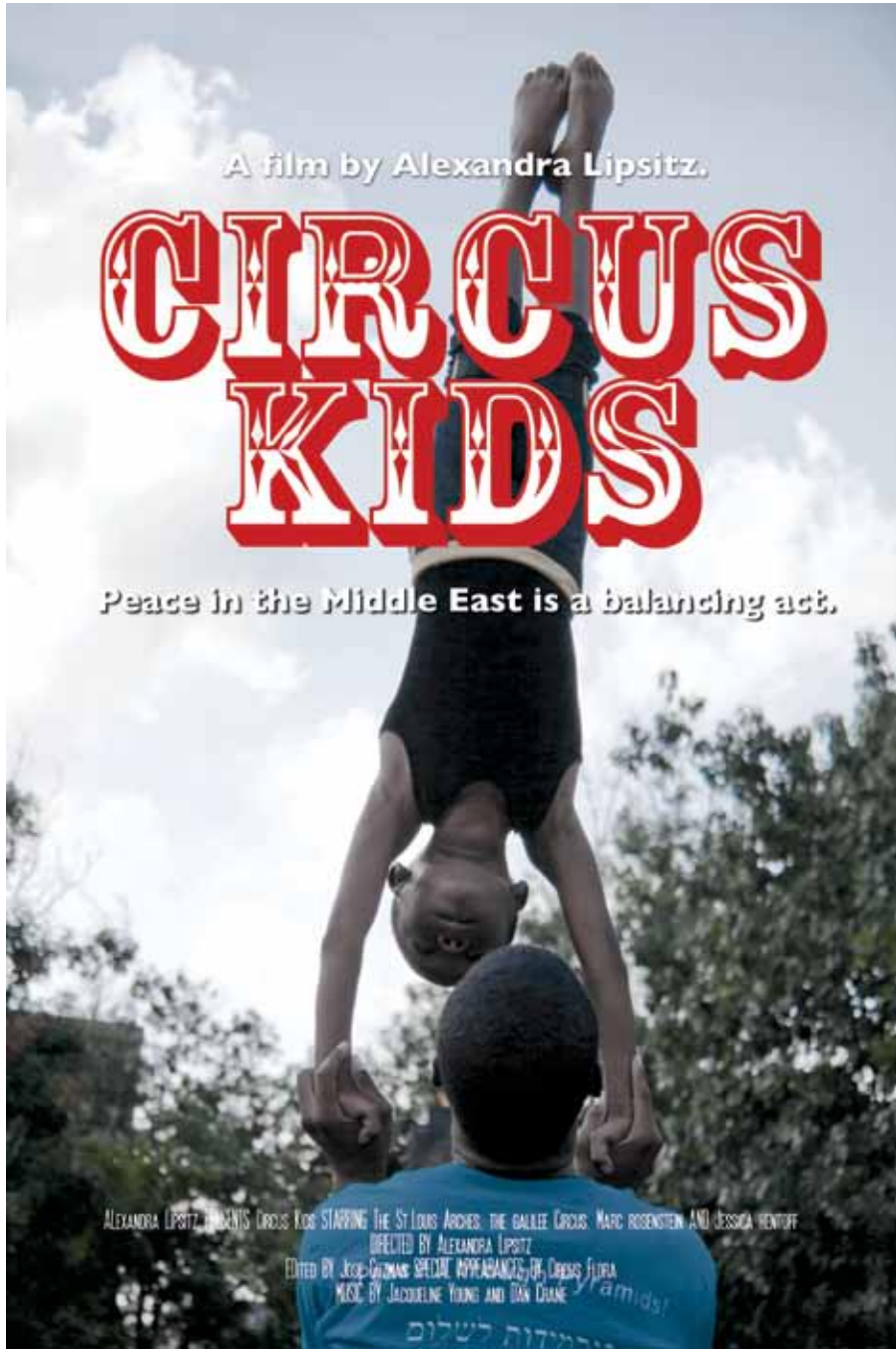
AYCO Educators' Conference

The American Youth Circus Organization held their biannual Educators' Conference at the New England Conservatory of Circus Arts in Brattleboro, Vermont, this September. For the first time, Circus Harmony sent two student teachers to the conference! Iking Bateman and Elliana Hentoff-Killian accompanied director Jessica Hentoff and they all co-presented a workshop on Teaching Students in Different Settings. The trio also attended a variety of workshops and demonstrations presented by circus teachers and scholars from throughout North America. Jessica also rejoined the AYCO Board of Directors. Learn more about AYCO at www.americanyouthcircus.org. The next AYCO event will be their biannual Youth Circus Festival which will be held at Sailor Circus in Sarasota, Florida in August.



Elliana, Jessica and Iking at AYCO EdCon

CIRCUS KIDS: The Movie!



In 2007, eleven St. Louis teenagers, a clown, a mentor, a dad, a social circus director, and a young filmmaker went to Israel. It was the beginning of a truly multi-cultural and incredibly inspirational collaboration between Circus Harmony's St. Louis Arches and the Jewish/ Arab Galilee Circus from the Galilee Foundation for Value Education.

The filmmaker was Alexandra Lipsitz and CIRCUS KIDS, the documentary she made about this momentous partnership, is part of this year's St. Louis International Film World Festival. Come witness these ordinary St. Louis children on their extraordinary journey to promote peace through pyramids in the Middle East. Also, check out the film One Lucky Elephant, another documentary in the Festival. This movie is about our friend, Flora the elephant, from Circus Flora. For information on both movies--- including how to get free tickets for your school to attend an educational screening--- visit www.cinemastlouis.org.

CIRCUS KIDS will be shown on Sunday, November 21 at 1:30 at the HiPointe Theater. This screening will be followed by a Gala Reception at the Regional Arts Commission featuring a performance by the St. Louis Arches and music by Farshid Soltanshahi. There is also a free educational screening on Thursday, Nov. 18 at the Tivoli. Reservations for this can be made through the St. Louis International Film Festival, 314-289-4153. Combined screening and gala tickets are only \$35 for adults and \$15 for children. If you really want to show us your love, you can be a patron of the event for \$95. Get your combined film and gala tickets online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/132412 or via the Circus Harmony website at www.circusharmony.org. Please come and witness the power of social circus!

We are very grateful for the support of the

National Endowment for the Arts, City Museum, Regional Arts Commission, Missouri Arts Council, Fox Performing Arts Charitable Foundation, Boeing Employee Community Fund, Cardinals Care, DCA Family Foundation, Cirque Du Soleil, Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey, American Youth Circus Organization, Staenberg Family Foundation, Kranzberg Family Foundation, Dana Brown Charitable Trust, Brentwood Minute Man Press, Stahl & Ponder, Circus Fans of America, Circus4Youth, everydaycircus, World Circus Federation and people like you!

