



Residency Activities

Lecture/Demonstrations

The Circus Act Deconstructed

- Audience: Appropriate for all grade levels, focus of content will be adjusted for audience
- Number of Participants: Maximum 30 students
- Length: 40 minutes
- Location: A classroom
- Technical Requirements: A small PA will be needed for audio playback

An in-classroom lecture/demo followed by discussion about how the work is created. The process of assembling a circus act is outlined, from assessing the raw acrobatic building block material to the arrangement of the music and the addition of costume. This discussion focuses on the collaborative nature of the circus and the lessons that can be translated into the lives of the students.

Workshops

Circus Arts Class

- Audience: Junior High, High School, College dance and theater students
- Number of Participants: Maximum 20 students
- Length: 40 minutes
- Location: A dance studio, black box theater or space preferably with 12' ceilings. Carpeted floor is acceptable.
- Technical Requirements: One (1) projector with HDMI connection for artists to plug in a laptop and one (1) standard classroom-sized screen.

Join cast members from *Birdhouse Factory* for an introductory circus skills workshop. Students will learn the basics of pyramids and body balancing. Object and prop manipulation will be demonstrated with a focus on teaching “how” to safely learn the skills needed to perform a circus act.

The Machines behind the Mechanics

- Audience: Junior High, High School, College theatre or engineering students
- Number of Participants: Maximum 100 students
- Length: 40 minutes
- Location: a classroom, dance studio, black box theatre, auditorium or lecture hall
- Technical Requirements: One (1) projector with HDMI connection for artists to plug in a laptop and one (1) screen. The screen size should be proportionate to the size of the room. One (1) microphone is needed if audience size is large.

A great class for those interested in what goes on behind the scenes. This is a look at the machines behind a Cirque Mechanics performance. An up-close look at how they work, what they do and why. A discussion of design goals, gear ratios and the design parameters creating the mechanics that fit in any theatre, load in any door and fit in a 26' truck. This workshop has direct STEM to STEAM implications as it explores the engineering and math behind the construction and design of the machines.

Education Performances

School Performance

- Audience: Appropriate for grade levels
- Number of Participants: Up to full performance venue's capacity
- Length: 55 minutes
- Location: Venue's stage
- Technical Requirements: full performance technical requirements

Abbreviated performance of *Birdhouse Factory* showcasing the most impactful moments from the full-length production while retaining the narrative thread. The performance will be approximately 40 minutes followed by a 15-minute Q&A with members of the cast. This performance has direct STEM to STEAM implications as it explores the engineering and math behind the construction and design of the machines.