

Caravan

European Youth and Social Circus Network

2016 Annual Report

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Contact information :

Ophélie Mercier
Development Manager

CARAVAN aisbl
1 impasse de la Renardière
92220 Bagneux

email: info@caravancircusnetwork.eu

Tel : +33 (0) 7 69 30 42 39

Skype : caravan.network



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

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INTRODUCTION

The international association « Caravan » gathers 19 youth and social circus schools and organisations. The association was founded officially in October 2008 gathering 6 European circuses. In 2016, Caravan has reached 19 members and started to develop beyond Europe gathering 15 European organisations as well as circus schools from Palestine, the United States, Israel and South Korea.

Full Members :

- Ateneu Popular 9 Barris (Barcelona, Spain)
- Belfast Community Circus School (Belfast, United Kingdom)
- Cabuwazi (Berlin, Germany)
- Cirkus Cirkör (Stockholm, Sweden)
- Cirqueon (Prague, Czech Republic)
- Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (Brussels, Belgium),
- Galway Community Circus School (Galway, Ireland)
- Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (Bagneux, France)
- Parada Foundation (Bucarest, Romania)
- Sorin Sirkus (Tampere, Finland)
- Upsala Zirk (Saint Petersburg, Russia)
- Zaltimbanq' (Luxembourg City, Luxembourg)

Associate Members:


- Altro Circo (Civitavecchia, Italy)
- Israel Circus School (Kfar Yehoshua, Israel)
- Metis Gwa (Pointe-à-Pitre, France)
- Palestine Circus School (Ramallah, Palestine)
- Salida Circus (Colorado, United States of America)
- Seoul Street Arts Creation Center (Seoul, South Korea)
- Skala (Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Together, they share the common objectives to promote circus practices in youth education and to encourage its development, through concrete actions such as youth exchanges and trainings for trainers. The association is also committed to promoting collaboration and exchanges in the field of youth and social circus.

So as in 2011, 2013 and 2014, Caravan received in 2016 official support from the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), by awarding the association an operating grant for one year as a « body active at European level in the youth field », in the framework of the Erasmus + programme. This official recognition by the European Commission rewards the important work and involvement of Caravan and its members for the benefit of the young people in Europe.



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The 2016 work programme is divided into several actions aiming at using circus arts as a tool for the social inclusion of the young people with fewer opportunities along with improving the professionalisation and the employability of the youth and social circus trainers.

At least seven training sessions for social circus trainers were organised in five different countries/territories. Most of them are a direct application of Circus Trans-Formation (CTF), the Caravan European project targeting twenty trainers who follow the 140-hour training course entirely designed by Caravan. In 2016, the first CTF in Action was implemented at the European level, gathering participants from ten Caravan members who followed the curriculum in four different circus schools.

Other professional training programmes are offered through the Caravan network such as tight-rope walking workshops, or the adult training program on the artistic tools to work with people with special needs.

An important part of Caravan's work is dedicated to guaranteeing the recognition of the skills and developing the appropriate competences of the young people working or teaching in the field of youth and social circus. Consequently, Caravan in cooperation with the Haute Ecole Leonard de Vinci (Belgium), the University of Tampere (Finland) and the University of Limerick (Ireland) has carried out a major research project in the field of social circus pedagogy entitled « Circus + : Research on Youth and Social circus pedagogy ».

The results of the research was officially presented in June 2016 during a European seminar that took place in Molenbeek, Brussels. During this research project, Caravan mapped the educational opportunities in the field of youth and social circus and analysed the market needs of the field. Thanks to this analysis, Caravan created two job profiles corresponding to the levels 4 & 6 (according to the European Qualification Framework) and established the framework of competences in the perspective of establishing a level 4 and 6 university training programme.

Ireland hosted the 2016 Caravan Youth Exchange, which took place in Galway (south of Ireland). Youngsters from 6 different nationalities met during 7 days and share their circus experience to create together a performance.

Other young circus fans participated in the youth festivals in Spain, Luxembourg and Northern Ireland. Finally, 23 young people participated in the European Voluntary Service through the Young Caravan.

To conclude this intense year, the Caravan members elected a new board consisting of four members who are at the head of the organisation for the next three years. Moreover, Laurent Beauthier, who worked as the Development Manager for the last five years, left Caravan for new horizons and Ophélie Mercier now fills the coordinator position. Thus, not only Caravan is coordinated by a new person, but the office was also moved to Bagneux, in the wooden big top of Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, in France. Hopefully this new moves within Caravan will bring new perspectives and opportunities for the years to come.

CARAVAN TEAM

Caravan Board



Dennis Wezenberg
President
Zaltimbanq', Luxembourg



Vincent Wauters
Vice- President
Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles, Belgium



Taina Kopra
Treasurer
Sorin Sirkus, Finland



Eleférios Kechagioglou
Secretary
Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, France

Coordination



Laurent Beauthier
Former Development Manager
from 2011 to September 2016



Ophélie Mercier
Current Development Manager
since August 2016



Main objective

To use Circus Arts to create positive personal, community and social change.



General objectives

- ◇ To advocate for the positive impact of youth and social circus
- ◇ To develop innovative pedagogical approaches for youth and social circus
- ◇ To promote, through international co-operation, the sustainable development of organisations working in the field of social circus
- ◇ To maximise opportunities and pathways for people engaged in youth and social circus to connect across Europe and beyond
- ◇ Professionalize pedagogic, social, artistic and administrative skills of the sector

To this end, CARAVAN determines to

- ◇ Organise intercultural exchanges to promote personal development, citizenship and circus creativity of young people
- ◇ Organise vocational educational programmes for trainers, artists and managers in the field of youth and social circus
- ◇ Support hosting and sending of volunteers on international level
- ◇ Develop agreed accreditation in the field of youth and social circus
- ◇ Evaluate and disseminate evidence of the impacts of social circus and promote best practice
- ◇ Operate on local, national and international level
- ◇ Promote the inclusion of circus arts in formal and non-formal education

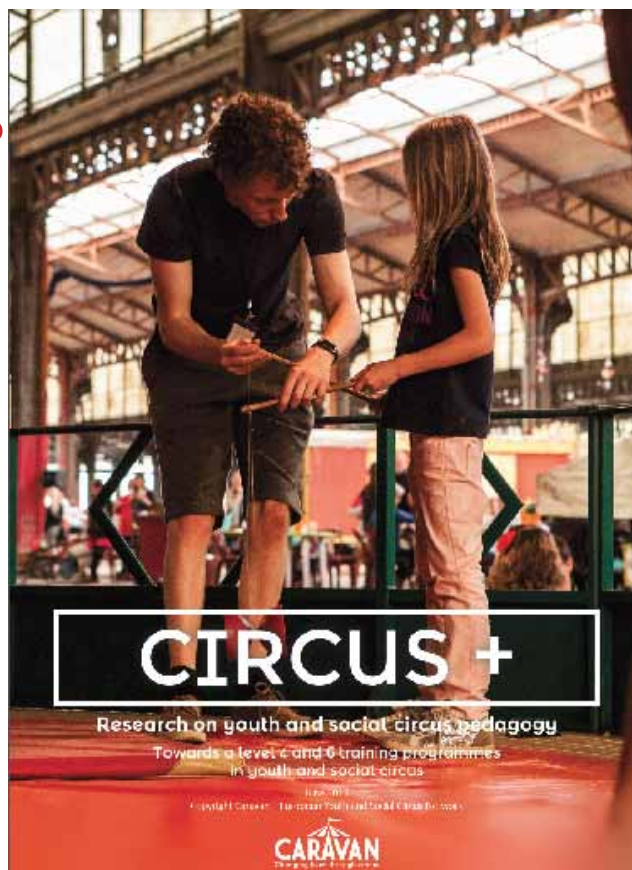
CARAVAN IN NUMBERS

- 
- ◇ 19 members
 - ◇ 18 countries among which 14 European Countries
 - ◇ 120 trained youth and social circus trainers
 - ◇ 200 participants in the European seminar
 - ◇ 40 volunteers gaining experience within the network
 - ◇ 30 youth exchange participants
- 

All through the years, Caravan has gained knowledge in the field of Youth and Social Circus, not only thanks to its concrete activities but also thanks to the researches financially supported by the European Commission. They create new ways of teaching in combining circus arts with a social approach. The network is now at forefront of pedagogical innovation in the field of youth and social circus in Europe.

Caravan researches aim at favoring the professionalization and developing the professional opportunities of the young actors working in the field of youth and social circus. To this end, Caravan and its members work with the most appropriate academic and scientific partners in order to make sure the researches have concrete and significant impact.

After creating the first European training programme for social circus trainers, « Circus Transformation », Caravan pursued in 2016 its research work in the project entitled « Circus + ». The «Circus +» project took place from 2014 to 2016 hoping to identify the professional profiles that exist within youth and social circus organisations, to identify existing training programmes and where necessary create the foundations for the future training programmes.



Circus + : Final year of work

Transnational meeting : From the job profile to the framework of competences

February 2016 - Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, Bagneux (France)

During this meeting, the partners met in Bagneux for 5 days, during which they discussed the sub-competences needed to match the job profiles previously established during the first years of the project. At this stage, they classified the competences required in order to create a framework of competences.

The partnership created a definition for each competence. Each competence was made up of a certain amount of sub-competences. The definitions of the competences established a common understanding of their scope.

In parallel, in order to make sure that the framework is in accordance with the reality of the field, the partners also considered the importance of the readability and understandability of the framework of competences in the national context. It was also decided to ask for a peer review from both circus and education professionals to ensure the understandability of the competences.



Transnational meeting: Validation of the framework of competences

13-14 April 2016 - Cirkus Cirkör, Stockholm (Sweden)

During this meeting, the research coordination team explained the theoretical approach to define a framework of competences. The partnership worked on the definition of the situations, i.e the context of mobilisation of the competences, in order to specify the level of complexity of the training and to ensure that several competences will be mobilized together.

The partnership also discussed the content of the conclusion meeting that took place at the end of June 2016 (see « Seminars »). This meeting marked the end of the common work of the international team. This was concluded in good spirit and with a feeling of having achieved something new and significant.

Circus + : Findings and conclusion

1. Mapping of the existing training programmes in the partner countries

During the two years of work, Circus pedagogues, academics and Caravan mapped the existing training programmes in the partner countries. From the mapping it was clearly apparent that the educational offers were oriented more towards the competences and the artistic field than the use of circus arts as a learning or a teaching tool for young people.

2. Needs analysis within the youth and social circus sector

The results showed that presently, the majority of people are working within the field of « performing arts », this is closely followed by the field of « circus trainer/teacher » (especially in Finland). The most needed competences are technical competences but also and more specifically, pedagogical competences. Many professionals working in the youth and social circus sector have a basic education in pedagogy (most of them have a level 4 or 5 education). It would therefore appear that there is a need for training programme for « circus trainers/teachers » at level 6.

3. Development of the job profile of the youth and social circus teacher for levels 4 & 6

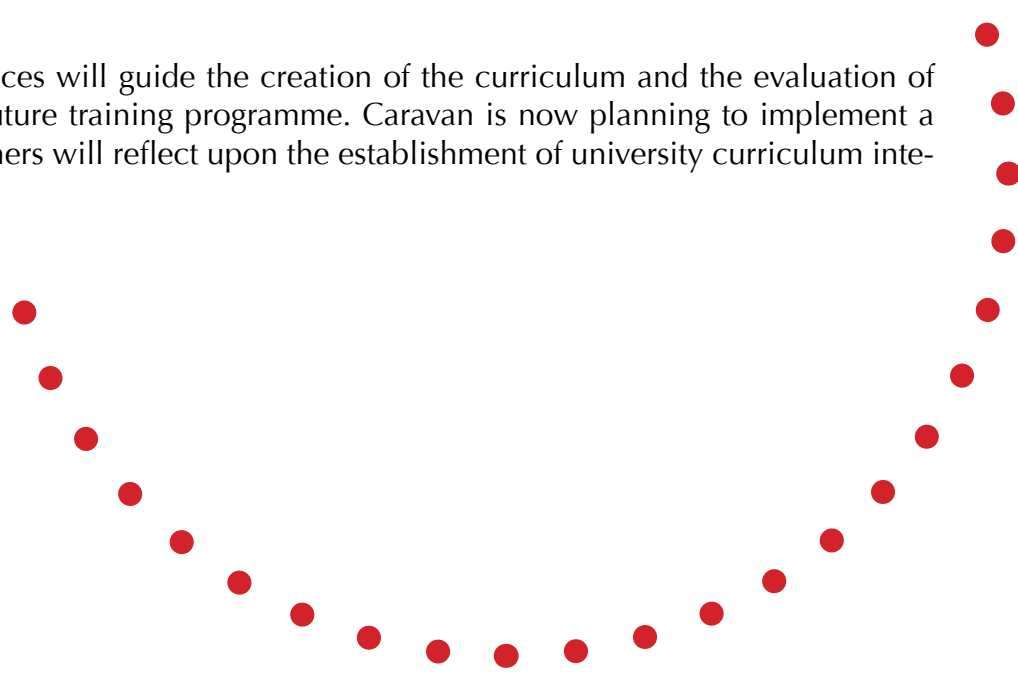
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4. Framework of competences

The two job profiles were the basis of the two related framework of competences. The frameworks¹ were created in relation with certain competences described in the Circus Transformation project.

5. Perspectives

The framework of competences will guide the creation of the curriculum and the evaluation of the students attending the future training programme. Caravan is now planning to implement a three-year in which the partners will reflect upon the establishment of university curriculum integrating these competences.



Framework of competences

- level 4 -

Competence 1 : Demonstrate a good command of the art and science of teaching circus	
1	Have a good command of one or more circus disciplines to an advanced level
2	Use didactical tools to teach circus arts techniques and skills
3	Deliver pedagogical activities alone and as part of a team in accordance with the learning objectives
4	Use methods aiming at creativity development
5	Direct a performance in a pedagogical context

Competence 2 : Create and maintain a safe physical and emotional learning environment	
1	Prepare and check the training material for the learning activity
2	Respect and implement the organisations safety procedures
3	Attend to the physical and emotional well-being of the participants

Competence 3 : Follow an educational plan and adapt it to the context	
1	Follow achievable learning objectives adapted to the target groups and to the context
2	Plan lesson and learning sequences in accordance with an educational plan
3	Develop activities and pedagogical tools in accordance with the learning objectives
4	Adapt activities and teaching practice to the context and the different target groups
5	Adapt the forms of communication to the target groups
6	Choose the most appropriate form for the presentation of the learning outcomes

Competence 4 : Support the personal and social development of the participants	
1	Give and receive feedback and provide appropriate guidance
2	Support the participants to take ownership of their training
3	Encourage critical thinking
4	Introduce the participants to other art forms and cultures
5	Manage conflict between/with participants
6	Strengthen the participants' team work skills

Competence 5 : Evaluate teaching and learning processes	
1	Use evaluation tool to assess the teaching and learning process
2	Apply participatory methods of evaluation
3	Engage in the evaluation of teamwork and their own practice
4	Adapt their practice based on the results of an evaluation

Competence 6 : Communicate with a range of audiences using the appropriate tools	
1	Exchange relevant information with stakeholders
2	Communicate and share good practices with others
3	Produce and present basic written and verbal reports
4	Use information and communication technology tools

Competence 7 : Identify organisational structures within which they work	
1	Describe the organisational structure of their placement
2	Identify their position and role in their placement organisation

Note bene:

The situations, in which the competences must be developed by the learners and evaluated by the teachers, will be defined by each organisation when delivering the training. It was not possible to define the situations in this project because the partners' contexts are too different.

Framework of competences

- level 6 -

Competence 1 : Demonstrate a good command of the art and science of teaching circus	
1	Have a good command of one or more circus disciplines to an advanced level
2	Use didactical tools to teach circus arts techniques and skills
3	Deliver pedagogical activities alone and as part of a team in accordance with the learning objectives
4	Use methods aiming at creativity development
5	Direct a performance in a pedagogical context

Competence 2 : Create and maintain a safe physical and emotional learning environment	
1	Prepare and check the training material for the learning activity
2	Respect and implement the organisations safety procedures
3	Attend to the physical and emotional well-being of the participants

Competence 3 : Develop an educational plan and adapt it to the context	
1	Define achievable learning objectives adapted to the target groups and to the context
2	Plan the content and the learning sequences of an educational plan
3	Develop activities and pedagogical tools in accordance with the learning objectives
4	Adapt activities and teaching practice to the context and the different target groups
5	Adapt the forms of communication to the target groups
6	Choose the most appropriate form for the presentation of the learning outcomes
7	Develop pedagogical projects that combine diverse art forms

Competence 4 : Support the personal and social development of the participants	
1	Give and receive feedback and provide appropriate guidance
2	Support the participants to take ownership of their training
3	Develop and implement a plan to stimulate critical thinking
4	Introduce the participants to other art forms and cultures
5	Propose solutions to manage conflict
6	Develop and implement a plan for strengthening the participants' team work skills

Competence 5 : Conduct research relevant to the field of youth and social circus pedagogy	
1	Apply a research method to a topic relevant to the field
2	Search for tools for the evaluation and improvement of projects and practices
3	Find pedagogical and didactical tools for the improvement of the learning activity
4	Identify the needs of the target groups and the social context in which pedagogical projects take place
5	Use participatory methods involving target groups to identify their needs

Competence 6 : Evaluate professional practice	
1	Use evaluation tool to assess the teaching and learning process and the educational plan
2	Apply a range of participatory methods of evaluation
3	Engage in the evaluation of teamwork and their own practice
4	Develop an improvement plan based on the results of an evaluation

Competence 7 : Communicate with a range of audiences using the appropriate tools	
1	Exchange relevant information with stakeholders
2	Communicate and share good practices with others
3	Produce and present written and verbal reports
4	Use information and communication technology tools

Competence 8 : Manage pedagogical projects	
1	Organise artistic and pedagogical projects
2	Manage the content of a lesson according to the educational plan
3	Describe the organisational structure of their placement
4	Identify their position and role in their placement organisation

Note bene:

The situations, in which the competences must be developed by the learners and evaluated by the teachers, will be defined by each organisation when delivering the training. It was not possible to define the situations in this project because the partners' contexts are too different.

Job profile - level 6 -

Job profile - level 4 -

Values

1. Adaptability
2. Responsibility (personal, social and self-awareness)
3. Commitment to emotional and physical safety
4. Empathy
5. Sensitivity to diversity

Mission

The youth and social circus **teacher** is a professional in circus arts **and pedagogy** who uses his/her skills at the service of the social and personal development of individuals and groups usually in private or public organisations. **He/she acts in favour of the autonomy, the social inclusion and integration of the people in the society.**

Mission

The youth and social circus **trainer** is a professional in circus arts who uses his/her skills at the service of the social and personal development of individuals and groups, usually in private or public organisations. **He/she helps them to reach their full potential in society.**

Functions and duties

- 1) Teaching (**basic to advanced**) circus techniques
- 2) Managing teaching learning situation
- 3) Implementing activities using circus arts as a tool for social change/ action
- 4) Managing and developing project
- 5) Supervising the creation and the implementation of a performance on **an educational level**

Functions and duties

- 1) Teaching (**basic to intermediate**) circus techniques
- 2) Managing teaching learning situation
- 3) Implementing activities using circus arts as a tool for social change/ action
- 4) Managing and developing project **at basic level**
- 5) Supervising the creation and the implementation of a performance

Sectors

Autonomously, he/she works in the fields of education; early childhood, health, social circus, youth circus, youth work.

Sectors

Under the supervision of someone who organises his/her work, he/she works in the fields of education, early childhood, health, social circus, youth circus and youth work.

Responsibility and autonomy

The main activities must be carried out autonomously **with great command and creativity** for both the circus techniques and the social approach. The teacher must be able to work **with any public in an unpredictable situation.**

Responsibility and autonomy

The main activities must be carried out autonomously **according to social and circus approved procedures adapted to the contexts, for a public known by the trainer and in a predictable situation.**

Caravan seminars aim at exchanging views and sharing expertise on the youth and social circus sector in order to increase its benefits for the young people in Europe and beyond.

Professionals and amateurs in circus arts, coordinators of European networks, along with local, national and European political representatives and university researchers are invited to participate to the Caravan seminars.

These seminars represent an opportunity to express knowledge and expertise through round tables, workshops, informal networking and exchanges.

European seminar : Transformation through Circus Arts A new narrative for Europe

29-30 June 2016 - Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles, Brussels (Belgium)

The European seminar : Transformation through Circus Arts - a new narrative for Europe took place on 29 and 30 June 2016 in Molenbeek (Brussels, Belgium). As part of the main research project « Circus + », this seminar concluded the three-year research carried out by Caravan and its partners.

The conclusions of Circus + echoed larger discussions on the field of youth and social circus both in Europe and beyond. Truly international with 4 continents and 25 countries represented, the seminar gathered **200 participants** from distant countries such as Palestine, Afghanistan, Russia, Egypt, Paraguay, Israel, Columbia and the USA. The European Union was well represented with participants from 15 member countries.



The seminar had a strong symbolic value in a time where Europe faces major challenges.

The seminar was held in the now infamous neighbourhood of Molenbeek, three months after the Brussels terrorist attacks.

On the first evening of the seminar, a beautiful gesture was made when participants together with the citizens, took part in a circus show on the main square of Molenbeek. It made it evident that both the neighbourhood and the city had unfairly been portrayed by the media.

The event took place just one week after the Brexit vote, providing even more substance to the theme of the seminar.

Moreover, the seminar highlighted the strong links Caravan has established over the years with the European Commission. The event was opened by Jens Nymand Christensen, Deputy Director-General for Education and Culture at the European Commission. During his introductory speech, he emphasized the relevant links between the Erasmus+ programme and the practice of circus, explaining that the Erasmus + programme is looking at non-formal activities which promote and share its European values such as human dignity, freedom of expression, democracy, equality and the rule of law. « Youth and social circus provides exactly that » he claimed.

“New Narrative for Europe” is a project launched by the European Commission, designed to give a voice to the artistic, cultural, scientific and intellectual communities to articulate what Europe stands for today and tomorrow. The purpose of this is to contribute to bringing Europe closer to its citizens and reviving a “European” spirit via the arts and sciences.

In this perspective, three panel discussions were held. The first session addressed the link between education and employment, emphasizing the research methodology that established the base of the Circus + project. Then, the second discussion introduced various collaborative projects between youth and social circuses with private institutions. The presentations enabled a debate on the stakes of such partnerships. Finally, the last round table presented four different social initiatives taking place in context of exclusion and war.

For more detailed information on the seminar and the content of the discussion, see <http://www.caravancircusnetwork.eu/projects/caravan-seminars>

This seminar was supported by :



Erasmus+
The Representation of
the European Commission in Belgium



TRAINING FOR TRAINERS

The Caravan training of trainers is based on a Caravan research directed in 2014 that led to the creation of the Guidebook for Social Circus Trainers. This manual is the outcome of a 5-year European research carried out by 2 universities, 8 Caravan members and the Caravan office. Based on this curriculum, the organisation launched at the end of 2015, its first Training for Trainers' european programme entitled Circus Transformation in Action.

Circus Trans-Formation in Action

Circus Trans-Formation (CTF) in Action was first launched in the autumn 2015. The training combines five modules taught in 140 hours distributed in 4 modules developed in 4 sessions of 5 days hosted by 4 circus schools, respectively, Circus Cirkör, Sorin Sirkus, Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles and Belfast Community School.

The training targeted young trainers who want to acquire specific skills in order to create social circus training sessions on their own.

20 participants from 8 Caravan full members and 2 Caravan associate members took part in the project:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ◇ Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (applicant coordinator) | ◇ Cirkus Cirkör |
| ◇ Sorin Sirkus | ◇ Cirqueon |
| ◇ Belfast Community Circus School | ◇ Zaltimbanq' |
| ◇ Galway Community Circus | ◇ Métis'Gwa |
| ◇ Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde | ◇ Skala |

« I found it very interesting to see different circus schools from different countries: their different working methods and values... This training gave me the motivation to continue training myself abroad. Next week I am leaving to Romania for six months where I will take part in the implementation of a social circus project. »

CTF participant



Circus Trans-Formation in Action 2 : Kick off in November 2016

In 2016, the project Circus Trans-Formation in Action was launched for a second edition. This time, the training is coordinated in partnership between Zaltimbanq' and Caravan, as the project is funded by the Luxembourg Erasmus+ National Agency.

The training started with the first module, introducing the work on the social context.

20 participants attended the sessions in Belfast, from the 21st to the 25th of November 2016.

This time, the last module will be hosted by Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde and two new partners joined the programme : the Palestinian Circus School and Cabuwazi.

Moreover, one participant from the Seoul Street Arts Creation Center was able to join, highlighting great interest into the project from the Korean partner.

Circus Trans-Formation around the world

The curriculum was used as base for training given in different places :

Training in Social artistic practices in Guadeloupe (France) in partnership between Metis Gwa and PPCM : « conceiving a program for an artistic and social project » from 18-22 April facilitated by Katerina Flora with 15 participants. The objectives were to support artists and trainers in conceiving, preparing, implementing and evaluating social and artistic workshops through the transfer of Circus Transformation

Social Circus training in Barcelona (Spain)

Based on the Circus Transformation guidebook, Ateneu 9 Barris implemented a training for trainers in social circus. Thirty participants took part in this training given in 5 modules over weekends. The training team consists of seven trainers coming from various parts of Spain.

Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (Belgium)

The Belge partner implemented the four-week training for trainers gathering 12 participants enhancing this way the training capacity of trainers within Belgium.

Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (France)

As a continuing training for its trainers, Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde implemented the Circus Transformation modules with its trainers, along with other artists and trainers from different organisations. Not only the content gave new training tools to the 9 participants, but it also provided them with time to reflect on their practice.

Sirkhan Circus School, Mardin (Turkey) used the CTF guidebook during a training of trainers session where the school trained youth working with Turkish and Syrian refugee children.

Youth Exchanges

Caravan brings the young people at the centre of its activities. Caravan stresses the importance of learning through exchanges and organises every year youth exchanges in the framework of the Erasmus + programme of the European commission.

Caravan youngsters live together a fantastic adventure by exchanging their knowledge and creativity. A life changing experience that combines education, entertainment and fun

Galway Youth Exchange

13-16 July 2016 - Galway Community Circus, Galway (Ireland)

In July, Galway Community Circus hosted a Youth Circus exchange with organisations from across Europe for seven days. **30 Participants from 7 countries** : Belgium - Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles; Italy - AltroCirco; Slovenia - Fuskabo; Czech Republic - Cirqueon and Finland - Sorin Sirkus were met by their hosts at Galway Community Circus for a week of exploration and development of circus skills, cultural exchange and meeting new friends.

Along with their daily circus workshops and training time the group visited Galway City, Connemara, went on a traditional Galway Hooker boat and attended an open air show at the Galway International Arts Festival. During the circus workshops the young people created a circus show entitled Cirq Europ, which they performed at the Spanish Arch, (Galway City) to a huge crowd who had braved the rain.



Volunteers

With the support of the European Voluntary Service (EVS) and Eurodyssée, Caravan members have put in place a network of exchange of volunteers in order to promote the mobility of young people between their organisations.

It aims to improve youngsters competences, to get them involved in the host organisations and to increase their European awareness.

During the school year **2015-16, 23 European volunteers** traveled within the network to complete their services in one of the Caravan organisations. **Currently, there are 28 volunteers** expressing their dynamism and eagerness for new discoveries within the Caravan network. Depending on their wishes and future professional orientations, they chose to be active whether in the communication, pedagogical or social circus departments of their hosting organisations.

They came from all parts of Europe and had the opportunity to live and get to know new people, new cultures and new ways of life in a safe and circus atmosphere !



Youth Festivals

The youth festivals promote the involvement of youngsters in the creation of circus performances. Their aim is to stimulate interational dialogue and favor the personal, physical and profesional development of the young participants and trainers.

Moreover, the youth festivals gather different pedagogical projects of circus for children, teenagers and youngsters from all over Europe.

Festival of Fools

29 April- 2 May 2016 - Belfast Community Circus School, Belfast (United-Kindgom)

From the 29th of April to the 2nd of May 2016, the 13th annual Festival of Fools took place in Belfast, Northern Ireland. More than 120 performances were organised across the streets of Belfast City Centre and Cathedral Quarter. Artists from Poland, Italy, France, Spain, Germany, USA, Canada, England, Ireland, Holland and Finland entertained the audience with stories of love; acrobatic impossibilities; record breaking unicycling; puppet magicians; award winning juggling; and stunning circus.

Sorin Sirkus, one of the Caravan members, made the trip from Finland for their first performance in Belfast. A great way to celebrate the cooperation between the two partners.

Zirkusschapp Inauguration

6-8 May 2016 - Zaltimbanq', Luxembourg (Luxembourg)

Zaltimbanq' organized a youth festival from the 6th to the 8th of May, 2016 inaugurating its new building. An old woodwork workshop has now been transformed into a space where children and adults can juggle and do acrobatics.

The festival gather three professional performances and 20 shows performed by the students of the school. Over 250 students took part in the event which was attended by over 1500 people.

An official inauguration also gathered the bourgmestre of Luxembourg City, Mrs Lydie Polver, as well as the Luxembourg Prime Minister, Mr Xavier Bettel.

Festival

17 June 2016 - Ateneu Popular 9 Barris, Barcelona (Spain)

The 7th Edition of Ateneu 9 Barris' youth festival took place on the 17th of June, 2016. It was organized in the Parque de la Amistad, in Barcelona. It is important for the circus to happen in a public space, in order to claim the cultural and festive use of the space to become a time of encounter.

The festival gathered around 200 participants around open workshops, performances of youth from the neighborhood (Spanish guitar, urban dance, aerials, acrobatics, clowns...).

Full members

Ateneu Popular 9 Barris



The Ateneu Popular de Nou Barris (Ateneu) is in operation since 1977 in the district of Nou Barris in Barcelona. It is managed by the non profit association “Bidó de Nou Barris”. It uses circus and culture as a mean of education to reach a social transformation. “Bidó de Nou Barris” is governed by a board elected by the assembly members and several working committees, in which anyone interested can participate. The various committees respond to different concerns, needs and facets of the project (in areas such as the organisation of training in circus, theatre and percussion, programming, communication, or artistic criteria).

Considering circus as a tool for education in values and the transformation of society, Ateneu provides training and social circus activities to the benefit of around 4,500 children, adolescents and young people. It includes a Children and Youth Circus School, educational proposals with groups in situations of social exclusion and training of trainers in social circus.

Belfast Community Circus School

Belfast Community Circus School was established in 1985 and it is considered as a leading circus arts organisation in the UK and Europe. It is a registered charity with six full time employees and more than 25 regular sessional workers. BCCS teaches around 1000 sessions of circus classes for young people each year across Northern Ireland. BCCS has a long established focus for its work on using circus as a tool for personal development. BCCS works to create opportunities for young people from different communities work, learn and play together to develop a better understanding of difference. BCCS targets work in areas of high social need using circus as a tool to combat social exclusion.



BCCS ran the first ever full time professional training in Community Circus teaching in 1999. In the same year, the organisation moved into Ireland’s only dedicated circus building – located in the centre of Belfast. Over the past 5 years BCCS has staged a full time training course to develop professional circus teachers and performers in Northern Ireland and continues to train social circus trainers. BCCS has engaged in numerous international exchanges since 1986 and has been a member of Caravan since its foundation.

Cabuwazi

CABUWAZI is a youth circus in Berlin that started in 1994 and is since 2010 part of GrenzKultur gGmbH. With its five places in socially difficult areas of the city, CABUWAZI offers circus pedagogical leisure time activities, mostly free of charge, for children between 4 and 21 years old and reaches weekly about 500 children and youngsters (annually 8000 participants).



Next to regular trainings, CABUWAZI organises shows, holiday camps, co-operations with refugee accommodations, schools and nursery schools, international youth exchanges and circus pedagogical trainings for teachers.

CABUWAZI also runs the Circus Akademie Berlin which offers an annual professional training for circus educators.

The activities of CABUWAZI in Berlin are based on the idea that people, and children in specific, need to build up social competences in order to build up a stable and safe environment. Circus is an artform, a way of expressing that goes further than the spoken language. Together with the physical development of the body that circus provides – strength, balance, coordination ... – it demands a certain trust in yourself and the others. We teach this trust through games, training

Cirkus Cirkör

Cirkus Cirkör is a contemporary circus company since 1995 founded by our artistic director Tilde Björfors. Today Cirkör is touring the whole world, including Cirkör LAB, Cirkör



Event and Cirkör Education. Cirkör stages circus arts training and education for young people with or without disabilities, and has an upper secondary school. The Cirkör House (training hall and headquarter) is situated in Alby in Botkyrka, one of Sweden's youngest and most international municipalities, where long-term and social circus projects are implemented in the community development. One of Cirkör's statutes is to inspire and to be inspired by the youths and the street arts. The core values of the organization are cocky commitment, individualistic solidarity, and quality madness.

The pedagogic department meets 30 000 children, youths and staff working with youngsters per year, in 50 different cities across Sweden through workshops, courses, camps, open training, and school activities. The circus training is given in order to further personal development, to promote creativity, and to produce performances. Cirkör also offers possibilities for young people to work as circus teachers, to teach other youths.

Cirqueon



CiCIRQUEON is an umbrella organization dedicated to the support and development of contemporary circus in the Czech Republic.

The main purpose of CIRQUEON is to provide information about the Czech and European contemporary circus events, to support projects of the new circus wave emerging in the Czech Republic and to facilitate educational and training programs for children, youths and adults.

Cirqueon supports the creation of new performance projects and provides rehearsal space for artists. Not only Cirqueon gives training for professionals in the field of contemporary circus skills, but it also runs research and information activities in the field of related theory.

In February 2010, Cirqueon, the Center for Contemporary Circus was founded in a rented industrial space. The center houses a training space, an office and an information center. There is a library available which collects Czech and foreign publications, articles and DVD's related to the contemporary circus. The library is registered in the SIBMAS international network of performing arts collections.

In March 2012 Cirqueon and other partners established a Czech Social and Youth Circus network - Cirkonet.

Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles

The Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (ECB) has forged, through more than 35 years of experience, its own methodology and pedagogy in circus arts. It considers that circus arts, beyond the mind-soul and skills-creativity conciliation, can be used as a tool for education, pedagogy and integration.

In that framework, circus lessons are provided for children, adolescents and adults, whether they are physically and/or mentally challenged or not, and from disadvantaged or more privileged neighbourhoods.

These various empirical experiences led to a systematic development of specific and global competences and tools.

For more than 20 years Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles offers specific training programmes, such as the internationally recognised training Circus Arts Training (FP): acquisition of a complete package of teaching skills, as well as an in-depth knowledge of circus arts

More recently, Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles developed in partnership with Université catholique de Louvain a University Certificate in Circus Arts Management



Galway Community Circus

Galway Community Circus is a youth arts charity built on fun, innovation and a commitment to inspiring and empowering young people through circus arts. The organisation was set up in 2002 as the first dedicated youth circus in the Republic of Ireland.



We currently have more than 300 youth circus members between 5-20 years of age attending classes on a weekly basis. We also run weekly Toddler and Family Circus classes for younger children as well as a variety of training courses for adults. Our programmes are widely accessible and inclusive, allowing participants to realise their potential in accordance with their own abilities. We have strong partnerships with local schools and community organisations and regularly run short and longer term programmes for those who would not otherwise have access to such activities and our bursary scheme makes our work accessible to young people from families with lower incomes.

Our education programmes are directed towards performances and our youth members devise, produce and perform in a number of productions, parades and cabarets throughout the year.

Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde

Founded in 1992, Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (PPCM) – Centre des Arts du Cirque et des Cultures Emergentes – is a non-profit organisation that develops and promotes circus and emergent cultures (hip-hop, parkour...) in the field of youth and social circus, street performances, partnerships with professional artists, vocational training for artists and trainers and international exchanges.



Located in Bagneux (a close suburb in the South of Paris), in the heart of a disadvantaged area, PPCM is recognised as the leading organisation for social circus in France by the European Commission and the French Ministries of Culture and Disadvantaged areas (4550 participants, 27 employees, a budget of 901 000 Euros in 2013).

In cooperation with another association, PPCM started in February 2010 a VET in Circus activities recognized by the Ministry of Youth as a Level 4 degree BPJEPS (Brevet Professionnel Jeunesse Education Populaire et Sports – Circus activities). PPCM is preparing now a 2 – year VET programme in the field of Urban Cultures and Social Circus.

Parada Foundation

PARADA Foundation is a Romanian NGO created in Bucharest in 1996 by a French clown, Miloud Oukili. The aim of the Foundation is to support homeless children, young people and families, through its social, educative and social – professional integration services. The mission of the Foundation is the complete and stable re/integration of the people at high risk of social exclusion, by using a programme in which beneficiaries participate, first as partners of the Foundation and then as decision takers of their proper development.



PARADA developed its 1st artistic programme in the field of social circus in 1996, which is still for the Foundation one of its main activities in the field of social integration.

The Foundation was awarded several prizes for its activities, such as: Prize UNICEF 2000, Prize ARTUSI 2000, Prize CLOWNUL SPERANTEI 1999 or Prize Albert Schweitzer 2000. For his action in favour of street children, Miloud received the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Bologna, in 2007.

Sorin Sirkus

Sorin Sirkus is a youth circus school established in 1985. Sorin Sirkus has been nominated as a National Development and Service Center of Youth Work by the Ministry of Education and Culture in Finland. It works in the fields of basic education of circus arts, circus performance and social circus. The circus school gathers together weekly around 380 students of different ages (4 to 25 years of age) to practise variety of circus disciplines.

At the same time, Sorin Sirkus teaches varying number of social circus groups, and runs large number of different projects from workshops to longer courses, as well as productions of performances of different lengths.

Sorin Sirkus organises diverse activities from youth circus schools, to social circus and work welfare workshops, and all the way to festivals and camps. They are also active actor in the development of circus arts, pedagogy and youth work both at municipal and national levels.



Upsala Zirk

Upsala Circus is a unique project aimed at social adaptation of at risk kids and teenagers through learning circus skills. It has been operating in St. Petersburg since 2000. The goal of Upsala Circus is to create an alternative to street life, bring kids back into society and create the conditions for realising their full potential. Studying circus arts allows teenagers to fulfill their need for risk and undertake this in a socially acceptable manner.

The young artists of Upsala train not less than 5 times a week. During the training, they learn acrobatic, juggling, theater, pantomime and have the possibility to discover new techniques.

Upsala Circus puts on performances in children's homes, schools, boarding schools, special schools and other charitable organisations. Every year Upsala's artists take part in a tour to Europe where they perform our latest shows.



Zaltimbanq'

Luxembourg's only circus school has over 250 students, aged between 4,5 and 50 years old, taking part in one (or more) of the 30 weekly classes. These classes include parent-child circus, multidisciplinary classes, specific classes (acrobatics, unicycle, trapeze...) and performing group workshops. Furthermore there is an open training space once a week.

The school also provides workshops for children and/or adults with foreign teachers during school holidays and on weekends, social circus projects (prison, disadvantaged neighbourhoods, mentally and physically challenged people, ...) and performances for different audiences.

In May, Zaltimbanq' organizes the festival "Cirque sous Chapiteau". During 10 days a number of international artists visit the big top to perform on stage and to work with the youngsters of the school. The festival also gives the students the possibility to show what they have learned to their



Associate members

Altro Circo

Project AltroCirco (Social Circus): is the new project of Association Giocolieri & Dintorni for the development and acknowledgement of Social Circus in Italy. It has the ambition of connecting the associations and individuals working with Social Circus in Italy, in order to support a common process of growth and promote circus as an instrument of social transformation.

AltroCirco has the following mission:

- ◇ national network
- ◇ training for trainers program, advocacy and information
- ◇ study & research
- ◇ national and international projects and partnerships
- ◇ promotion and legitimacy of the sector



Israel Circus School

The Israel Circus School is run by the Association for the Development of Circus Arts in Israel, a non-profit organization established in 2002, and the first to provide circus training and skills to Israeli children, youth and adults. ICS embraces a social vision that is rooted in commitment towards the community.



ICS is active as a social circus, and holds social and educational activities for youth at risk and workshops for those with special needs. Throughout the school year, ICS holds a series of sessions with Arab and Jewish participants, some of which take place on site at ICS circus center and some held at various schools, with the objective of reinforcing the relationships between them through joint artistic activities.

On an international level, ICS participated in the past in a project in Turkish and Greek Cyprus with a grant from the European Union to create a circus program for Jewish, Muslim and Christian children in Israel. The association participated for several years in summer circus workshops held at Berlin's Circus Shake.

Métis Gwa

Metis Gwa is an association from Guadeloupe. It believes on Art not only as a tool to get to know a society but also to communicate and exchange ideas beyond borders.

It supports culture in the Caribbean, Europe and in the world since 2007.

Its actions promote the link between Art-Culture-Society through the creation, training, spreading and employment.



Palestinian Circus School

PCS teaches circus to children and youth between 6 and 20 years old (some older students). We have an average of 300 students per year in all the weekly circus clubs in different locations and for different groups in the country: Ramallah, Birzeit, Al Jalazon refugee camp, Al Fara refugee camp, Jenin, Star Mountain and Red Crescent centre for people with disabilities and Jenin girl's rehabilitation centre.



Next to weekly circus clubs we organize yearly summer camps for our students and we teach in other summer camps where we reach around 400 children per year. For PCS, circus is a strong tool to address the many challenges children and youth face while growing up under military occupation and in a society where freedom is being curbed more and more. Through circus we work hard to create a more inclusive society. At the same time some of our students dream of becoming circus trainers or artists, in which we want to accompany them as far as we can.

PCS also creates and performs. We have a student show group that creates a show every 1 or 2 years and tours the show in Palestine. We also create productions with our professional team which we tour in Palestine and, when possible, abroad.

We are also founding member, together with 11 other Palestinian organisations, of the Palestinian Performing Arts Network with as main aim to raise awareness and support for performing arts among the Palestinian Society and to lobby the Palestinian Authority and international donors to support a genuine independent performing arts movement.

Salida Circus



Since 2007, Salida Circus has offered circus training and performances as a personal development and community building tools for youth and adults in Chaffee County, Colorado and beyond. The team at the Salida Circus Outreach Foundation believes in the social, emotional, physical and economic benefits of circus training, particularly for young people.

Salida Circus currently hosts 6 weekly workshops, three annual camps for children and adults, aged 4-104 years old, as well as annual summer internships. SCOF fosters links with other community circus schools throughout the US and the World.

SCOF provides circus training in a nurturing, non-competitive environment in which participants can develop self-confidence, teamwork, trust and healthy risk-taking. SCOF strives to make circus skills training available to all members of the community by providing scholarships to low income families.

Seoul Street Arts Creation Center



Seoul Street Arts Creation Center is the first street arts-and-circus base camp for production, practice, education, and distribution in Korea.

SSAC is located in Gwangjin-gu in Seoul. This facility provided water for Seoul citizens for over 40 years. In 2015, it completed its function as an industrial facility and was assigned the new role of a cultural space, enabling the creation of Seoul Street Arts Creation Center.

Among other activities, SSACC focuses on art education through programs, such as «Circus Arts Playground » a project aiming at introducing circus in everyday life.

Besides, SSACC also contributes to the evaluation and the dissemination of the impact of social circus through the participation in international exchanges and conferences, as well as through a wide range of training of trainers, among which teachers but also public employees receive this formation in order to provide them with creative thinking abilities.

Skala



Skala is a non-governmental, non-profit and non-political, private institution located in Ljubljana, Slovenia. It works in a block settlement inhabited by large number of people, mostly immigrants from the former Yugoslavia and Albania. Many of the young people living there are related to a low socio-economic status. They have no chance of quality personal development and they spend a lot of time on the street. Skala's program is based on prevention, which means to offer these young people the opportunity to become active in their lives, to take responsibility for their lives and later in society.

It works through three main programs: a youth center, a mobile youth center (Minibus of joy) and a street creativity project which lays on circus pedagogy.

FINANCIAL REPORT

2016 Annual Accounts

EXPENDITURES	31/12/2016	31/12/2015	REVENUES	31/12/2016	31/12/2015
Other purchases and external expenses	4784	3531	Product related to the projects	26083	18772
Purchase of administrative supplies	18		Circus + / CTF in Action	26083	18772
Rental of transportation means	132				
Insurance premiums	-89		Net sales	26083	18772
Accountancy fees	1625	489			
Advertisement - Publications for publics relations	32		Operating subsidies	18758	
Travel - employee transportation	1063	136	EACEA Structural grant	18758	
Travel - employee per diem	1387	1620	Other products	15645	21057
Post costs and telecommunication	415	763	Membership fees	15350	18900
Banking services	35	25	Transfer of operating costs	295	936
Other services - external services	167	498	Other (external work of the employee)		1221
Taxes		75			
Staff remuneration	25859	20849	Total revenues	60486	39829
Net wages LB	20149	20849			
Gross wages OM	5553				
Transportation allowance	157				
Social Security costs	24446	23586			
Charges PP+ONSS	22056	22306			
Subscription TFE	2133				
Health mutual	76				
Subscription to other welfare agencies	31				
Partena fees	150	1280			
Amortization on assets	521				
Amortization on assets (laptop)	521				
Total operating charges	55609	48041			
OPERATING RESULTS	4876	-8212			
Financial proceeds					
(investments in marketable securities)	2	10			

