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Caravan is an international youth and social circus network consisting of 35 circus schools from across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. Caravan advocates for the positive impact of youth and social circus. The network was established in 2008 by 6 European circus schools with a common goal to use social circus as an educational tool and to dedicate this work to groups from disadvantaged backgrounds with specific needs.

In 2019 Caravan continued to grow as a network and as a voice in the youth and social circus sector. Two general assemblies took place, full of energy from our members and funding was secured for two new European projects.

Caravan continued to receive financial support from the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). This support enabled Caravan to appoint a second team member to focus on communications.

We welcomed seven new circuses to our network: Circus Amersfoort (The Netherlands), Corragio Die Kulturanstifter (Germany), Cirquenciel (Lebanon), The Roundhouse (United Kingdom), Dublin Circus Project (Ireland), Circus Planeet (Belgium) and Phare Ponleu Selpak (Cambodia).
Our main mission is to build and strengthen the capacities of our members. We continued our successful training for trainers programme with 2 more programmes, hence training 44 new trainers from 16 members. The launch of two new projects, Circus ++ and Circus as Intercultural Encounter, enabled the netowrk to take important steps towards achieving its mission.

Circus++ is a project between four universities and five youth and social circus schools working together to develop the first research based european degree curriculum in youth and social circus. Circus as Intercultural Encounter
(CIE) is a research project identifying the main challenges and needs that social circus trainers face when working in intercultural settings. We have taken an exponential step this year with these two new projects.

Young people have always been the focus of our activities, and this year we tried to get them even more involved. A youth participation strategy was discussed at the Spring general assembly and then further developped thanks to our brilliant intern Sohvi Silius.
Caravan is an important resource for its members not only gathering and collecting data from the wider sector, but also supporting their actions towards better recognition in their local and national context. In 2019, by developing a new website we hoped to increase the visibility of our actions and become an essential platform for the youth and social circus sector.

In 2019 we organised 7 board meetings and 2 general assemblies. It was a pleasure to welcome so many members to our General Assembly meetings in Prague and Brussels The increased involvement of members created an exciting and dynamic space for ideas and partnerships. The general assemblies also gave us space to share ideas in working groups for ongoing and new projects.
With two staff members we were able to represent our members and our cause at 12 international events all over the world.
2019 was also the final year with our amazing Development Manager Ophélie Mercier and Communications and Projects Coordinator Susan Burnell. Caravan board and membership would like to thank both Ophélie and Susan for everything they've done during their time with Caravan and wish them both all the very best for their future adventures. See you down the road!

The future looks bright for us In 2020, as we move back to home in Belgium with a brand new Development Manager, Camille Henry. We have also voted in four new board members, bringing new energy to the network.
Vincent Wauters - President of Caravan Youth and Social Circus Nework

## OUR TEAM

## Coordination



Ophélie Mercier Development Manager


Susan Burnell Communications and Projects Coordinator


Sohvi Silius Intern - Youth Participation

## Board Members



Vincent Wauters President Ecole de Cirque Bruxelles, Belgium


Ulla Hokkanen Treasurer Galway Community Circus, Ireland


Taina Kopra
Board Member
Sorin Sirkus, Finland


Elefterios Kechagioglou Board Member
Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, France


Dennis Wezenberg Board Member Zaltimbanq, Luxembourg

## OUR OBJECTIVES

## 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
- Professionalise 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 practices
- Operate on local, national and international level
- Promote the inclusion of circus arts in formal and non-formal education


## 2019 in Numbers



## Our meetings

## Board Meetings

Caravan organised 7 board meetings in 2019 The purpose of these meetings is to provide support and guidance to the two team members and to ensure the decisions taken at general assemblies are realised and high quality governance achieved.

The meetings also offer a opportunity for new ideas, project development and to ensure the strategic plan is being delivered.
$>$ Thursday 31st January in Paris
> Friday 22nd March in Paris
$>$ Saturday 25th of May in Galway
> Monday 17th of June in Brussels
> Thursday 5th of September in Dublin
$>$ Tuesday 22nd of October in Auch
$>$ Monday 16th of December in Brussels


## Spring General Assembly

Prague, Czech Republic, 14-15 February 2019
17 people representing 11 Caravan member organisations were hosted by CIRQUEON in Prague for the Spring General Assembly. This meeting took place alongside Cirkopolis festival organised by our hosting member CIRQUEON. The members discussed future projects, setting the basis for Circus ++ and brainstormed on their needs and challenges regarding developing youth participation.

The members also discussed their vision and expectation from the network and how we can develop tools to better fit with their needs. We tried to collectively answer: What does it mean to be a Caravan member? What do members want Caravan to become in the future?

We highlighted the importance of making Caravan a network of organisations strongly connected to each other but with the objective to continue its development and growth in a sustainable way.

## Autumn General Assembly

Brussels, Belgium, 12-13 October 2019
19 people representing 13 Caravan member organisations came together in Brussels for the Autumn General Assembly. Members provided updates on their new projects, reinforcing the strong connections among themselves.

This meeting was the occasion to present to the members the two big projects that started in September 2019 : Circus ++ and Circus as Intercultural Encounter.

A representative of the Bureau International de la Jeunesse of the European Solidarity Corps gave the members a presentation on the new platform for European volunteer exchanges, a scheme that the network wants to promote.

The participants had the opportunity to discuss the following topics in small groups
> Caravan sustainability strategy
> Youth participation
> Youth mobility


## Advocacy

Cirque de Demain Club PRO Paris, France, 1 February

Caravan took part in the Club Pro of the Cirque de Demain where the network presented three examples of how circus pedagogy lies at the heart of our social circus projects. In the framework of the Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain, among professionals from the circus sector, Vincent Wauters (Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles) presented the Formation Pedagogique, Taina Kopra (Sorin Sirkus) presented social circus projects organised by Sorin Sirkus and finally Ophélie Mercier highlighted projects organised with newly arrived migrants within the network.


Play Perform Learn and Grow Thessaloniki Greece, 4th-6th October

Play Perform Learn and Grow (PPLG) brought together educators and researchers, therapists, social scientists, artists, psychologists and movement practitioners, social and youth workers, performance activists and community organisers. Together, they explored methodologies that support educational, artistic and community initiatives to discover dialectics in between polarities, capture complexities, articulate and perform new kinds of relationships.

Within the 200 workshops possibilities, Caravan offered the only workshop highlighting circus arts practice as contributing to community building and social and personal development.

## Communique Annual Meeting

 Bonn, Germany, 9-10 JulyCommunique is a network for communications managers working for European networks (other members include IETM, European Music Council, Circostrada). Susan attended their annual meeting in Bonn, Germany in June and was able to gain many useful insights in network management for Caravan. Susan has been asked to be part of the steering group to arrange a circus-focused communications meeting nex June in Paris in collaboration with Circostrada.

## Advocacy



Annual Circus Works Conference Bristol, United Kingdom, 4th- 6th October

Organised by youth circus network CircusWorks and hosted at Circomedia, this was the largest UK gathering of youth and social circus professionals in the year. A highly interactive conference with interesting and challenging contributions from local, national and international organisations. Susan represented the European element of the conference and presented Caravan and our projects. Susan also ran a session with Kevin Wratten from Roundhouse on youth participation and Ulla Hokkanen from Galway Community Circus ran a session on youth exchanges. It was a great opportunity for Caravan to build connections in the youth and social circus sector in the United Kingdom.

Fresh Circus, Circus is Everywhere Auch, France, 22-24 October

Co-organised by Circostrada and Circa Auch, this 3-day conference gathered 600 European and international professionals who are currently working to develop circus arts in Europe and around the world. Altro Circo, Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles, Fekat Circus, Galway Community Circus and the Palestinian Circus School presented their work highlighting the strong connexions they have developed with heir local context. Besides, Ilaria Bessone and Ophélie presented the European project "Circus as Intercultural encounter" in the framework of circus researchers' conference organised by the "collectif de chercheur.es sur le cirque". This event was a great opportunity to put the spotlight on the importance of youth and social circus in the world and the necessity to consider it within the circus arts sector as importantly as professional artistic practices.


## Other events

Trans Europe Halles, Creative Lense, Paris, 5 March | Caravan attended this workshop on sustainability for arts organisations

- Fresh street \#3 Galway, 22-24 May | Galway Community Circus launched their important european project Wires Crossed
- Clown Sans Frontière, 21 September | Caravan facilitated discussion between Clown Sans Frontière and Fekat Circus in Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde highlighting important multilateral cooperation projects within the social circus community
European Foundations Centre Conference, Paris, 28-30 May | Caravan attended and networked with foundations

As part of our ongoing advocacy work we also provided statements of support to our members.

## Caravan International Youth and Social Circus Network - Statement

 Galway Community Circus and the Irish Insurance Crisis4 December 2019

## Urgent call for international support for Galway Community Circus School

Caravan International Youth and Social Network is devastated to learn that Galway Community Circus (GCC) has had to cancel classes for their 650 young people and that the future of the organisation is threatened by Ireland's insurance crisis.

Due to the national withdrawal of underwriters, Irish organisations are facing the impossible scenario of not getting quotes or cover for their practices. This crisis is causing the closure of many organisations across the country. GCC is being damagingly affected by this and has only been able to secure one quote for insurance cover for $€ 23,890$. Unfortunately, this excludes any aerial acrobatics or any activity above 1.5 m - a key element of their activities.

Full statement available here

## Brexit statement

In 2008 Caravan was set up by 6 European circus schools sharing the common objective to promote circus practices in youth education across Europe. Since then, the network and many of our projects have been generously supported by the EU programme Erasmus ${ }^{+}$. We therefore have a strong belief in the power of Europe to create and support brilliant youth and social circus projects.

Now in 2020 we are a truly international network, gathering 35 members accross the world including Spain, Italy, Slovenia, United Kingdom, Ethiopia, Germany, Israel, Sweden, Czech Republic, Belgium, Ireland, Finland, Switzerland, Guadeloupe, Russia, Afghanistan, Luxembourg, France, Turkey, South Korea, South Africa and Palestine.

It's through international collaborations and exchanges that we've learnt the most from our peers and strengthened our knowledge in working with young people and socially disadvantaged people, discovered the most wonderful things about other cultures, and had the most fun!

Full statement available here

## Circus as Intercultural Encounter

## Project Description

Circus as Intercultural Encounter (CIE) is a research project identifying the main challenges and needs that social circus trainers face when working in intercultural settings. The research evaluates meanings of diversity, interculturality and power relations in the interaction between social circus trainers and students, and good practices in the engagement of diversity.

Through the engagement of practice-led and arts-based research, CIE will develop and disseminate a training programme of innovative skills and best practices of intercultural dialogue necessary for effective anti-racism and social inclusion. The six partner circus schools, along with the international network for youth and social circus, Caravan; and the University College Dublin, will be involved in the design and completion of the research, contributing with their knowledge and experiences working with circus in intercultural contexts

CIE will lead to the development of a training programme that builds the intercultural skills of circus trainers and organisations. Starting with circus programmes involving newly arrived migrant and refugee youth, the project will analyse what is needed to better foster the inclusion and participation of these vulnerable and marginalised social groups, ultimately contributing to wider efforts to tackle racism and discrimination.

This project is funded by the Erasmus + Luxembourg National Agency ANEFORE


## Partners

Altro Circo Circusplaneet
Palestinian Circus School
Sirkus Magenta
Skala Fuskabo
University College Dublin Zaltimbanq Caravan
"Through Caravan we also discovered that some of our interests and needs are shared by other circus organisations, and we imagined and drafted international projects together. One of them has recently been funded, Circus as Intercultural Encounter. We'll be working with the network and some of its members for two years and we are very excited about this new challenge."

Illaria Bessone, Altro Circo

## Project Phases



Kick-off meeting - 22-23 September 2019 - Brussels Belgium
The project coordinators from each partner met in Brussels to agree on the timeline, on the project's rationale and on the budget. This meeting set the strength of the consortium to launch this two-year project

Training for field researchers - 2-4 December 2019 - University College Dublin - Ireland
University College Dublin hosted this three-day training to provide the 6 field researchers from each circus school with innovative tools and methodologies to conduct field work. Alice Feldman, along with Rajinder Singh and the research coordination team designed this training to explore research methodologies using body exploration and alternative perspectives on how to see fieldwork and data collection. This process took place while supported by theoretical inputs from Alice Feldman's expertise in Anthropological methodology.

Next steps:
> Field research : Field researchers collect data from their local context, observing circus classes, conducting interviews and exploring innovative data collection methods
> Data Analysis : the Research Coordination Team along the field researchers analyse the data collected in the six countries
> Design of a training module for social circus trainers : based on the needs identified by the research, the team will design a training module to answer these needs. This module will be tested in a pilot session. Feedbacks received during this pilot will allow the team to prepare a finalised version of this training guidebook
> Public conference presenting the results: A conference will then be organised to present the results and show other similar projects taking place within the sector

## Circus ++

## Project Description

Circus++ Youth and Social Circus Arts - an innovative and inclusive education for Europe is based on research and cooperation between European universities and circus schools. The following four universities and five youth and social circus schools are involved and build together national teams for developing the main curriculum and national adaptations of it.

The project produces the very first research based European full-degree curriculum of 180 ECTS in EQF level 6 of Youth and Social Circus Pedagogy. The inclusion of five national implementation plans enables the project to respond to both the shortage of professionals and qualitative needs. It is possible for the future students either to carry out the studies in one European country or construct the whole study programme by choosing the suitable modules from the European offer. The programme includes a model for validation of prior formal, non formal and informal learning and a model for a personal study plan that supports both employability and mobility in Europe. The programme will be free of charge and available for all those universities and social circus schools who would like to expand and deepen their work into youth and social circus, or take advantage of it in their social or educational activities.

This project is funded by the Finnish Erasmus + National Agency

## Expected Project Outcomes

One European main curriculum and 5 national implementation plans of:

- Higher education, EQF level 6 curriculum of 180 ECTS Youth and Social Circus Pedagogy. The duration of the study programme is 3 years
- Model for recognition and validation of prior knowledge in youth and social circus pedagogy that entails formal, non-formal and informal learning.
- Model for a personal study plan in social circus pedagogy.
- After the project the study programme is available by mobility at least in the partner countries by combining single modules from the offer of the partner countries. The qualification will be granted by a university.
- The educational sector in Europe is aware of the new study programme incl. recognition and validation of prior learning and personal study plan model

10-11 October 2019 - Brussels Belgium - Preparation meeting
During this meeting the partners met in person, some of them for the first time. It was an important meeting to encounter each other and discuss the important basis and common language of this project. The partners introduced their organisation and their interest in this project enabling each of us to understand the variety of contexts in which this project will happen
The partners also agreed on the budget and on communications strategy to disseminate effectively the project through the coming 3 years.

12-13 December 2019 - Tampere Finland - Kick-off meeting
This meeting facilitated by Tampere University and Sorin Sirkus launched the research process regarding the constructions of the bachelor programme. Juggling between the common grounds of the partnership, the local realities, the circus school needs and the university institutional requirements, the partners discussed the foundations of the work each national team will now undertake.

Besides this meeting, a public launch of the project was also organised to share the project with circus practitioners from Finland. 50 people attended the presentation where all partners could introduce themselves and highlight the importance of this project from their organisations, either as a circus school or as universities or as the network.

## Young Caravan

Young people are an integral part of Caravan's activities. This year saw a particular focus on youth participation within the network. The exchange of young volunteers between our circus schools continues to provide exciting adventures and bring value to our circus schools
During 2019 we planned 3 youth exchanges which will take place in 2020


## Results

The report is based on a questionnaire sent to all the members of the network and interviews with both young people and adult organisers.

There is a big interest within the network. Members believe that young people should be listened to.

In some organisations youth participation is a large part of daily activities.
The most common way of participating is giving feedback to trainers, taking part in the creation of shows and volunteering.
Young people are moderately involved in planning the activities in member organisations

- There is a lack of time and financial resources.

Participation in decision making is not as common: only 3 circus schools out of 18 have a young member in the board.

Youth Participation

Sohvi Silius, from Finland, completed a internship with the Caravan team in 2019. Her mission was to undertake research in to the current state of youth partipation within the Caravan Network
The idea came from discussions in a working group during Caravan spring general assembly, organised in Prague 14-15 February 2019. The group discussing youth involvement pointed out that there is no information available on what activities the member organisations are already doing regarding youth participation, and what their attitudes are towards it


The report is available on Caravan's website

Lena Wulf, from Berlin, Germany completed a year in the Erasmus' European Voluntary Service (EVS), working as a circus trainer at Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde in France.
"I worked at Cabuwazi Tempelhof and was involved in projects with the volunteers and refugees. The EVS coordinator asked me if I could imagine doing a voluntary service in France, and I had already started to love working with children and I had started studying pedagogy. Erasmus and the association that sends you finances your housing, transport and some living costs.

I can recommend it to everybody. It's has so many positive effects. I really feel like part of the team and feel sad to leave. It's always like this with EVS, you have problem solving at the start and then you don't want to leave.


Cabuwazi said they're looking forward to having me back at the circus with all these new experiences. After my year working at PPCM I am now going to work for Cabuwazi as a circus teacher. My confidence has definitely grown in guiding a class of children. Next I'm going to do Caravan's Circus Trans Formation training for trainers and I hope I can experience more social circuses in the Caravan network and get some more inspiration."


Anouk Tournier, from France, spent two weeks volunteering at the social circus Skala in Ljubliana, Slovenia.
"I had the contact of Skala's association thanks to Caravan. Helping by an old map, I managed, somehow, to meet them ! Zef, the circus project manager, and all his team received me with open arms.
The circus school offers 2 social classes per week. It's open to everyone and free. Children are around 5 and 15 years old. Everyone comes to train and learn what he wants and teachers advise, help, guide them and share their knowledge.

It was during an afternoon in a poor neighborhood that I truly realized the importance of social work. 3 days a week the Skala's minibus is coming at 3pm at the foot of those big and grey buildings.

When we arrived, the weather was rainy and only one boy was waiting at us in the square. He helped us to take all the material out of the van : tables, chairs, games, table football, pens, balls, gas and coffee for mothers who will cook it and share it while children play!
During 3 hours, we played with them, spoke, animated workshops,... Kids know the team which is here to support them. It's like a big family and every time the minibus comes even if it's snowing or raining and the people from the neigborhood know it !
When this wonderful 6 years old girl came to me and hug me so strong, I realized how our work there was important !"

## Circus Trans Formation in Action 4

Our Circus Trans Formation In Action training programme is still at the core of Caravan's activity, and continues to develop new generations of social circus trainers. It's the outcome of a 5 -year European research carried out by 2 universities, 8 Caravan members and the Caravan office, resulting in the development of a framework of competences for social circus trainers.
We continue to use our Guidebook for Social Circus Trainers to teach social circus trainers across the world and produce international exchanges of ideas.
Circus Trans Formation in Action 4 concluded this year in December, creating a strong group of inspiring trainers, that continue to develop partnerships after the training.

Partners
Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, France Ecole De Cirque de Bruxelles, Belgium Sorin Sirkus, Finland Cabuwazi, Germany AltroCirco, Italy Cirkokrog, Slovenia Skala, Slovenia Galway Community Circus, Ireland Sirkhane, Turkey
Upsala Zirk, Russia CIRQUEON, Czech Republic

Participants
22 circus trainers


Activities

Module A: social context from 3-7 September 2018 in Berlin hosted by Cabuwazi
Module B: Act of teaching, from 7-11 January 2019 in Brussels hosted by Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles
Module C: Management/Steering of teaching, from 18-22 March 2019 in Bagneux hosted by Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde Module D/E: circus techniques \& creativity / foundations, from 3-7 June 2019 in Tampere hosted by Sorin Sirkus
"I started my youth circus journey in Sorin Sirkus when I was just 11 years old. I was offered the possibility to participate in Caravan's Circus Trans Formation training. That really opened my eyes to all the links between circus schools in Europe. "

Sohvi Silius, CTF4 Participant Sorin Sirkus, Finland


## Circus Trans Formation in Action 5

The fifth round of our training for social circus trainers programme kicked off in June in Tampere. We're looking forward to continuing working with our talented participants in 2020.

## Partners

Zaltimbanq', Luxembourg Galway Community Circus, Ireland Hringleikur, Iceland AltroCirco, Italy Sorin Sirkus, Finland CIRQUEON, Czech Republic Cirkokrog, Slovenia Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles, Belgium Metis Gwa, Guadeloup Belfast Community Circus School, United Kingdom

Participants
22 circus trainers

## Activities


odule A: social context from 10-14 June 2019 in Tampere (Finland) hosted by Sorin Sirkus Modukle B: Act of teaching, from 14-18 October 2019 in Brussels (Belgium) hosted by Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles
Module C: Management/Steering of teaching, from 10-14 February 2020 in Luxembourg hosted by Zaltimbang'
Module D/E: circus techniques \& creativity / foundations , from 9-13 April 2020 in Prague (Czech Republic) hosted by Cirqueon
"I began my Circus journey over 10 years ago with Galway Community Circus. I fell in love with the sense of community and achievement and quickly decided that I had to work in his field. After working as an Aerial Tutor with the Irish Aeria Creation Centre I realised how much I loved oople of all aes and back how much I loved empowering Ir and ber Las lo d began my journey with CTF5 and it has been incredibly eye opening and valuable! have met so many wonderful people working in the same field with the same values as me. This experience has helped me enormously during my first social circus project which I have just completed and l'm really looking forward to the rest of the training.

Naomhan Joyce, Galway Community Circus Ireland


## Communication

This was our second year with recources in communciations. We were able to develop further the way that we connect our members and the way that we communicate to the outside world. Externally, we saw an increased awareness in Caravan and youth and social circus. We were contacted regularly by organisations and we were asked to speak at events.
After our first year with a communications strategy, we saw increased of engagement on our social media channels. We didn't have a large budget, but we maximised what we did have and used it to rebrand, build a new ebsite and develop our printed materials
We continued to improve internal communications, with our monthly newsletter and communications working group.

Key Communciations Projects 2019

## New website

We worked with two young people (Alice Toullec and Alex Craste) from Belleville Citoyenne in Paris to improve our website. The new website design aims to show the activ nature of the network. It's more dynamic, with social media feeds on the home page and an interactive map of members. The new resources section has already proved to be helpful to members. We also developed the volunteering section so that we could improve our work in connected volunteers in different countries.

## New branding and print

We updated our branding to look more modern while keeping with the Caravan red. We updated our prin materials, including the design of the Annual Report and he leaflet

## Digital statistics

11 newsletters. We began with 0 newslette subscribers and have built up the list to 926 . These are mainly contacts within the youth and social circus sector. All newsletter to be found here. We continued to post regularly on Facebook, increasing our followers and user engagement. We reached in 2019 2,562 combined followers on Twitter and Facebook.


The Ateneu Popular de Nou Barris (Ateneu) has been 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 means 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. Website: www.ateneu9b.net

## 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 seven team members and over 35 regular freelance trainers. 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.
Website: www.belfastcircus.org/news

## Cabuwazi

2017, CABUWAZI organised different circus festivals, a celebration of encounter beyond a
borders, languages and countries: CABUWAZI Altglienicke produced already for the third time the "Festival Circus 2:0", where circus shows next to live music and workshops where offered for people from the area and from Berlin in general.

The new CABUWAZI Tempelhof, which was opened in the summer and is placed at the Tempelhofer feld, organized the "Freedom of Movement Festival" with shows on the topic of forced migration and the freedom of movement for all people. Moreover, most of the five places of CABUWAZI intensified their work with refugees.
CABUWAZI showed its work with kids and youngsters also at other events based in Berlin. For example, CABUWAZI Marzahn curated the international children and youth festival at IGA Berlin 2017 - a festival of international garden design and green urban lifestyle.
In 2017, we also developed our international youth exchanges. CABUWAZI Treptow established the project "Learn to Upcycle" in Greece, where kids from Berlin and from Mirtos, a small town in Greece, worked together and created their one show. The project is a reaction on the situation in Greece and conveyed political topics trough art elements like dance,
theatre and circus.
Website: www.circusakademie.de

## Circusplaneet

Circusplaneet was founded in 1996 by a group of friends who believed in a better world, a place under the sun that unites people trough a common circus passion

Circusplaneet organises a lot of different activities: circuscourses, workshops, performances with youngsters, EVS, international Youth Exchanges, social neighbourhoodprojects. Circusplaneet has 1000 members. 14 people in the staff, about 20 freelance-teachers, about 40 very active volunteers. Through our activities we reach several thousands kids and youngsters each year.

Website: www.circusplaneet.be

## Cirkus Cirkör

Cirkus Cirkör arranges term courses and workshops in schools for over 25000 children and youths and has a number of activities for residents in their municipality. Cirkus Cirkör's production Epifónima, found its inspiration in women's voices, endeavors, ways of creating and organizing themselves. Epifónima, which means" exclamation" in Greek, toured 2018-2019 with 102 shows for 47430 people in the audience.
"Clearly, we have already witnessed the havoc that war wreaks and the deadlock it leads to! In this production, we want to explore what happens if we break up the traditional hierarchies, think in circles rather than right angles, look one another in the eye instead of up and down, walk side by side rather than single file." Tilde Björfors, Cirkus Cirkör's founder and artistic director.

Website: www.cirkor.se

## CIRQUEON

CIRQUEON 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 cente There is a library available which collects Czech and foreign publications, articles and DVD' 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.Fo
Website: www.cirqueon.cz

## Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles

The Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (ECB) has forged, through almost 40 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 globa competences and tools. Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles offers specific training programmes, such as the internationally recognised training Circus Arts Training: La Formation
PDdagogique, acquisition of a complete package of teaching skills, as well as an in-depth knowledge of circus art. In 2010, ECB created "Le Centre EuropDen de Funambulisme", which offers tightrope walking trainings and performances throughout Europe.

Website: www.ecbru.be

## Galway Community Circus



Galway Community Circus is Ireland's flagship organisation for youth and social circus, located in the heart of Galway City with a local, national and international remit. Their mission is to unlock personal and creative potential and deliver social inclusion for young people through circus arts. Through our ground-breaking programmes and high-quality productions, Galway Community Circus has proven itself to be a cradle of artistic excellence and educational innovation in Ireland, working with over 650 young people from diverse backgrounds every week.

Website: www.galwaycommunitycircus.com

## 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 in the field of youth and social circus, street performances, partnership 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 901000 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.
Website: www.lepluspetitcirquedumonde.fr

## Sorin Sirkus

Sorin Sirkus is a youth circus from Tampere Finland, established in 1985. Their main objective is to maintain, enhance and develop circus studies for children and young people. Sorin Sirkus has been giving basic education of circus arts since 1993. Currently the circus school has around 500 students aged from 4 to 20 years, that are gathered weekly to practise variety of circus disciplines. Sorin Sirkus offers a broad variety of social circus workshops to youth at risk and short term courses and camps from small children to adults. Sorin Sirkus is a forerunner in the field of Finnish youth and social circus. Its active working both domestically and internationally is one of its main assets.
Sorin Sirkus organises diverse activities from youth circus schools to social circus and work welfare workshops and all the way to festivals and camps as well as productions of performances in different lengths. We also operate actively to develop circus arts, pedagogy and youth work both at municipal and national levels.
Sorin Sirkus was granted with a State Prize in the field of Children's Culture in 2010 and the Ministry of Education and Culture appointed it the Finnish Young Cultural Ambassadors in 2008 and 2009. Sorin Sirkus has been nominated as a National Development and Service Center of Youth Work by the Ministry of Education and Culture in Finland 2010-2017.

Website: www.sorinsirkus.fi

## Ton sur Ton

For the past 18 years, the foundation Ton sur Ton, based in La Chaux-de-Fonds, has provided full and lively academic teaching to the students of the Bern-Jura-NeuchDtel region (Switzerland) in the disciplines of Jazz, Modern Music, Theater, Contemporary Dance and Circus Arts.

In the discipline of Circus Arts, the Ton sur Ton circus school provides weekly lessons to 240 students from 2,5 -year-old toddlers to adults. These students are taught by professional teachers.

In parallel to the recreational and the pre-professional teachings, the Ton sur Ton foundation initiated in 2016 the program Art Sans Frontilure. It is a participatory mediation and social circus program that aspires to use circus, dance, theater and music as integration and personal development tools. Art Sans FrontiIre favors a concrete, real and participatory access to performing arts and is facilitated by professionals.

It also raises awareness ofthe profession of performing arts of dancers, actors, musicians and circus professionals related to the Ton sur Ton foundation.

Website: www.tonsurton.ch/cirque

## Upsala Circus

Upsala-Circus Center for the New Circus combines socio-cultural, educational and art-projects for children and adults.
Their main goal is to develop new circus in Russia making it a known and
understandable art trend. Upsala Circus raises the cultural level of the whole society by developing creative potential of its members and inspiring their desire to contribute.
They believe that contemporary art cannot be separated from life itself, its different aspects and all the different people around us. This is why they alway invite their project's participants to be actively involved in the creative process and become co-authors.
Website: www.upsalacircus.ru/en/home

## Zaltimbanq' Zirkus

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, trapezel) and performing group workshops. Furthermore there is an open training space once a week.
school also provides workshops for chilaren and/or aduls win foreign teachers during school holidays and on weekends, social circus projects (prison, disadvantaged neighbourhoods, mentally and physically challenged people, $\mathbb{Z}$ ) and performances for different audiences. Every year 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 from their parents and friends."

Website: www.zaltimbanq.Iu

## Associate Members

## CIAM (Centre International des Arts en Mouvement)

CIAM
Founded in 2012 in Aix-en-Provence, the International Center for Arts in Motion is a composite structure dedicated to circus arts in Provence, which vocation is to make a large public discover the diversity and the richness of circus arts in a pluridisciplinary and innovative perspective. From the beginning, innovation is in the DNA of the institution. The CIAM actively fosters reflexion and creativity in circus arts and in the cultural world by organizing several workshops, conferences and meetings.

Website: www.artsenmouvement.fr

## Circus Amersfoort

Circus Amersfoort (CA) was founded in 2004 by a dozen acrobats. They learned the necessary circus skills in a short time by organizing teacher training courses for themselves. All CA teachers work on an voluntary basis.
CA started their activities in a rented gym hall with a group of 35 members and now, in 2020 the circus has 185 members, lots of circus equipment, their own (rented) location and about 18 teachers. Many of who were circus kids themselves and trained to be teachers following our own internal educational program.
CA organizes circus lessons for kids, youths and adults from the age of 6 . This is their main source of business. Since a couple of years CA also caters for youths with a mental or physical disability.

In November 2010, CA started with the refurbishment of an old train warehouse located centrally in Amersfoort and (obviously) close to the railway station. It took two years to completely finish it thanks to a grand from Amersfoort Council and many sponsors.

Website: www.circusamersfoort.n

## Cirkokrog

The Association for Circus Pedagogy -Cirkokrog- is a nongovernmental nonprofit association that is developing and working in the field of circus pedagogy, youth and social circus in Slovenia since 2005. Cirkokrog uses circus activities to stimulate creative expression,
cooperation, connectedness, education, empowerment, promotion and activation of children, youth and other groups.

They are active with youth and social circus programs held in schools, multicultural schools, (re)educational homes for children and youth, asylum homes, student homes, youth centers and elsewhere. They also organize international youth exchanges and street circus projects in depriviliged communities. They aim to create mixed communities and create bridges between different groups of people

Cirkokrog's focus is to develop and cherish youth and social circus programs based on the empowerment of youth, inclusion of deprivileged groups, culture animation and community work.

Website: www.cirkokrog.com

## Cirquenciel, Beirut

Established in 2001, Cirquenciel became the first circus school in Lebanon and the Middle East. It promotes intercultural dialogue and helps youth at risk find a professional path. Cirquenciel works toward an environment free of any discrimination and aims at spreading peace through circus arts.
On April 7th, 2016, Cirquenciel opened its own dedicated space in Jisr el Wati, Beirut (Lebanon), with its own school that hosts classes, workshops and events to build a community centered around circus, arts and movement. These three aspects of cirquenciel's educational approach have proven to boost the physical, cognitive and social developments of the beneficiaries. Students work in a spirit of joy, cooperation, peace, and unity.
Within the local community, Cirquenciel runs many projects that serve the purpose of integration, artistic vocational training, and other soft skills that are essential to one's feeling of belonging in society
Website: www.arcenciel.org/activities/cirquencie

## Compagnie des Contraires

Created in Paris in 1991 by Neusa Thomasi, the association creates cultural and educational international activities linking theatre, circus, community education and training. Compagnie des Contraires includes works with youth in marginalized neighborhoods. through its circus school, theatre troupe and educative space.

La Compagnie Des Contraires' mission is also to support and train municipalities, artists and socio-cultural institutions to implement and stage performances locally in order to reinforce the competences in dealing with young people and the specific local issues that they face.
Website: www.compagniedescontraires.com

## Coraggio Die Kulturanstifter

Coraggio - Die Kulturanstifter is an association for cultural education founded in Berlin in 2019. Coraggio works with performing arts - circus, theatre, dance and music - using them to create a world of experience and education for children and young people. Coraggio implements holistic education and promotes the participation of children and young people in cultural, social and political life Since 2019, Coraggio is running cooperations with schools in three different neighborhoods of Berlin. In those primary and secondary schools, the children can take part in weekly circus and dance groups, during class and as after-school-activity. As newly-founded organization, Coraggio aims to widen its activities in youth work, cooperation with schools and pre-schools, support for families, further education and cultural events.

Website: www.kulturanstifter.de

## Dublin Circus Project Dublin, Ireland

Dublin Circus Project is a non profit, member-based organisation, working to bring circus arts to life in Dublin and beyond. They by provide a dedicated training centre, offering adult and youth circus education, and host circus events as well as performances in Dublin.

Founded in 2009, they have a dedicated management team voted in by their members. Their members vary from full time circus performers to emerging circus artists to hobbyists engaging in a fun fitness alternative.

Website: www.dublincircusproject.com

## Fekat Circus

Fekat Circus, blossoming circus in Amharic, was started in 2004 in the outskirts of Addis Ababa, by a group of young Ethiopians united by deep passion for circus.

Today, Fekat circus comprises of 30 professional artists who perform in Ethiopia and abroad. Besides staging professional shows, Fekat Circus spreads the circus arts in the capital through its circus school and outreach programme.
Since 2009 Fekat Circus has been running a clown-doctor project called the Smile Medicine at pediatric ward of the largest referral hospital in the country.
With the aim of developing the circus sector within Ethiopia and African continent, Fekat circus facilitates capacity building, exchange programme and networking opportunities for young local and international circuses.

In the African circus scene, Fekat Circus is playing an important role in strengthening crosscontinental ties by initiating and organising the African Circus Arts Festival. The first edition took place in 2015. In 2018 the second edition inaugurated the first circus tent in the horn of Africa.

Website: www.fekatcircus.com

## Israel Circus School

The Israel Circus School (ICS) 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 a project funded by 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. Website: www.circusschool.org.il

## Hringleikur

Hringleikur is a new Icelandic circus company that aims to promote Icelandic circus culture
The members of Hringleikur come from a variety of backgrounds, but they all share a passion for the circus arts and building a diverse circus culture in Iceland.
The group runs a youth circus school and are looking to expand their training program for new and experienced Icelandic circus students. Artists in Hringleikur come from various backgrounds, including gymnastics, drama and dance, as well as education in circus schools abroad, such as at the Codarts Art Academy in Rotterdam and AFUK in Copenhagen. The group has worked together for many years under the name of Sirkus Island.
Website: www.sirkusislands.is

## L'Art d'En Faire

L'Art d'En Faire is a circus school and a non-profit organisation working on youth and social circus, and using circus as a tool for education. It was set up in 2008 in South Ardèche, France.

LArt den Faire have several compatible activities, in the city of Aubenas and in remote rura areas in the surroundings:

- circus school for inhabitants
- circus in school (primary and secondary)
- circus as educational extracurricular activities with partner
- circus and disability: workshops and trainings with special institutes, integration, mixed projects" (participants with and without disabilities)
- circus, citizenship and youth resources

Their projects aim to create social cohesion between inhabitants, in urban districts and rura areas, with circus as a bond. They work with many partners and want to be active in the local development of South Ardèche, on educational, social and cultural aspects.
Since 2018, L'Art d'En Faire experiments a new way of working: thanks to their chapter tent they work on projects for 2-3 months on various locations in Ardèche (suburbs of a city, deep countrysides...), preparing every project with local educational - social - cultural partners, proposing all the activities named above.
Website: www.lartdenfaire.com

## Metis Gwa

Metis Gwa is an association from Guadeloupe. It believes in 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 and society through creation, training, spreading and employment

Website: www.metisgwa.com

## Mobile Mini Circus for Children

MMCC (Mobile Mini Circus for Children) is a leading social circus organization working for and with vulnerable children and youth in challenged societies. Through social circus, they improve social skills and facilitate a sense of belonging to the society. The key elements of their pedagogy and works are: children's participation, facilitation, local ownership, sustainability, and cost efficiency.
MMCC has reached over 3.6 million audience and workshop participants in Afghanistan since 2002. It established "Afghan Educational Children Circus" as its satellite organization which implements and carries on the activities in Afghanistan. With 15 years of experience, a very unique pedagogy, a range of developed systems of initiating, implementing, administrating, monitoring and supervisions, MMCC is now reaching other countries to support similar initiatives and provide its unique capacities to the world.
Website: www.afghanmmcc.org

## Palestinian Circus Schoo

Palestinian Circus School (PCS) teaches circus to children and youth between 6 and 20 years old (some older students). They have an average of 300 students per year in all weekly circus clubs in different locations and for different groups through the country: Ramallah, Birzeit, AI Jalazon refugee camp, Al Fara refugee camp, Jenin, Star Mountain and Red Crescent centre for people with disabilities, as well as Jenin girl's rehabilitation centre
Appart from weekly circus clubs, they organize yearly summer camps for students and teach in other summer camps where they 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 PCS contributes to create a more inclusive society

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

They are also founding member, together with 11 other Palestinian organisations, of the Palestinian Performing Arts Network with aims to raise awareness and support for performing arts among the palestinian society and to lobby palestinian authorities and international donors to support a genuine independent performing arts movement.

Website: www.palcircus.ps/en/content/home

## Phare Ponleu Selpak <br> Phare Ponleu Selpak

Phare Ponleu Selpak (PPS) is a Cambodian non-profit arts school located in Battambang offering support to children, youth and the surrounding communities through artistic, educational and social support programmes.
Over 1,000 students are empowered every year through our schools and programmes; performing, visual and applied arts, leisure classes and vocational training, allowing children and young adults to develop their creativity, communication, concentration and life skills and access a sustainable artistic career whilst preserving and promoting Cambodian arts, heritage and culture.
Website: https://phareps.org

## Seoul Street Arts Creation Center

Seoul Street Arts Creation Center (SSACC) is the first street arts and circus base camp for production, practice, education, and distribution in South Korea.
SSACC is located in Gwangjin-gu, Seoul. Among other activities, SSACC focuses on art education through programs, such as: circus Arts Playground, Workshop for lecturers in Circus Arts or 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.
Website: www.ssacc.or.kr/en

## The Roundhouse


The Roundhouse is a hub of inspiration where artists and emerging talent create extraordinary work and where young people can grow creatively as individuals. Roundhouse believe in the power of creativity to change lives. Each year, they give thousands of $11-25$-year-olds the chance to develop their skills and confidence through creativity in music, media and performance projects, including circus. They inspire them to reach further, dream bigger, and achieve more.
Website: https://www.roundhouse.org.uk/

## Sirkhane

Sirkhane is a Social Circus School founded by Art Anywhere Association in 2012 in South Eastern Anatolia. Sirkhane mission is to provide safe, friendly and embracing environment for children, who are effected by conflicts.
Sirkhane Social Circus School is carrying out activities continuously in Turkey and Iraq. Website: www.heryerdesanat.org

## Sirkus Magenta

Sirkus Magenta is a non-profit social circus association based in Helsinki, Finland. They use circus as a tool to promote mental and physical well-being, social inclusion, equality and involvement. Sirkus Magenta works with special needs children, youth at risk, families in crisis the disabled, the elderly, refugees and anyone at risk of social exclusion.
In addition, they teach circus for families, adults and kids in 25 hobby groups every week. In 2013 Magenta established a circus school with Finn Church Aid at Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan. Young Syrian trainers educated by Magenta are now teaching circus for large groups of girls and boys living in the camp.
Magenta reaches about 200 special needs customers and 400 hobbyists weekly. Yearly over 9000 people participate in Magenta's circus activities.

Website: sirkusmagenta.fi

## Skala, Fuskabo

The dynamic started in 2013 in the streets of Ljubljana with a circus workshopin the framework of the street program "Minibus of Joy". Due to its increased interest, the project moved to weekly closed indoor structured activities. The target groups are children and youths from 6 to 18 years who come from different parts of Ljubljana, each with their own needs, depending on their family, social and economic environment. Most of them are users with less opportunity. Most of Fuskabo's activities are free of charge. They also include volunteers who are coming from different fields such as social pedagogy, sport, culture, etc. In the next school year 2019/2020 they are planning to establish a circus school that will offer a unique, high-quality and structured educational program to the local environment. Fuskabo is part of the non-governmental organization Skala, which has been working for 24 years in the field of youth street education. In addition to Fuskabo, the organization carries out a street program through its Minibus of joy, sports activities, music group, daily center, summer camps etc. It has over 200 users in mentioned activities above.

Website: www.facebook.com/fuskabo

## Zip Zap Circus School

Zip Zap was founded in Cape Town in 1992 to inspire young people and help building a new culture of peaceful coexistence in South Africa. Working with a diverse community of children from all backgrounds, Zip Zap helps kids to 'dare to dream' and learn to make those dreams a reality. Zip Zap's 10 different programs are all free (between $1^{\prime} 500$ and $2^{\prime} 000$ each year), with financial and material support coming from individuals, organization, corporations and foundations.

The Zip Zap children have performed for presidents and world leaders. They have done 35 international tours and numerous international media showcases. Young people who grew up on the streets are now skilled and valued artists and technicians in the entertainment and film industries. Best of all, these kids have become teachers themselves. They are ambassadors and role models for others, demonstrating dramatically to young people and the wider public the possibility of a new way of treating each other

Website: www.zip-zap.co.za


