

THE
CIRCUS
HUB



YOUTH CIRCUS 2025

ADVANCED TRAINING
PROGRAMME

Course Information



The Youth Circus programme – Our advanced training course for young talents

Youth Circus is our preparatory programme for tertiary education in circus arts through which we support talented and passionate young students to start their circus journey. Practicing circus is a lot more than just learning acrobatics; it is also about cultivating mental abilities such as resilience and courage, and learning how to push past fears to express oneself.

Lifted by the success of Cirque du Soleil and other contemporary circus companies, the circus arts have exploded in popularity around the globe in the last decades, and are now seen as a viable and exciting career. Youth Circus offers young talents a pathway to realize this dream by building strong foundations.

While our course aims to challenge the students, having fun will always remain at the core of the course. We strongly feel that it is possible to push our own barriers physically and creatively while respecting the body and mind, and having a good time with friends.

Commitment as a core value

Learning new skills require dedication and perseverance. This is why the ability to commit is an essential condition to be a student in Youth Circus. We believe that it is important for students to understand how their behavior affects their training results and the other students in the group. This includes being present and arriving on time to all classes, participating and doing your best during training, and learning how to set achievable yet challenging goals.

Combining technical and artistic training

All students attend three sessions per week (7 hours in total) at our Circus Hub facilities in Newtown, during which they:

- Train their fitness level and flexibility
- Learn acrobatic skills (such as handbalancing, floor acrobatics, partnered acrobatics, aerials, juggling, and equilibristics), and
- Develop artistic skills (such as dance, acting, act creation, and devising).

The students aged 14 to 18 years old are scheduled an extra 2 hours of training per week to train a specialty skill of their choice. Our trainers accompany them from the selection of their specialty skill to the creation and performance of a solo piece.

Training schedule

Tuesday & Thursday 4:30pm - 6:30pm: All students

Tuesday 6:30pm - 7:30pm: 14-18 years old (specialty)*

Saturday 9am to 12pm: All students

*14-18 year olds also get a second training period in the form of a class credit or private lesson; conditions apply

Performance opportunities

As they progress through the course, there will be opportunities for students to create acts and gain performance experience. Youth Circus are often invited to perform at community events, which are fantastic opportunities to put newfound skills into practice. In some cases, extra rehearsals may be scheduled outside of regular training times to prepare for the event without compromising their training.

Supporting our students in their training

We are committed to providing a positive training environment for our students to learn in. Our Lead trainer will accompany each student to set their personal training goals and support them in their journey. Youth Circus students will also receive the following benefits:

WINTER INTENSIVE TRAINING CAMP

A full week of intensive training during winter school holidays! A great opportunity to focus on circus and have fun creating with the group.

DISCOUNTS ON CLASSES

Students will receive 50% discount on any classes offered at the Circus Hub, including kids & teens classes, adults' classes for students 14+ and school holiday programme. Perfect for those who can't get enough!

FREE PRACTICE CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Students aged 14 years and older will also receive a free year of Practice Club membership (value of \$500) to access our open training sessions.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

There will be opportunities to gain basic teaching experience by assisting our trainers during our school holiday programme and community workshops.

YOUTH CIRCUS AUDITIONS

All students must audition to join Youth Circus. Auditions will be held in March, then again in Nov/Dec for 2026 students. Beginner students are welcome to apply, as well as students with prior experience in other art form or sports.

The candidates will be assessed on a number of criteria, including:

- Attitude
- Acrobatic level and potential
- Fitness level (strength and flexibility)
- Ability to work in group and think creatively.

Applicants can choose to demonstrate their skills in a one-minute showcase, which they are welcome to perform live at the auditions, or send as a video.

This is completely optional.

Finally, there will be a short interview with our trainer and assessors.

HOW TO APPLY

Candidates can apply by filling the application form on our website.

**[circus.org.nz/
youth-circus](https://circus.org.nz/youth-circus)**

Send us an email at info@circus.org.nz to learn more about the course, talk to our Youth Circus lead trainer, and watch a class!

IMPORTANT DATES

Auditions for 2025 Intake
Sunday 16 March, 1-4pm
At the Circus Hub
11 Hutchison Rd, Newtown
Wellington

2025 Intake Announced
Tuesday 18 March



Pricing for 2025

10 to 13 years old

\$55/week

'24 rollover troupers: 40 weeks (\$2,200 for full year)

'25 new troupers: 30 weeks (\$1,650 for full year)

14 to 18 years old

\$75/week

'24 rollover troupers: 40 weeks (\$3,000 for full year)

'25 new troupers: 30 weeks (\$2,250 for full year)

Winter Intensive (optional)

\$170 per student (20 hours)

If additional rehearsal is needed to prepare for a show, it will be free of charge.

Payment plans are available.

Calendar

The programme will run for a total of 40 weeks in 2025.

Term 1 ('24 rollover troupers) 3 Feb to 13 Apr (10 weeks)

April holidays 2 weeks off from 14 - 27 Apr

Term 2 (All troupers) 28 Apr to 29 Jun (9 weeks)

July holidays 2 weeks off from 30 Jun - 13 Jul

Winter Intensive (optional) 7 - 11 Jul, 3pm to 7pm

Term 3 14 Jul to 21 Sep (10 weeks)

Sep-Oct holidays 2 weeks off from 22 Sep - 5 Oct

Term 4 6 Oct - 21 Dec (11 weeks*)

*Youth Circus continues for an extra week in December to accommodate the shorter-than-usual Term 2