

SHEER VERVE

## Expanding the Arts CircusWest Needs Additional Space

After more than 30 years of training circus artists and delivering performances, CircusWest is expanding programming and offerings to new venues while continuing to grow collaborations and partnerships.

To do this, we need additional space.



## **Additional Space Needs**

- Minimum 40 ft x 100 ft (12 m x 30 m) unobstructed level floor space
- Minimum 24 ft (7 m) ceiling height
- Exposed ceiling (not a dropped ceiling) with 500 lb (227 kg) per point capacity for training and performance rigging\*
- Two multi-stall washrooms, change rooms (wheelchair accessible)
- Loading bay or large door for equipment access
- Ability to seat 350 audience members
- Reception, lobby and box office area (around 300 sq ft or 28 m<sup>2</sup>)
- Parking available on site or nearby
- Accessible by transit
- Security system or equivalent (e.g., fenced, controlled entrance point or security guards)
- Secure storage area

\*Alternatively an interior structural frame, independent of the roof structure, could be erected within the building shell to support rigging.

CircusWest makes the impossible possible. More than art, CircusWest is a community – a meeting place of acrobatics, dance, theatre, sports, music and performance. Our classes range from circus arts fundamentals to comprehensive professional circus artist training and preparation.

Training is tailored to the individual artistic athlete while supporting them to be part of a larger ensemble in the community.

## Inspire, Educate, Entertain.

CircusWest is BC's circus leader. We develop skills, build confidence, and inspire passion through circus arts training and performance. Our programs offer safe, non-competitive environments for participants of all ages and socio-economic groups. Our programs include:

- Circus arts training: CirKids (our popular child and youth program), specialty classes and programs for adults and teens, circus day camps, and circus workshops for schools, events and businesses.
- Performances at public, community and corporate events
- Collaborations with arts, learning and performance groups

CircusWest engages diverse communities and is accessible to all ages and abilities.



### Western Canada's Circus Arts Leader

Circus is growing in popularity around the world and circus companies are flourishing. Cirque de Soleil for example, employs hundreds of performers and thousands of staff, staging performances around the world, and generates annual revenues in excess of \$800 million. Cirque de Soleil and other circus companies rely on professionally trained performers and staff, creating a demand for more circus schools to train emerging talents. Countless independent schools around the world offer circus arts training and education, and some countries—including Canada, the US, UK, France, and Australia—have established national circus schools.

Our not-for-profit organization generates 95% of its own income, with the other 5% coming from grants and donations. This high level of self-sufficiency reflects the growing popularity of circus, and CircusWest's standing within the many communities we serve. Numerous CircusWest graduates have pursued full-time circus studies in Canada and throughout the world. Several have become featured artists with Cirque de Soleil and other companies.

#### **Everyone's Joining The Circus**

CircusWest has grown exponentially since we moved into our current home at the PNE Garden Auditorium in 2003. Since then, we have grown 6 times in size. Now, we need more space to continue to grow and expand.

CircusWest Performing Arts Society is a not-for-profit registered charity founded in 1984.

# Dream Big with Us!



## **Space Needs Initiative**

Due to exponential growth since moving into the PNE Gardens, CircusWest is looking to develop a satellite location to expand our recreational, performance and professional programming, and to use as a performance venue for cabarets, events, and productions.

A new space will allow us to increase programming and continue to build community partnerships. We work with a huge variety of sports, arts and learning organizations. Our collaborations vary from innovative performances to sharing resources and training facilities. As leaders in the West Coast circus arts community, we're well-positioned to help shape BC's cultural landscape.

#### **CircusWest Collaborates**

- Aeriosa Aerial Dance Society American Circus Educators Ballet BC British Columbia Touring Council Chilliwack Cultural Centre Circus Lab & West Coast Flying Trapeze City of Burnaby City of Richmond En Piste (National Professional Circus Alliance) **Gymnastics BC** Hastings-Sunrise Area Schools Hastings North Business Partners Group Jules Quesnel Elementary Kiwassa Neighbourhood House Light Water Drums Festival Society Madskillz Juggling Festival
- National Circus School (Montreal) North Shore Light Opera Society Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) Richmond Children's Art Festival Stratford Hall IB World School Surrey Children's Festival Theatre Under The Stars Twenty Something Theatre Society Vancouver Home Schoolers Network Vancouver International Children's Festival Vancouver International Dragon Boat Society Vancouver Montessori School Vancouver School Board VANOC (Cultural Olympiad) Whistler Arts Council Whistler Children's Festival

#### Now we would like to collaborate with you.

## Dream Big with Us!

#### We would love to discover the possibilities with you.

#### **STEP RIGHT UP**

Please contact **Jay Nunns** CircusWest Community Development & Artistic Director jnunns@circuswest.com O: 604.252.3679 C: 604.761.7244

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CircusWest Performing Arts Society 2901 East Hastings Street Vancouver, BC V5K 5J1 604.252.3679 info@circuswest.com

www.circuswest.com