



CIRCOMEDIA WINTER SHOW COMMISSION APPLICATION PACK

Supported by the Leche Trust and Garrick Club Charitable Trust and Circomedia core funds.

Our Project:

This is a new project to reach new audiences, expand our offer and invest in the emerging talent of circus through the creation of a new winter show for children aged 5-12. It will make a real difference to emerging performers, giving them feedback, mentoring and support to create a new work they can keep in their repertoire and tour. It builds on Circomedia's ethos to nurture ensemble working and creative approaches to performance.

Performers tell us it is very hard to find support to enable them to make new shows. Promoters tell us that it is hard to find an affordable, indoor, touring circus show for the Christmas/Winter period. We want to provide this option for performance spaces (whilst giving artists a show they can keep in rep for several years).



It will help us further develop links with our local inner city St Paul's community (as audience, as reviewers and co-producers) where our training and performance space is located.

In our 30th year it will be a gift to invest in new touring circus work for people to enjoy.

Our Plan:

We will commission a company of up to 3 emerging circus artists to create and perform a new show for families/groups with children that has touring potential.

We'll provide structured mentoring and training and opportunities for students and industry professionals to learn from the process.

The successful company will be mentored by acclaimed theatre-maker and director, Niki McCretton of Stuff & Nonsense (aloadofstuffandnonsense.co.uk) who is an alumni of Fooltime, the precursor to Circomedia. Stuff & Nonsense will also perform "Gingerbread Man" at Circomedia in the autumn half term as part of our 30th anniversary programme.



The artists will spend 6 days and 2 zoom calls with Niki between July – December 2024 to support the creation and performance of the show and consider aspects of sustainability and touring along the way.

Other professional support will be provided by Circomedia staff including: producing support, creative feedback, technical and marketing support.

The open callout is aimed at companies led by Circomedia alumni who have graduated within the last 7 years and who have an idea for a family-friendly show that can be performed indoors as a winter production and is scaleable and tourable. The other performers don't have to be alumni.



The company will do at least one, free, work-in-progress sharing to a St Paul's audience (targeted at our partner nursery and primary schools and their families) and one to circus and performance students to show them the journey of creating a new touring work and get feedback. Students studying on BTEC, FDA/BA, MA or vocational training pathways will be inspired, develop their critical skills and reflect on their own practice.

Timeline:

Friday 21st June (12 noon)	Remote	Call-out closes
W/C 8th July tbc	St Pauls Church	Interviews
W/C 8th July tbc	Remote	Zoom call between Niki and company to prepare for school visit
W/C 15th July tbc	Primary School	In-school session
5th-9th August inclusive	St Pauls Church	Company + remote support session with Niki on either 8 or 9 August tbc
18th - 20th September	Kingswood Studio 5	Rehearsals
Thursday 7th - Saturday 9th November	Remote	Zoom call between Niki and company
Thursday 7th - Saturday 9th November	St Pauls Church	Rehearsals
Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th December	St Pauls Church	Rehearsals
Friday 20th (tbc as pencilled for external hire) + Saturday 21st December	St Pauls Church	Tech/Dress
Sunday 22nd-Tuesday 24th December	St Pauls Church	6 shows 11am - 2.30pm each day

Please note that this schedule is a work in progress, and whilst most of these dates have been set aside, we understand companies will need some flexibility.

Budget:

Fee to the successful company : £7519 based on 5 weeks work for 3 people to include attending the selection panel, working with Niki, rehearsals, performances and get out.

(This was calculated based on Equity minimum rate and 3 people in the company.

You can choose to apply if you have more than 3 people in the company but the fee would remain the same).

+ up to £1000 for filming/photography

+ up to £500 for costume/props/equipment

+ up to £500 for travel

= total of £9,519

Sustainability:

Circomedia and Stuff & Nonsense are always aspiring to be sustainable in the work we make, produce and support. We'd like for you to consider repurposing items for set, props and costume and to consider your means of travel to and from any rehearsals and get-ins.



Access and Inclusion:

If you have any access requirements, please let us know and we will work to provide the support you need.

If you would like the information in any other format, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can contact Freya on freyam@circomedia.com or call our office on 0117 9477288.

How to apply:

Using the link below, upload a 3 minute video and a 2 page written proposal to include a budget and consideration of who the show is for, what the content will be, and it's potential for future touring.

If there are any other ways of applying that would make it more accessible for you, please do get in touch. Contact Freya on: freyam@circomedia.com

The deadline for submissions is 21st June at 12pm

**Link to Upload
Application Documents:**
<https://form.jotform.com/241572169036053>

Selection Process:

We'll invite up to 3 interested companies to come and present to a selection panel made up of people from the St Paul's community, the mentor/director, 2 Circomedia representatives and another promoter.

The selection will be made based on which proposal the panel consider to be the strongest against 3 criteria:

- An engaging show for audiences aged 5-12 and their grown ups
- A show that demonstrates circus and physical theatre skills
- A proposal that is realistic in terms of touring potential.

Artists who are not selected will receive constructive feedback on their submission to inform future work and a fee of £200 per company.



If you have any questions, please email freyam@circomedia.com

Thank you for your interest.

We look forward to hearing from you.