



WHY A CIRCUS SCHOOL?

... and if sometimes happiness forgets about us, we shall never forget the happiness! Happiness must be cheap... because if it is expensive do not have good quality.

-Roberto Benigni-

Historically, circus arts' training has provided a "sanctuary" in which neglected groups are celebrated for their gifts. The artistry, thrill, and wonder inherent in circus arts have a particular power to inspire youth for whom other artistic, athletic, sectarian or therapeutic interventions have failed to engage.



The youth living in slums remain one of the least understood, vulnerable, and most difficult groups to reach even if many organizations working into these realities have made significant improvements in addressing basic needs. But the complexity of those needs, the high number of adolescents coupled with the shortage of essential services and incentive for self-care, made the transition -of those few- from dependency on social service organizations to an independent living difficult to achieve.



A move from unemployment situation to independence requires lots of work, being an informed individual, self-care, ethical development, accountability, everyday discipline and a dose of luck. A part luck developing these qualities for the sake of integrating into the mainstream hold little appeal for most youth... instead circus training -where is a must to achieve something that seems impossible- clamps a much more fascinating motivation and inspirational model in the quest for a better future.



Kasikonda Youth Circus School wants to be part of this growing worldwide movement called "Social Circus", a relatively new vogue, which refers to the utilization of circus arts as a tool for individual empowerment, community development, and social transformation.



According to Cirque du Soleil™:

Social Circus is a way of approaching social problems derived from an innovative fusion between circus arts

and social intervention. By demanding tenacity, perseverance and discipline, social circus empowers participants to use their marginality to express themselves and establish a new relationship with a society that has often excluded them... it constitutes a real tool for acquiring resilience because it is based on surpassing one's goal, self-actualization resulting from one's own strengths and capacities, collective cooperation and the guidance of responsible adults. With an approach centered on the circus arts and social intervention, social circus acts as a powerful agent of social transformation.



The trainees attending Kasikonda Circus School are a good example of youth empowerment and resources optimization. Thanks to the rehearsals and the paramount backstage work of incorporating relevant crosscutting issues to youths into circus shows, they know firsthand how lack of information and knowledge impact their lives.

Implementing these activities teaches collaboration, individual/teamwork efforts and act as a prevention tools to adolescent distress. In this process they are using all their creative talents with passionate voices and exercise to inform other mates and inspire behavior change into communities. It is quite empowering to have their local stories elevated to a wider audience... youth in circus are the protagonists and everyone smiles in the same language!



The new season 2014 is starting late for Hiccup Circus Uganda -in the Pearl of Africa speed is always slow... very slow- but we have done our homeworks keeping open the Kasikonda Youth Circus School.

Good news are coming from around the world about volunteers with experience in training circus arts willing to come in Uganda and help. The first one is arriving at the end of March and will be an international expert for Children Theater.

Time is really passing fast and we are planning new stunning numbers with new shows and Friday 07th March 2014 will be a milestone for Hiccup Circus Uganda at 3.00 pm we are going to celebrate our first year activity with a show at Buganda Road Primary School the home for about 2700 schoolchildren... see you there.



How can you help?

HCU has got a pool of talented, hungry and committed young Ugandans, eager to turn their lives around using circus and performing arts. HCU youth wants to impact in a conscious living for a clean and sustainable environment in Uganda. What we need is committed individuals, groups of individuals or organizations who can donate cash, equipment, time, skill and space. HCU would like to connect with groups working toward promoting the rights of the child in reshaping a moral and conscious society in Uganda.

To donate

From Italy:

Associazione Gruppi "Insieme Si Può..." Onlus-Ong

Conto Corrente Bancario IT 66 F 050181200000000512110 - Banca Etica.

From Uganda:

Account name: HICcup CIRCUS UGANDA Account number: 6004048561

Bank: BARCLAYS BANK OF UGANDA Ltd KAMPALA ROAD BRANCH

Bank address: PLOT 16 KAMPALA ROAD, P.O.BOX 2971 KAMPALA UGANDA

Swift Code: BARCUGKX

On line:

Via PayPal and a credit card it is easy, fast and safe please visit:

www.hiccupcircusuganda.org/help/

Donate

