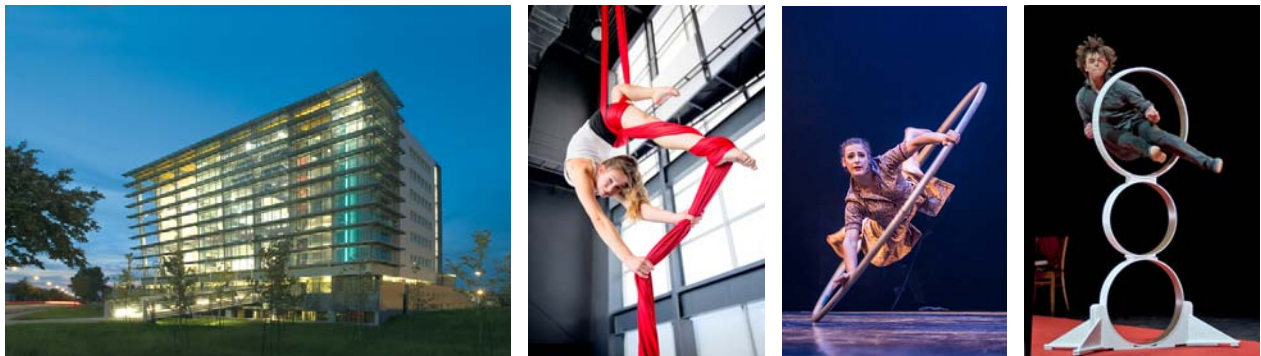


THE CANADIAN PRE-SELECTION TOUR

The National Circus School
is looking for talents
in Calgary!

Montreal, October 16, 2017 - The National Circus School embarks on a pre-selection tour, a-cross Canada quest for talented young people between the ages of 9 and 17. There will be stops in 13 cities from October 22 to November 18, 2017. The tour heads to **Calgary on Sunday November 5** from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Flip Arts Factory. To participate in the pre-selection, applicants must register before through the website: ecolenationaledecirque.ca/en.



During the tour the School's teaching staff will hold workshops, with exercises designed to assess the aspiring circus artists' calibre and potential to integrate into the School's programs. In particular, they will be tested for spatial orientation, coordination, flexibility, strength, stage presence (acting ability), movement and musicality (dance). In addition to this opportunity to be evaluated by circus arts professionals, young aspirants will attend a briefing on the School's training programs and learn more about the career of a circus performer.

This pre-selection tour allows all young Canadians circus lovers of all regions to test their potential to succeed in the official entrance examination. To participate in the pre-selection, applicants must select the city closest to their home town and register at ecolenationaledecirque.ca/en. The tour takes place from October 22 to November 18. There will be stops in **St-John's, Halifax, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Disraeli, Montreal, Gatineau, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver.**

This tour is in addition to the School's principal screening, the official Entrance Examination, to be held this year in Paris, Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal (in February 2018).

The National Circus School

For more than 35 years, the National Circus School has prepared circus artists for their professional careers. It has played a crucial role in the development of circus arts in Canada and around the world. Having trained nearly 500 circus artists, among which many have garnered distinctions at prestigious world festivals, the institution has become a world reference in its sector. A leader of the circus renaissance in Canada and North America, the Montreal based school has also contributed to the emergence of several prominent circus companies such as Cirque du Soleil, Cirque Eloize and The 7 Fingers.

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For more information (interview opportunities and photos) :

Aurélie Kaci

National Circus School

akaci@enc.qc.ca

514 982-0859 ext. 248

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et Communications

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Fast facts

- The National Circus School of Montreal was founded in 1981. Since its inception, the School has trained most of Canada's circus performers. **Graduates are now working around the world** in Canada, the U.S.A., Europe, and Australia.
- A leader of the circus renaissance in Canada and North America, the Montreal based school has also contributed to the emergence of several prominent circus companies such as Cirque du Soleil, Cirque Eloize and The 7 Fingers.
- Demand is high; **more than 95%** of students find jobs.
- **More than 25 circus artists** and close to 20 circus arts teachers are graduating from the School each year.
- In 2016-2017, **the School welcomes over 150 students** in one of the professional programs, and around 30% of those students are foreigners.
- The School's teaching and artistic staff includes **more than 80 teachers**, coming from the circus arts, acrobatic sports, arts and education sectors.
- The School also offers **teacher training programs**.
- The School is now renowned as an international research centre for circus arts with its Center for Circus Arts Research, Innovation and Knowledge Transfer, the CRITAC (Centre de recherche, d'innovation et de transfert en arts du cirque). It holds a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Chair for Colleges in Circus Arts.
- The School's 7,200 square metre building is specially designed to provide state-of-the art professional training in the circus arts. With facilities catering to all disciplines while promoting safety, **the School provides a unique learning environment**. The student residences provide complete, practical and secure to high school students from all over the country.
- **The School is located in the heart of the 'Cité des arts du cirque'**. The Cité des arts du cirque serves as a veritable international nexus. It is dedicated to the diffusion, production, creation and instruction of circus arts. A cluster of imposing structures house the national association for circus arts En Piste, the National Circus School, the Cirque du Soleil's international headquarters and the Tohu pavilion, which includes the first circular performance hall in Canada.