

# national centre for circus arts

## FROM PAGE TO STAGE

**DEADLINE 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014**

Have you ever wanted to see your writing move from page to stage? At the National Centre for Circus Arts we're looking for creative submissions to inspire our 2014 London Youth Circus production in July.

Every year, our London Youth Circus students create and perform an original piece of circus. This year, we need your help and inspiration to help create our amazing performance. The London Youth Circus is a progressive training scheme for people aged 11 – 21 who are passionate about learning circus arts. Our students learn specialist disciplines including acrobatics, juggling, tightwire, static trapeze and flying trapeze.

### **Get Involved**

We're looking for creative responses from people aged 6 -16 to use as a starting point to develop the 2014 production.

Use one of the sentences below to create an inventive, imaginative story. This can take the form of a poem, comic, song or short story however please note that there's a 1,500 word limit.

**Sitting on the slide was a lion. He turned to me and said**

**My balloon got stuck in the tree so I had to**

**The stars in the sky exploded**

**The storyteller's face was lit by a torch**

**Spiders cast huge shadows from the fire light**

**Sometimes when you can't quite reach, you have to jump**

**I just had to say something, anything. So, I told them**

### **Submitting Your Work**

You can submit either as an individual, school, or youth group, providing you or your group are all aged between 6 – 16 years. When you're ready to send your story to us make sure you do the following

- Include your name/Groups full name, address and preferred contact details at the top of your submission.
- Email it as a Word document or PDF to [participation@nationalcircus.org.uk](mailto:participation@nationalcircus.org.uk); or
- Post it to the Participation and Outreach team, The National Centre for Circus Arts, Coronet Street, London, N1 6HD; and
- Make sure you submit it by the **7th April 2014**.

### **– What Happens Next**

The National Centre for Circus Arts will be in touch shortly after the deadline to let you know if your stories will be used to inspire the London Youth Circus production.

- **All submissions** will be entered into a prize draw to win a place on one of our Youth Circus Experience Days;
- **Shortlisted entries** will get VIP tickets to an exclusive dress rehearsal of the production on 25 July 2014; and
- **Selected entries** will get VIP tickets to an exclusive dress rehearsal of the production on 25 July 2014 and will be credited as a writer in the production programme, of which you will receive a free copy. You will be invited to see the production process in action and have the chance to see parts of rehearsals, meet the cast and speak to the director.

Your work may be used to inspire the production; your stories may be re-imagined and reworked. Please note we cannot provide feedback on submissions.

By submitting an entry, all writers agree to have their work displayed at The National Centre for Circus Arts and online through our social media sites and website.

If you have any questions about the submission process please contact us at [participation@nationalcircus.org.uk](mailto:participation@nationalcircus.org.uk)

### **Creative writing tips**

Every creative piece is unique; however there are a few things that help to make an impact.

<b>Characters</b>	We need to feel connected to your characters and involved in their story.
<b>Structure</b>	A sense of time, place and action from beginning, middle to end.
<b>Clarity</b>	Is it clear what is happening?
<b>The brief</b>	Remember that the call out for submissions asked you to consider particular sentences or a particular action and place as a starting point. We want to see that you've used this.

Take care with your work and double check it before you send it to us, have a friend or relative read over it before you submit. Have you dotted all the i's and crossed all your t's?

But most of all have fun!