

MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

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LOCAL YOUTH CAN RUN AWAY AND JOIN THE CIRCUS FOR A WEEK!

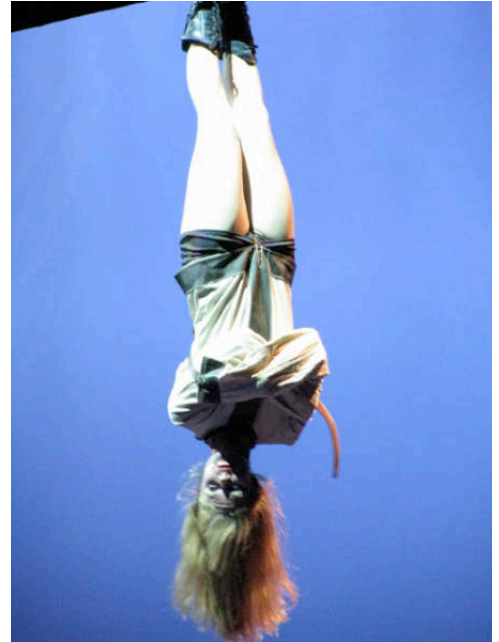
For the first time, local students have an opportunity to run away and join the circus without having to leave Wood Buffalo. *Starfish Circus* is a one week camp lead by members of the Aerial Angels, a street performance troupe who wowed and wooed audiences at interPLAY this past summer. Running during the week of teachers' convention, *Starfish Circus* starts on Saturday, February 20 and culminates in two evening performances on the Keyano Theatre mainstage as part of the Syncrude WinterPLAY Festival.

Starfish Circus is open to eager students ages 5 to 17 and will take place at Keyano College. Tuition is \$279 and will include lunch. Registrations are on a first-come, first-serve basis and on sale at Keyano Box Office. A limited number of students will be accepted so parents are encouraged to register their kids soon.

Sessions will explore ground skills including clowning, acrobatics, contortionism, balancing and juggling. They will also learn about aerial silk, hoop and trapeze artistry and tightrope walking. Each session starts with a group warm-up and stretching, and finishes with conditioning and strength building.

Starfish Circus director and Aerial Angel Allison Williams is pumped to return to Fort McMurray for this experience. "We cast kids in areas they're naturally drawn to, so that they're challenged but not discouraged. We draw on our teaching and performing experience to help them learn clean, safe, well-executed skills (often in unison) instead of tricky or complex sequences."

Students will be the opening attraction of *Stand Up Eight*, a high energy, high impact circus show featuring 12 professional artists from across North America. *Stand Up Eight* will thrill audiences on February 26 and 27 starting at 7 pm. Tickets are on sale at Keyano Box Office.



For more information contact

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