

2009 Smirkus Intermediate & Advanced Camps



Intermediate and Advanced Camps carry high expectations from campers who have a great attitude and are willing to work hard to improve their artistry in a self-directed, supervised training experience. All applicants are expected to excel in at least one, and have a basic knowledge of at least three, of the following skills: balance, acrobatics or gymnastics, juggling, aerials, clowning, styling and smiling.

Intermediate Camp is for youths, ages 12 to 18, who have the desire to improve upon their existing circus skills and to learn new ones. Those accepted into the program must possess the initiative and maturity to collaborate with their peers in creating a circus show and be capable of setting and obtaining personal and group goals. This session will give campers a challenging circus training and performing experience as well as allow them to enjoy traditional Smirkus Camp activities. Intermediate Camp has space for only 32 campers. Therefore, those interested in attending this session must submit the Intermediate & Advanced Camp Application, as well as one reference from a non-family member (such as a coach, teacher or employer) to be considered for a spot.

Advanced Camp is for young adults, ages 14 to 18, with self-motivation and a strong desire to create and perform in the circus arts community. Advanced Campers will have the opportunity to work in small groups, as well as one-on-one, with coaches in their area of concentration. With a little help from the staff, campers will develop a 2-3 minute circus act, by themselves or with a partner, which can be used for auditions and/or performances throughout the year. These acts will be presented for families, friends and a few circus folks at the end of the camp session. In addition to extended training hours and individual attention, this session includes such Smirkus Camp staples as a camper talent show and dinner dress-ups!

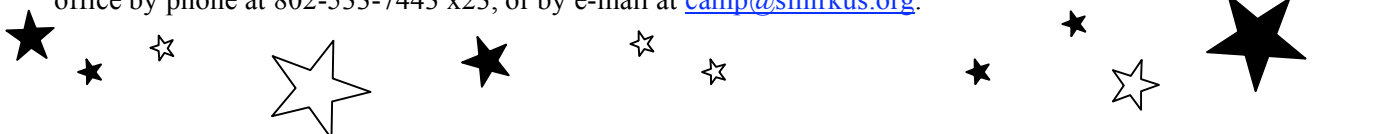
Road Show is a group of up to twelve campers who perform for non-profit organizations in areas as close as East Craftsbury and as far as Burlington, VT. Please keep in mind as you consider the Road Show program that it does not include aerial equipment, so tumbling, clowning and juggling skills are recommended. Those chosen will work together with the coaches to produce a 30-minute show during the first week of intense training and in the second week learn how to continually work toward a better show, and to perform in front of varying audiences around Vermont.

Advanced Camp and Road Show have space for only 28 campers! Therefore, those campers interested in these two programs must submit an Advanced Camp Questionnaire, a 3-6 minute audition video (VHS or DVD format) of their circus skills and two references from non-family members along with their application. Returning Smirkus Campers may use the 2008 Intermediate or Advanced Camp Show as their audition video. For those applying to the Smirkus Big Top Tour, no need to submit an additional audition video or references. Please just make sure to check the correct box on the Intermediate & Advanced Camp application so that we know where to look for your audition materials!

All applications and audition materials are due by January 31, 2009. Campers may apply to both Intermediate and Advanced Camp, but will not be able to attend both if accepted. Applicants will be notified of their Intermediate, Advanced Camp or Road Show status by February 15, 2009. Applications sent after January 31 will be reviewed pending session availability.

For those not accepted into the program of their choice for this coming summer, Smirkus Camp Session IV is also packed full of fun and challenging training for campers with prior circus experience. If applicants choose not to attend another Smirkus Camp Session, deposits will be refunded less a \$50 processing fee. Please refer to page 2 of the registration form for other fees and conditions that may apply.

For questions regarding the Intermediate or Advanced Camp Application process, please contact the camp office by phone at 802-533-7443 x23, or by e-mail at camp@smirkus.org.



2009 Intermediate & Advanced Camp Application

Completed Applications should be sent with references by January 31, 2009 to:
Smirkus Intermediate & Advanced Camp, 1 Circus Road, Greensboro, VT 05841



Name _____ Age _____ Favorite Circus Trick _____

Mailing Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-Mail _____

Previous Circus Experience _____

(list camps, schools, classes...) _____

I would like to be considered for the following programs: Intermediate Camp Advanced Camp Road Show
(For those applying to multiple programs, if accepted, we will notify you by letter as to which program you have been selected to attend.)

If not accepted into any of the above programs, I would like to participate in Smirkus Camp Session IV or another session.

From the following list of circus (and related) skills, please check all of the abilities that you currently possess:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> forward roll | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 ball juggle | <input type="checkbox"/> foot knot on rope, web or fabric | <input type="checkbox"/> style & smile after tricks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> backward roll | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 club juggle | <input type="checkbox"/> climb 20' up rope, web or fabric | <input type="checkbox"/> grass walk on stilts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bridge | <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ ball/club flash | <input type="checkbox"/> straddle-up on rope or fabric | <input type="checkbox"/> pantomime pulling rope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cartwheel | <input type="checkbox"/> ball or club passing | <input type="checkbox"/> flag on Chinese pole or perch | <input type="checkbox"/> dead or alive clown gag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> round-off | <input type="checkbox"/> one diabolo orbit | <input type="checkbox"/> knee hang on trapeze | <input type="checkbox"/> star role in school play |
| <input type="checkbox"/> back handspring | <input type="checkbox"/> 2+ diabolo orbit | <input type="checkbox"/> bird's nest on trapeze | <input type="checkbox"/> play musical instrument |
| <input type="checkbox"/> standing back tuck | <input type="checkbox"/> walk on rolling globe | <input type="checkbox"/> walk 15' on tight wire | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 good push-ups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> handstand (15+ sec.) | <input type="checkbox"/> ride unicycle 50+ feet | <input type="checkbox"/> run on tight wire | <input type="checkbox"/> 3+ pull-ups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> headstand (25+ sec.) | <input type="checkbox"/> idle on unicycle | <input type="checkbox"/> lunge on tight wire | <input type="checkbox"/> run 1+ mile |

Please rate yourself from 1 to 5 (1 = no skill, 3 = average skill, 5 = excellent skill) in the following areas:
(If you do not have a 4 or 5 in at least one of the following areas and checked 12 or fewer boxes, you should attend Smirkus Camp Session IV.)

_____ Acrobatics _____ Juggling _____ Aerials _____ Clowning _____ Balance _____ Respect

Answer the following questions to the best of your ability; attach additional paper as needed.

What circus skills do you possess that are not mentioned above? Are you working on, but not yet able to do, any of the skills that are mentioned above? In what circus area(s) are you most interested?

What does 'respect' mean to you?

In what ways have you worked in a team or group situation?

2009 Advanced Camp & Road Show Questionnaire

Completed Applications should be sent with references and audition video by January 31, 2009 to:
Smirkus Intermediate & Advanced Camp, 1 Circus Road, Greensboro, VT 05841



Name _____ Age _____ Pet's Name _____

Audition Video: Included 2008 Intermediate Camp Video 2008 Advanced Camp Show Video 2009 Tour Audition Video

I would like to participate in the Road Show program and I understand that it does not include aerial acts.

If not accepted into the Advanced Camp or Road Show, I would like to be considered for Intermediate Camp.

On a separate piece of paper, please provide us with a sampling of your creative abilities.
(i.e. a drawing, poem, collage, story, mathematic equation, etc)



Answer the following questions to the best of your ability; attach additional paper as needed.

Why do you want to attend Advanced Camp or Road Show?



In what area(s) would you like to concentrate on while at Smirkus Camp and why?



What has been your greatest accomplishment as an individual? What do you hope will be your greatest accomplishment in the next 5 years?

You can invite anyone (living or dead, famous or not) to have dinner with you. Who would you invite and why?

Fill in the words for a Smirkus Camp Mad Lib! (the story will be revealed at a later date)

Adjective _____

Animal _____

Noun _____

Verb ending in 'ing' _____

Animal _____

Plural Noun _____

Noun _____

Type of Food _____

Color _____

Noun _____

Noun _____

Adjective _____



2009 Smirkus Intermediate & Advanced Camp Reference Form

References should be submitted with other application materials by January 31, 2009 to:
Smirkus Intermediate & Advanced Camp, 1 Circus Road, Greensboro, VT 05841

Applicant's Name _____

Your Name & Title _____

Phone _____ Best time to call _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please rate the following traits as they pertain to the applicant (1 = poor, 4 = good, 7 = excellent):

Respect for Others	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sense of Humor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Maturity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Takes Initiative	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Follows Directions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Works With Others	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

How has this person demonstrated the ability to set goals and work toward them?
How much adult encouragement is needed in this area?

Do you feel this person has the skills necessary to be an active member of a peer-driven collaborative group? How has he/she demonstrated these skills?

Additional comments or stories related to Applicant:

2009 Smirkus Advanced Camp Reference Form

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☆ Applicant's Name _____

Your Name & Title _____

Phone _____ Best time to call _____

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★	Maturity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
☆	Takes Initiative	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
★	Follows Directions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
☆	Works With Others	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
★	Self-Motivation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

★ How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

How has this person demonstrated the ability to set goals and work toward them?
How much adult encouragement is needed in this area?

☆ Do you feel this person has the skills necessary to work as a self-motivated and independent performer? How has he/she demonstrated these skills?

★ Additional comments or stories related to Applicant:

☆
☆

