



About Us

Circus of Smiles offers affordable school based enrichment classes in the bay area. Our classes are about creativity and determination, and our teaching artists take great pride in creating an environment that is both collaborative and non-competitive. We have a variety of class offerings that can be tailored to your school's needs. A portion of the funds from each student's tuition goes towards supporting our outreach efforts for youth in Oakland and abroad.

One superintendent put it best when she said: "I have witnessed Circus of Smiles work wonders with supporting multiple students (my own child included) to overcome stage fright, find their voice, and express their creativity. My son is naturally shy... and the class has helped him to feel confident and has brought out his sense of humor. Because of Circus of Smiles, my son is not only able to get up in front of groups of people and talk, he can now get up in front of people, feel pride, and show his great sense of humor." Sara Stone

Our wonderful team of [teaching artists](#) have experience working in schools and focus on creating a safe and nurturing space for students to explore, create, and develop new skills. All teaching artists have cleared a background check.

Logistics

- Enrollment min/max: 6/30
- Online registration portal available
- Fully insured and able to provide proof of insurance
- Class fee: \$15 per student per class or flat rate available
- Scholarships available



Elementary School Classes

Acrobatics Turn a case of the wiggles into some serious skills! In Acrobatics class, learn how to amaze your audience with cartwheels, forward and backward rolls, handstands, and more. Key stretching and strengthening exercises will also be taught, giving students a foundation in safety for all their active play. Each class consists of a warm-up, skill review, new skill instruction, cool down, and LOTS of fun! Why stand on your feet when you can stand on your hands?

Circus Arts Run away with the circus to try juggling, clowning, theatre games, and even building human pyramids! Think you're good at multitasking? Try your hand at juggling. Ever thought it would be fun to be the class clown? Learn clown skits that will keep your friends in stitches. Be the star of the show while you perform with friends new and old. Students burn off school day wiggles and get a chance to challenge themselves all while gaining skills and strength. This is the place where you are celebrated for making others laugh until they fall out of their chairs! Click [here](#) to get a sneak peek of class.

Hula Hooping Fun & Games Spend your time moving, grooving, spinning and grinning in this fun and active hula hooping class. Learn unique ways to manipulate the hoop, fundamental techniques, and cool tricks to impress your friends and family. Students will build confidence, develop body control, and explore creative expression, all while spinning, jumping, and having a blast! Each class includes a warm-up, hoop games, skill instruction, and a hoop dance party!

How to be a Ninja Everyone wants to be a ninja, and this is a class that will teach you how. Adapted martial arts techniques from around the world help kids gain body awareness, self-control, and self-confidence. Class will include physical games designed to teach the ancient secrets of stealth and surprise, as well as partner games that enhance our reflexes and non-verbal communication skills. Master the art of poi spinning, juggling, and hula hooping while playing games and having lots of fun! Students in this class will sharpen their senses, strengthen their bodies, and learn skills they've only imagined. Specially designed for those with an inner ninja waiting to sneak out.

Puppetry Come on a journey with us to learn about traditions of storytelling and puppetry from around the world. This class offers students an exciting mix of the visual and performing arts through the magic of puppetry. Students will explore the world around them, using expression, movement, and maybe a little paper and glue to bring ordinary objects to life. Your junior puppeteer will design and build custom puppets and scenery to tell their stories on the stage. They will finish with a flourish by inviting you to watch them perform in their own Master Puppet Theater!



Preschool Classes

Circus Skills Run away with the circus to try juggling, clowning, theatre games, and even building human pyramids! Think you're good at multitasking? Try your hand at juggling. Ever thought it would be fun to be the class clown? Learn clown skits that will keep your friends in stitches. Be the star of the show while you perform with friends new and old. Students burn off school day wiggles and get a chance to challenge themselves all while gaining skills and strength. This is the place where you are celebrated for making others laugh until they fall out of their chairs! Click [here](#) to get a sneak peek of class.

Creative Movement Whether dancing like clowns, imitating animals, twirling like ballerinas, or imagining you're a rhythmic tree moving through the room, Creative Movement is a joyful way for children to experience music, patterns, percussion, shapes, levels and sound. Through dance children develop physical skills, channel energy, increase circulation, strengthen their bodies, stimulate abstract thought, and explore creativity. This class is an opportunity to explore imagination through movement!

Storytelling Come sail the seven seas, climb a mountain of cheese, and ride a camel with the 3 little pigs- all in an hour! Circus of Smile's storytelling class encourages students' creativity and curiosity as they explore stories from traditional folklore as well as their own imaginations. This class is the ultimate place to move creatively, tell tall tales, and bring characters to life. We will experiment with different types of storytelling, using speech, music and movement. We'll also dip into traditional forms of storytelling like puppetry, mask-making, and theatre. At the end of the session, students will present the result of their explorations to an audience of family and friends.