



Media Contacts:

[Carolyn@cwcommunications.info](mailto:Carolyn@cwcommunications.info)

612-414-9661

Intern: [Laurenkomble@gmail.com](mailto:Laurenkomble@gmail.com)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Circus Juventas stirs the magic with *Excalibur***  
**July 28 - August 13 under the big top in Saint Paul**  
**Tickets on sale Monday, June 26, 2023**

(Saint Paul, MN) **Circus Juventas** will bring legend to life in the anticipated summer production, *Excalibur* presented by HealthPartners & TRIA. The show performs at the air conditioned, permanent big top from **July 28 to August 13**, 2023, for 16 jaw-dropping performances. The Saturday matinee, 1 p.m., August 5 will have ASL and AD interpretation. Tickets go on sale Monday, June 26 at 10 a.m., with prices ranging from \$25 to \$50, online at [circusjuventas.showare.com](http://circusjuventas.showare.com). **Circus Juventas** immerses audience members into a large-scale, professionally produced show the moment they walk into the big top. Only the most advanced, highly committed troupe of young circus artists perform in this Twin Cities favorite. Since **Circus Juventas** formalized its relationship with **Cirque du Soleil**, the largest contemporary circus producer in the world as a select talent development center, the caliber of talent continues to rise to extraordinary heights.



***Excalibur* highlights**

In the center arena, students soar above audiences in breathtaking displays of the very best in the school. Featuring both acrobatic and aerial acts, **Circus Juventas** takes the audience on a trip to medieval London, where one unsuspecting boy is destined to become the once and future king.

Audiences will be on the edge of their seats as gripping new acts such as fire foot archery and flying pole are presented alongside reprised favorites; a dragon-fitted Russian Cradle, duo Russian Swing, and stage combat. Rehearsals and special training started last fall, with more than 65 performers working to perfect their acts in preparation for the three week-long show run.

More recently, set construction around the arena perimeter has begun to take shape displaying classic characteristics of young King Arthur's medieval era. "We will have knights jousting on horses created by puppet artist [Christopher Lutter-Gardella](#), along with dragons, on a floating boat transporting Lady of the Lake, who delivers the sword, Excalibur, to Arthur," said Betty Butler, **Circus Juventas** Co-founder and artistic director. "We imagine the medieval forests surrounding Merlin's cottage may feel so real, people will be reaching for their sweaters to ward off the chill." The production quality standard at **Circus Juventas** is second only to **Cirque Du Soleil's** productions. With hundreds of custom designed costumes, spectacular lighting design, and stunning soundtracks, the magic of each act comes to life in *Excalibur*. **Circus Juventas** hired a local fight choreographer to create the fights scenes involving the gallant Knights of the Round Table. As **Circus Juventas** fans know, the show-ending feat will be breath-taking. A fire-lit bow-and-arrow will be released from the foot of an arched performer, using only her hands to balance. The tips of the arrows are sharp and authentic. The weapon is made in Mongolia, where youth still train in this long-standing cultural tradition. We can only hope she hits her target with one release. "We will be showcasing new thrills as our audiences have come to expect from our summer show blockbusters," said Dan Butler, **Circus Juventas** co-founder and executive director.

Audiences of all ages will be enthralled by this magical quest for peace throughout Medieval London. With tales of chivalrous knights, secrets, romance, betrayal, and an ancient lineage rediscovered, join **Circus Juventas** as they dive into the world of Arthurian legends.

### **Excalibur Summer Show Dates and Performances**

**Tickets go on sale Monday, June 26, 2023**

Tickets range from \$25 to \$50

Children ages 2 and under on an adult's lap are free.

Show length: 3 hours including a 30-minute intermission  
Order through [Showare](#).

Public show dates: July 28 - August 13  
Check online for times and details. <https://circusjuventas.org/summer-show-2023/>

### Presold School Shows

Thursday, July 27 at 1:00 p.m.  
Wed., August 2 at 1:00 p.m.  
Thursday, August 3 at 1:00 p.m.  
Thursday, August 10 at 1:00 p.m.

### Public Shows

Friday, July 28 at 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, July 29 at 1:00 p.m.  
Saturday, July 29 at 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, July 30 at 1:00 p.m.  
Thursday, August 3 at 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, August 4 at 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, August 5 at 1:00 p.m.  
(ASL/AD show)  
Saturday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m.

### Public Shows

Sunday, August 6 at 1:00 p.m.  
Sunday, August 6 at 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, August 10 at 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, August 11 at 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, August 12 at 1:00 p.m.  
Saturday, August 12 at 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, August 13 at 1:00 p.m.  
Sunday, August 13 at 7:00 p.m.

### About Circus Juventas

Circus Juventas is a 501(c)3 nonprofit and the largest youth performing arts circus school in North America. During the past 29 years, co-founders Dan and Betty Butler have seen their dream grow into a year-round program that serves more than 2,500 children and youth with a diverse array of circus arts training and performance opportunities in a noncompetitive setting. Circus Juventas' mission is to inspire artistry and self-confidence through a multicultural circus arts experience that encourages leadership and life skills, teamwork, athleticism, artistry, pursuit of excellence and community service. For more information, visit <https://circusjuventas.org>.

**Thank you to our presenting sponsors HealthPartners and TRIA!**

**About HealthPartners / Park Nicollet Clinic**  **HealthPartners**  **TRIA**

### About HealthPartners

HealthPartners is the largest consumer-governed, non-profit healthcare organization in the nation with a mission to improve health and well-being in partnership with members, patients and the community. HealthPartners is one of the top-rated private health plans in Minnesota and one of the highest-rated plans in the nation, with a rating of 4.5 out of 5, according to the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). Our care system is comprised of 55 clinics and eight hospitals. For more information, visit [healthpartners.com](http://healthpartners.com).

### About TRIA

TRIA is a comprehensive center for orthopedic medicine, providing incomparable clinical and surgical care, world-class research, and innovative programs. TRIA has over 90 highly-trained physicians with a variety of sub-specialties such as sports medicine, acute injury, shoulder, hip,

knee, spine, hand and wrist, foot and ankle, and fractures. TRIA's sports medicine specialists have served as official team physicians for Minnesota's professional sports teams for more than 25 years. TRIA offers walk-in care through its Orthopedic Urgent Care. From diagnosis to treatment, to rehabilitation and even surgery, it is all available at convenient locations in Bloomington, Burnsville, Maple Grove, St. Louis Park, St. Paul and Woodbury. For more information, visit [tria.com](http://tria.com).

### Minnesota State Arts Board



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## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS

[arts.gov](http://arts.gov)

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).



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