

## BLOG

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Juggling and Cloud swinging, Chinese pole and hula hoops, clowning and much more – just part of a day's work

# Juggling and Cloud swinging, Chinese pole and hula hoops, clowning and much more – just part of a day's work



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by

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### Standing proud

Being the only institution in the southern hemisphere to offer a Bachelor of Circus Arts degree, the National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) is proud of its standing.

NICA doesn't shy away from publicity and proudly showcases its work — having being featured on nearly every major TV network. This has added to NICA's name and reputation, and it's not surprising that most of its shows are sold out every year.



## The team

But to be out at the forefront requires a dedicated team, who year after year bear the flag proudly.

“Our staff is highly diverse and trained all over the world – Russia, China, UK, Canada, and of course Australia,” says Rose Stephens, Executive Director. .

“They teach across a broad range of specialties including, Roue Cyr, slack wire, tight wire, Chinese pole, wall trampoline, uni-cycle, juggling, foot juggling, aerial rope, cloud swing, trapeze, silks, acro, Russian bar, teeterboard, rola bola, hula hoops, clowning and more.”

Supporting the physical trainers, are a team of academics, medical staff, marketing and administrative support, technical production unit, and the commercial activities Short Courses and CircaNICA Agency.



## Teamwork is the key

“Because NICA is small, we work closely and keep communication lines clear,” Rose says. “We need to maximise the use of our small footprint for a range of activities on top of the heavy training schedule.”

The production team oversees the logistics; the creative team directs and develops the artistic vision—including the amazing costumes, lighting and sound design. The administration team is

responsible for ticketing and promotion of the show. Communicating and sharing responsibilities ensure a smooth run of events. And success is celebrated by sharing pizzas.

### **Celebrations too ...**

“At NICA we typically celebrate the start of every event. On opening nights we rally around each other wishing good luck. Everyone is excited to see the end result from months’ of hard work! It is also a way of recognising the efforts of the production, creative and administration teams,” Rose says.



### **NICA’s work**

NICA has a busy year hosting artists, providing master classes, supporting outreach programs, offering industry internships, presenting five to six productions, and providing international study tours. Usually NICA participates in at least one large collaboration with another arts organisation each year.

This year NICA hosted eight elite performing arts organisations and produced *Le Sacre* – a collaboration with The Australian Ballet School. “For a small school we punch above our weight,” Rose says.





### We are special because ...

“We want to be the leading provider of work-ready circus artists in the global market,” Rose says. Major Australian companies like Circus Oz and Circa regularly hire NICA graduates and tour both nationally and internationally. Many of NICA’s graduates go on to tour the world with companies like Franco Dragone and Cirque du Soleil.



### What you may not know

NICA has a number of disadvantaged students who need support and every bit helps. “It would be wonderful if you could consider a small donation to help out, or perhaps even

consider donating the price of your show ticket  
(<https://www.givenow.com.au/socialcircus>)  
," Rose says.

### **We're not shy ... check us out**

Company 18 (<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=407850>).

: 19 - 22 September 2018.

ABC News

Today Show presenter auditions for NICA

**Channel Nine WB Kids** (<https://www.9now.com.au/kids-wb/2018/clip-cjilb1hhl000t0ilqouc6blvk>)

ArtsHub ([https://www.artshub.com.au/education/news-article/career-advice/arts-education/andrea-simpson/career-spotlight-circus-performer-256382?utm\\_source=ArtsHub+Australia&utm\\_campaign=69c9034cf5-UA-828966-1&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_2a8ea75e81-69c9034cf5-304181613](https://www.artshub.com.au/education/news-article/career-advice/arts-education/andrea-simpson/career-spotlight-circus-performer-256382?utm_source=ArtsHub+Australia&utm_campaign=69c9034cf5-UA-828966-1&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_2a8ea75e81-69c9034cf5-304181613)).

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