

THEORY OF CHANGE

Circus is a powerful agent for social change by promoting resilience, self-confidence, self-efficacy, and the ability to work well in a team. Our programs create pathways for young people of all abilities and backgrounds to participate in the arts in a way that is inclusive and enhances participants' sense of wellbeing.

We envision and expect that the accomplishment of the activities detailed in this strategic plan and our theory of change will lead to the following long-term impact.



VISION

A Circus Arts centre of excellence for youth and social circus in Western Australia.



to... Activities

- Create Youth Circus and Social Circus programs and productions aligned to three priority groups:
 1. Youth artists
 2. Aboriginal youth
 3. Youth living with disabilities
- Deliver Youth Circus programs for young people which focus on the artistic, social and personal development of participants.
- Deliver Social Circus programs that operate under the 'Circus for All' philosophy which aims to help disadvantaged, at-risk and vulnerable people develop self-confidence and social skills, using Circus Arts as a vehicle to tap into their strengths and hidden talents.

so that we... Action

- Inspire, catalyse and advocate for youth of all abilities and backgrounds through circus engagement across Western Australia.
- Create accessible opportunities for young people to participate in circus arts programs that are artistically excellent and enhance participants' sense of well being.
- Create pathways and partnerships to encourage artistic exchange, increase reach and collaboration, and celebrate the unique contribution of circus arts.
- Ensure long term organisational capacity and sustainability.

leading to... Outcomes

More WA youth will have:

- Increased confidence and empowerment, believing they can achieve extraordinary things.
- Improved physical and mental health and wellbeing.
- Increased participation in community and cultural activities.
- Inclusion in community and social life with a stronger voice and greater visibility.
- Increased sense of place and belonging.
- Increased capacity to shape and express cultural identity.
- Improved social, personal and life skills.
- Career pathways and opportunities increased and strengthened.
- Reduced financial barriers for engaging in the arts.

Our community will benefit from:

- A larger, diverse and more connected Circus Arts and physical theatre community.
- Artistic work and cultural events that cultivate engagement across diverse audiences.
- A deepened understanding and recognition of the capabilities of people of all abilities and backgrounds.
- Increased investment in First Nations arts and cultural expression.
- Increased opportunities to see and engage with young artists living with disabilities.
- Increased empathy, understanding and tolerance of difference.
- Increased exposure to and awareness of complex societal issues.

CircusWA and the arts and culture sector will benefit from:

- Accessible, catalytic support to generate transformational community-based art and culture.
- Increased attention and investment on building capacity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Artists and communities become social change-oriented.
- Increased collaboration among community, organisations, and the government to increase capacity.
- Stability of cross-sector partnerships and collaboration beyond project periods leading to increased employment and economic opportunities, and meaningful work.



enabling... Impact

- Young people are thriving and healthy, with increased health and wellbeing.
- Youth develop meaningful relationships, a sense of belonging, recognition and civic engagement as they contribute to and are recognised by an inclusive community.
- Social cohesion is fostered, grown and maintained to ensure equal opportunities for all young people so that they can achieve their full potential in life.
- Social participation creates mutual trust among youth and the community, and a culture of activated and informed civil society is grown.
- Partnerships, collaboration and resource sharing are heralded as an axis of sustainable, positive social and artistic impact.
- Engaged audiences develop into stakeholders in the local and national arts ecosystems.

MISSION

To unlock personal and creative potential and deliver social inclusion for all young people through Circus Arts.