New in 2010: For Year 11/12 students – an opportunity to complete VCE at the VCA Secondary School and study Circus Arts at the same time

Certificate III in Circus Arts

Course Overview

The National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) is offering students completing Year 11 or 12 the opportunity to study and train at Australia's premier circus training complex.

Interested students with experience in disciplines, such as dance, gymnastics, diving, martial arts, community circus or physical theatre are invited to apply and audition.

Subjects covered in the course will include: Body Conditioning (fitness and strength training); Foundation Circus Skills (including acrobatics, balance, manipulation, flexibility); Introduction to Circus Contexts (such as history of circus); first aid and safety.

NICA and the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS)

Through a partnership relationship with the VCA Secondary School (VCASS), students will be able to study and train at NICA while completing secondary school at the VCASS. Block time-tabling of secondary study will allow for study/training at NICA. Enrolment at VCASS will take place after acceptance to NICA.

NICA-VCASS Program – Year 11 and Year 12

Students entering Year 11 at VCASS will undertake the *Certificate III in Circus Arts*, plus additional non-assessed Movement and Performance classes. There will be approximately twelve hours of circus training each week at NICA during school terms. The balance of school time will be spent on VCE studies at VCASS.

In the following year, those students who entered VCASS at Year 11 will undertake the *Intensive Circus, Movement and Performance Skills Enhancement Program.* This is a specialised program of twelve hours per week of intensive Circus, Movement and Performance skills development run in conjunction with Year 12 studies at VCASS. This is a non-accredited program with no formal assessment.

NICA-VCASS Program – Year 12 Only

Students may enter VCASS at Year 12 and undertake the *Certificate III in Circus Arts* plus additional non-assessed Movement and Performance classes at NICA. The total training will be approximately twelve hours per week during school terms.

VCASS Facilities

The VCASS is housed in a new purpose-built facility in Southbank, Melbourne. The school provides a high quality education to prepare talented young people for professional careers through the integration of a well-balanced core academic program with specialist studies and consistently ranks well in VCE results.

NICA Facilities

Located at the Prahran Campus of Swinburne University of Technology, NICA has purpose-built facilities which include state-of-the-art performance spaces, circus training studios, drama and dance studios. NICA has an international reputation for excellence in circus arts training.

Safety at NICA

Safety is a high priority at NICA and our experienced staff use training methods which maximise the safety of students. Occupational Health and Safety is included in the curriculum.

Course fees

***Certificate III in Circus Arts*, plus Performance and Movement**

2010 Course fee: $2,000.

Note: this program receives some Government subsidy.

Intensive Circus, Movement and Performance Skills Enhancement Program

Indicative fee: $4,500 - $5,000 (dependant on numbers)

This program is not subsidised by the Government.

Learning and Assessment

To meet the requirements of the course, students will be required to complete practical and written assessment tasks. Assessment methods may include: practical skill tests, small class performance and written assignments.

Entry and Selection Requirements

As a requirement of entry, students are required to have sound physical skills and no on-going injuries. Selection to the course will be determined by audition, interview and information provided on the application form and questionnaire.

Those unable to attend an audition may submit a DVD/Video audition, application form and questionnaire and may be required to participate in a telephone interview.

Qualification

Certificate III in Circus Arts is accredited by Swinburne University of Technology under delegated authority.

Further Information

For further information and application details, please contact Ms Liz Louden, Student Administration Officer at NICA on 03 9214 6975 or email to info@nica.com.au

This information contained in this leaflet was correct at the time of printing - 18 September 2009, but may be subject to change. Please check the NICA website www.nica.com.au for the latest information.