

POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION	Lead Circus Artist & Trainer
SALARY	\$70K p.a. (pro rata, 0.8 FTE) + super, 4 weeks leave & holiday shutdown
LOCATION	Corrugated Iron, Gulumoerrgin/Darwin NT (with remote travel across the NT)
REPORTS TO	Head Circus Trainer
WORKS WITH	Emerging Teaching Artists & Trainers, Creative Producers, Workshop Coordinator
EMPLOYMENT TYPE	Part-time 4 days per week (opportunities to increase hours as projects arise)
CONTRACT	This role is offered as either a 12-month placement or a 2-year contract, depending on the applicant's experience, availability, and alignment with Corrugated Iron's 2026 Circus Program priorities.
HOURS OF WORK	This role requires flexibility, including evening and weekend work to support performances, workshops, festivals, and regional travel.
RELOCATION	Relocation supports available to the right candidate to start mid-late January 2026.

ABOUT THE ROLE

We are seeking an adventurous, curious, and multi-skilled Lead Circus Artist & Trainer to join Corrugated Iron. This role is central to delivering high-quality, inclusive, and engaging circus programs across all our offerings. Working closely with the Head Circus Trainer, Creative Producers, and Workshop Coordinator, you will support the development of participants and emerging trainers and artists ensuring safe, culturally responsive, high-quality circus experiences that spark curiosity and ignite creativity.

SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

- Specialist Circus expertise with proficiency and teaching experience in one or two core circus disciplines (e.g., aerials, manipulations, acrobatics), including the ability to deliver beginner through to advanced levels.
- Competent in foundational circus skills across a broad range of circus disciplines and able to teach and guide participants safely across multiple apparatus and techniques.
- Experienced in designing and delivering inclusive, safe, and engaging programs for children and young people at varying skill levels.
- Demonstrated experience or willingness in working respectfully with Aboriginal communities and incorporating culturally responsive approaches into circus programs.
- Familiarity with aerial apparatus and other circus equipment
- Skilled in breaking down techniques and adapting instruction for different age groups, abilities, and learning styles.
- Ability to blend multiple disciplines into performances or workshops that encourage skill development, creativity, confidence, connection and belonging.

ABOUT CORRUGATED IRON

Corrugated Iron acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout the Northern Territory and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters, and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and to the young leaders of today and tomorrow.

For more than four decades, Corrugated Iron has been the Northern Territory's leading youth arts company. We provide pathways for children, young people, and emerging artists to thrive, working predominantly in the performing arts, circus and theatre as well as cross-disciplinary practice.

We are youth-led, First Nations-engaged, and community-connected.

Our vision is simple: ***Igniting creativity in all young Territorians.***

Our values centre on creativity as a source of hope, connection, risk, opportunity, and building the capacity of young people to lead and shape their own futures now.

In 2024, we marked our 40th anniversary with *Futures Collide*, a youth-led program that brought together a continuum of past and present, artistic movers, makers and shakers in celebration of community, artistry and rebellion. In 2025 the program was recognised nationally with a PAC Australia Impact Award.

We are supported by Creative Australia through Four Year Funding Organisations, the Northern Territory Government through Arts NT Leading Organisations (5 years), and the City of Darwin, whose ongoing investment helps us create safe, dynamic, and impactful programs across the NT.

OUR CIRCUS PROGRAM

Corrugated Iron's 2026 Circus Program is a priority for our company, enabling us keep up with the demand for our work and will focus on workshop delivery, deepening artistic development, partnerships and growing pathways for young people across the Territory.

In 2026 our Circus Program priorities are to be delivered in collaboration with the Head Circus Trainer and include:

- Program delivery across East Arnhem Land, the Barkly Region, Katherine & surrounds.
- Participation in community festivals and events.
- Circus curriculum delivery and development in local schools (term-based programs).
- A vibrant term-based workshop program for children and young people.
- Development and support of circus ensembles and youth performance pathways.
- Partnership development and creative exchange with partner circus companies and visiting national and international artists.

As part of Corrugated Iron's commitment to supporting professional artists, the Lead Circus Artist & Trainer will also be offered access to Corrugated Iron's training and performance space for self-devised professional practice and training (by arrangement), and opportunities to increase contracted hours when additional projects arise, and they do!

From time to time, the role may involve supporting Corrugated Iron's corporate and community performance requests, working alongside the Head Circus Trainer and Creative Producers to ensure artistic integrity and participant wellbeing are maintained.

WHY WORK WITH US?

At Corrugated Iron, we believe creativity changes lives. For over 40 years we've been igniting creativity in young Territorians, from Gulumeorrgin (Darwin) to remote and very remote communities across the vast Northern Territory. We're an arts company that is bold, inclusive, artistically ambitious, and deeply connected to community. Our artistic program is as wild as the Territory itself.

Joining our team means being part of an incredible community where you will:

- Play a pivotal role in an organisation that is often the first encounter in the performing arts for a child or young person, with many going on to perform on national stages, appear on international screens, lead organisations and develop a lifelong connection to the arts as creators, leaders, and importantly audiences
- Collaborate with young artists, teaching artists, and a committed team that values creativity as a source of hope, connection, and real opportunity
- Fall in love with Gulmerrogin (Darwin), where you'll enjoy a vibrant, sun-soaked tropical city where culture, community, and adventure come together
- Access to our Performance Space where you can train, professional development, leadership development, mentoring, and opportunities to grow your skills while making a real impact
- Flexibility & work-life balance because we're a family-friendly, pet friendly, flexible work environment. We want our team to thrive both professionally and personally while contributing to meaningful impact with young people

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Program Delivery

- Collaborate with Head Circus Trainer, Creative Producers and Administrator/Workshop Coordinator to support cohesive and consistent engagement across all Corrugated Iron programs.
- Contribute to the planning and development of productions and other company initiatives in partnership with key staff and young people.
- Assist in the implementation and delivery of the circus curriculum within school and community settings, ensuring alignment with educational and creative goals.
- Adhere to Corrugated Iron's Workplace Health and Safety policies and procedures, ensuring safe practice in all activities.
- Demonstrate cultural awareness and sensitivity, adapting program delivery to suit diverse environments and participant needs.
- Work collaboratively with other Trainers and Teaching Artists to deliver structured, progressive, and engaging circus workshops that foster skill development, creativity, and inclusive participation across age groups and experience levels.
- Work in collaboration with the Head Circus Trainer to determine project leadership and responsibilities across the 2026 program priorities.

Teaching & Training Practice

- Deliver engaging circus programs to participants of varying ages and skill levels, from beginners to advanced, across a diverse range of techniques and disciplines.
- Facilitate sessions that incorporate conditioning, stretching, and safety practices tailored to the acts being taught, using structured progression pathways and performance-focused outcomes.
- Support the growth and development of current circus program participants, through coaching, mentoring, and ongoing training that is fun.
- Enhance curriculum development and advise on how to improve our programs.

Pathways Mentoring & Development

- Provide mentoring, training, and support to Trainers, Teaching Artists and other artists in circus skills, facilitation techniques, and behaviour management strategies.
- Collaborate with Head Circus Trainer, Creative Producers to support emerging Teaching Artists & Trainers in developing their teaching practice and confidence.
- Implement industry-informed practices and share these with the team to enhance program quality and professional growth of the company.
- Identify opportunities for Corrugated Iron to engage with visiting circus artists and companies, facilitating meaningful exchanges and collaborations.

Creative & Artistic Outcomes

- Collaborate with young creatives to develop and present performance outcomes across Corrugated Iron's programs, including end-of-term showcases, community events, and festivals.
- Provide creative and artistic input and support across Corrugated Iron productions and projects, contributing to the artistic quality and cohesion of the company's work.
- Facilitate the creation of original circus-based performances that reflect the voices, skills, and ideas of young participants and emerging artists.
- Encourage innovation, experimentation, and artistic risk-taking within a safe and supportive environment.
- Document and reflect on creative outcomes to inform future program development and celebrate participant achievements.

Rigging & Equipment Maintenance

- Support safe rigging practices for aerial and acrobatic activities under the management and guidance of the Head Circus Trainer.
- Conduct basic equipment checks and report any maintenance needs or safety concerns.
- Assist in maintaining circus equipment and storage areas to ensure readiness and safety for all activities.

Professional Practice & Industry Engagement

- Stay informed of current trends, techniques, and safety standards in circus arts, including for example, aerials, acrobatics, rigging, youth engagement, social circus, trauma informed practices.
- Participate in professional development and sector networks to strengthen practice and industry connections.
- Apply contemporary, evidence-based methods in teaching and program delivery.
- Collaborate with the Head Circus Trainer to share knowledge and resources that support a culture of safety, learning, and excellence within the circus team.
- Maintain and develop relationships with national circus organisations, artists, and educators.

Planning & Communication

- Participate in team meetings, program planning, Teaching Artist gatherings and professional development boosters.
- Prepare reports on project activities and recommendations for future programming.
- Support the Creative Producers and Administration & Workshop Coordinator in maintaining clear and timely communication with workshop participants and their families.
- Advise the Head Circus Trainer of any relevant health and safety issues.

Working Together

- Contribute positively to the efficiency, energy, and culture of the organisation.
- Build and maintain effective working relationships to support shared goals and program success.
- Communicate openly and share relevant information to enhance collaboration and transparency.
- Demonstrate respect for diverse perspectives and approaches, fostering an inclusive and supportive team environment.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Specialist Circus expertise with proficiency and teaching experience in one or two core circus disciplines
- Strong experience in foundational acrobatics and aerial disciplines.
- Strong facilitation and training experience in circus arts across age groups.
- Experience facilitating workshops or working with young people in community and/or educational settings.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in diverse and challenging environments.
- Commitment to inclusive, culturally safe, and trauma-informed practice.
- Current Working with Children Clearance (Ochre Card) or ability to obtain.
- Driver's Licence.

Desirable

- Formal training in circus, performing arts, education, or youth work.
- Experience working in regional or remote communities.
- First Aid certification or willingness to obtain.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit the following to ep@corrugatediron.org.au with the subject line **Lead Circus Artist & Trainer Application** by Monday 1 December:

1. Cover letter (maximum 1 page) that addresses the selection criteria and states which 2026 program priorities you are most interested in contributing to.
2. Current CV and contact details for two referees (one ideally a recent supervisor or program partner).

Key Dates:

Applications close: Monday 1 December 2025

- **Interviews:** December (in-person or on-line)
- **Commencement:** Mid-late January 2026 (exact date negotiable)

Additional Information

- Corrugated Iron is committed to equitable hiring and strongly encourages applications from First Nations people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Regional travel and overnight stays will be required; travel expenses and per diems will be provided per Corrugated Iron policy.
- Successful applicants will be required to supply an Ochre Card, and evidence of the right to work in Australia prior to commencement.
- The Lead Circus Artist & Trainer will be offered access to Corrugated Iron's training and rehearsal facilities for self-devised professional practice and training, by arrangement with the Head of Circus and Workshop Coordinator.

If you would like to discuss your application, please contact:

Zoe Scrogings Executive Producer/CEO
Ph: 08 8948 3200
ep@corrugatediron.org.au

Or

Nikki Jeffries Head Circus Trainer
Ph: 08 89483200
circus@corrugatediron.org.au