

PREPARATORY COURSE

CPES circus arts

2022/2024

Entry conditions

be between 16 and 22 years old
have a baccalaureate degree
or equivalent for foreign nationals



HISTORY OF ENCC

The École Nationale de Cirque de Châtellerauld was created from **the will of its two co-founders, Roser Segura and Dominique Toutlemonde** (both from the circus and theater worlds), with the support of the Ministry of Culture and the City of Châtellerauld. Buildings 164 and 208 of the former Manufacture d'Armes were chosen as the ideal location for the circus school.

The primary mission of the ENCC is therefore to implement a circus pedagogy for everyone.

In 1995, the first objective of the school was to offer, in a defined territory, a training in circus arts in order to respond to a contemporary movement that had been breaking away from a traditional, almost-familial mode for several years.

The creation in circus arts had gradually made their mark with the consequence, among others, of rethinking the modes of pedagogical transmission of the circus.

Since its creation, the ENCC has written and implemented several course programs, in the leisure sector at first, then in the circus arts speciality in the baccalaureate in 1998, to finally obtain in 2005 the recognition of the continued professional training.

In 1995, the École Nationale de Cirque de Châtellerauld welcomed **the first preparatory class**, the objective of this training was to prepare the students for integration into superior schools such as the CNAC. Between 1995 and 2004, 82 students benefited from this training and most of them became professional artists.

In 1998, **the first class of the circus arts option** in partnership with the Lycée Marcelin Berthelot entered the school to follow a three-year course that lead them to obtain their baccalaureate. For nearly 13 years, this option remained the only one in France. Each year, 18 students from all over France, but also from neighboring countries such as Belgium, Switzerland and even Spain, joined this option to follow on average 11 hours of practical and theoretical classes per week.

To date, more than 310 students have taken the circus arts option, with an average graduation rate of 97% since 2010, 81% of whom continue in circus training programs.

The leisure sector welcomes nearly 125 students - children and adults - each week. Some of them manage to integrate into the baccalaureate circus arts specialization.

In 2020, **we (re)created the preparatory course** for entry into higher education in circus arts, with the strong conviction of:

- our experience acquired over the years through the different sectors
- the achievement of the former students, most of whom have become professionals
- the ambition to stay up to date with the current needs of a circus arts career

The cultural world, and particularly that of the performing arts, is constantly evolving and progressing, according to different influences and creators with a touch of drama, choreography and digital colors from multiple origins. As a school, we must follow these tendencies, or even precede them: we actively contribute to the formation of artists who will move the codes and walls of current conventions.

PEDAGOGY

The educational project of the École Nationale de Cirque de Châtellerauld aims to position the school at the heart of current circus developments in France and internationally : through its «Circus Arts» specialization in the baccalaureate since 1998, in its leisure sector and today in its sector of preparation for entry into circus arts higher education institutions.

The ENCC preparatory course allows students to acquire the necessary tools to build and pursue their professional artistic projects. The objective is to develop the formation of active circus artists and creative performers for a more sustainable professional insertion and development of skills. The pedagogy approach is open to multiple possibilities and aesthetics.

The individual project of each student is the keystone of an interdisciplinary teaching, to allow him/her to develop an autonomy and to assert an artistic identity. Whatever the chosen speciality it will be built step by step to attain a high technical level. The student thus develops, throughout the course of his or her studies, the foundations of a circus practice of excellence.

OBJECTIVE

We prepare students to enter the circus arts higher education institutions they have chosen in coherence with their artistic project. It is therefore a matter of the student acquiring and then deepening a certain number of skills and artistic developments allowing the appropriation of a specialty as well as all the expectations of the higher education institutions.

PROGRAM

1st year

The program is based on the acquisition of the basics for the construction of the student's personal project: general physical preparation, acrobatics, handstands, circus specialties, dance, movement, acting, arts and culture.

2nd year

The program is based on the structuring and maturing of the student's skills with the acquiring autonomy in his/her project.

Towards the professional world

It seems impossible to conceive a training program without a strong link with the current professional environment.

We will provide the students with :

- exchanges and meetings with companies in residence at the ENCC or in partner; institutions (3T theater of Châtellerauld and others..)
- exchanges and meetings with former students who have become professionals
- exchanges and meetings with representatives of higher education institutions
- attending shows
- participation in the creation of shows at the school or other locations

Students will be expected to organize:

- internships in the professional environment or in schools of their choice

Interviews

The personalized support of each student will be punctuated by regular meetings with the pedagogical managers and teachers of the program.

ORGANIZATION

Calendar

The training takes place from September 2022 to June 2024.

It takes place on the basis of 25 hours per week.

Classes are held from Monday 9am to Friday 6pm.

Internships or moments of research and creation can also take place during the weekend or during certain school vacations.

Premises and equipment for courses

- the training room: 800 m2 equipped
- the Circothèque, a classroom and resource centre for the performing arts
- the big top: arena of 600 seats equipped for professional shows

Classes may occasionally be held at other partner locations.

Attendance

All classes are mandatory and any absence must be justified.

Autonomy

Students must be able to manage independently their housing, their daily life, administrative obligations, a balanced diet, and their medical care.

ENTRY CONDITIONS

Requirements

- be between 16 and 22 years old;
- have a baccalaureate degree or equivalent for foreign nationals

Price

Fees for the application file / 65€.

Registration and tuition fees / 500€ per year

Available study places

For the class of 2022/2024, we will welcome a maximum of 8 students into the preparatory course.

Language of training

 French

Foreign nationals

Foreign nationals (outside the European Union) must have a residence permit and health insurance equivalent to social security.





école
nationale de
CIRQUE

Châtelleraut



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Site de l'Îlot de Laège

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