

KAREN EDELENBOS

Circus performer

Teacher

All round entertainer

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MY BACKGROUND

I have taught circus for the past 6 years. I have been performing professionally since 2006. Gigs have included the Crown Casino, Tasmania circus festival, Circus Oz big top, Big West festival and Melbourne Fringe Festival.

I can teach most areas of circus at a beginner to intermediate level. This includes acrobatics, acrobalance, aerial tissu, trapeze (solo, doubles, swinging), flying trapeze, manipulation and equilibristics.

I can teach juggling (balls and clubs) and hula hoops at a intermediate to advanced level as these are my speciality areas.

I have taught for the following companies;

Circa, Westside Circus, Little Big Tops, Circus Oz, Flipside circus, Vulcana Women's circus, Wellington Circus Trust as well as at many tailored corporate team building days.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- 2008 **Christchurch Polytechnic institute. 'CircoArts', Christchurch New Zealand.**
I completed a Diploma in Circus Arts. I enrolled directly into 2nd year due to my previous experience in Australia.
- 2004-ongoing I have undertaken numerous community circus classes to improve and update my skills.
- 2004 **Cirque Du Monde 'Social Circus' course.** Run by Cirque du Soleil and NICA, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2003 **Gymnastics Victoria** Level one General gym coaching course
- 2002-03 **Northern Metropolitan institute of TAFE (NMIT), Preston, Victoria**
'Diploma of community services: Alcohol and Other Drugs'
- 2001 **Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia**
Honours in Psychology
- 1998-1999 **Bond University, Gold Coast, Queensland**
Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology and Philosophy)
Completed under a full Scholarship for tuition

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2009 *Capital E National Theatre for children, Wellington, New Zealand*
Performer in touring 2 person show 'Tale of a Dog'
- 2009 *Wellington Circus Trust, Wellington, New Zealand*
Circus Trainer for children's classes and adult circus fit/hula hoops/beginner aerials
- 2009 *Circus Aotearoa, North Island, New Zealand*
Performer, marketing, tent hand for 5 month tour of North Island.
- 2008 *Contract worker for Silicon Planet Circus company, Christchurch, New Zealand*
Teaching, performances, balloon modeling, face painting.
- 2006- 2008 *Circa, Brisbane, Australia.*
Head Trainer. Teaching youth and adults community circus. Developing and teaching corporate development workshops. Assisting direct youth performance troupe 'Circa Zoo'
- 2006 *Flipside Circus, Brisbane, Australia.*
Casual teacher for youth circus
- 2006 *Westside Circus, Melbourne, Australia.*
Casual teacher for youth and children's school programs.
- 2006 *Circus Oz, Melbourne, Australia.*
Casual teacher for children's classes
- 2005-06 *Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Australia.*
Front of house manager.
- 2005 *Independent Lake Camp, Pennsylvania, USA.*
Camp counsellor.
Taught circus skills including Flying trapeze, Lira, web, static trapeze, mini trampoline, acrobalance, juggling, fire, whips, sliding table, unicycle, rolla bolla. Every two weeks there was a performance day for which I devised and choreographed an act for each of my four classes.
- 2004-05 *Out of the Blue studios and ROAR, Melbourne, Australia.*
I started my own business with some other circus performers. Skills taught included mini trampoline, acrobatics, hula hoops, acrobalance, clowning, juggling, hoop diving. I devised a show for the community event 'ROAR' (circus skills with 6 year olds to adults)
- 2004 *YWCA Victoria, Australia.*
Community Arts worker.
Facilitating and running workshops in music production, performance, dance, circus and visual arts for young women aged 15-30. Also production managed bi-monthly showcase events.
- 2004-06 *Yarra Melbourne Regional Library Service, Fitzroy, Australia.*
Children's Librarian (Band 4) and casual library technician.
- 2002-2004 *Little Big Tops Circus, Carlton, Australia.*
Circus instructor and Youth worker.
 - Instructed weekly circus classes with 3-12 year olds.

- I also developed and taught outreach workshops for specific groups of teenagers addressing issues such as self esteem, relationships and health (physical, psychological and emotional).
- Devising and choreographing end of year shows for Little Big Tops children classes and the Kingfisher festival at CERES. I also performed with *TRICK circustheatre* (youth circus).

1999-2005 Queensland Folk Federation ;

Woodford Folk Festival/The Dreaming, Queensland, Australia.

Assistant Gates Manager. I have been in this role for 3 years, prior to that I managed the performers area supervising volunteers, and liaising with performers.

2003 Strut and Fret Production company, Adelaide, Australia.

Spruiker and Front of house manager and promotions. Adelaide Fringe festival.

2002-2003 City of Yarra Youth Services, Fitzroy, Australia.

Youth support and program officer. One on one case management with vulnerable young people and also co-ordinating and running youth friendly activities such as soccer, circus, music festivals, camps etc.

REFEREES

Deborah Pope

Wellington circus trust and assistant director for 'Tale of a Dog'

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Yaron Lifschitz

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