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Their skills and teamwork are inspiring – particularly to the young people witnessing their work

– Theatre Matters



**FLYING
FRUIT FLY
CIRCUS**

**ANNUAL
REPORT 2023**



We acknowledge the Wiradjuri People, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we train and operate.

We recognise and celebrate their continuing connection and contribution to culture, Country and community.



Staff and students, 2023
Image credit: Ian Sutherland

Cover Page: The Grad Show
Image credit: Ian Sutherland



Our Circus Vision & Mission

VISION

To be the pre-eminent centre of contemporary circus in Australia.

MISSION

To train young people in the artform of circus and create extraordinary new circus works.



Spherical at Sydney Opera House
Image credit: Daniel Boud



2023 In Review

• JANUARY

- Summer workshops at Thredbo Alpine Resort
- Community circus workshops at Mansfield Youth Centre and Hyphen Wodonga
- NSW Minister for the Arts Ben Franklin & Albury City Council Mayor Kylie King attend the launch of capital works for the Borderville Theatre.

• FEBRUARY

- Term begins for new and returning students in our full-time circus program
- Community circus workshops at Sip & Savour in Albury
- Fruities alumni lunch at Adelaide Fringe

• MARCH

- Construction of Borderville Theatre begins onsite with Joss Construction & JWP Architects
- Ensemble performs in CoCreate at The Cube Wodonga
- 6 foundation students are selected to attend our Australian Ballet School Creative Collaboration
- Spherical Creative Development
- Students featured on The Today Show Live Cross to Noreuil Park, Albury

• APRIL

- Two Masters of Dance students from Victorian College of the Arts join our training team for a fortnight as part of our VCA Training Exchange
- Ania Reynolds leads a weekly music class for the Fruit Fly Band
- End of term Deckchair Cabaret
- Under Construction Residency: Steph & Camille Bontout-Mouat 'Kiss the Beast, Eat the King'
- Easter workshops at Thredbo Alpine Resort
- Ensemble performs at Riverside Vibes, Albury

• MAY

- Primary students begin the Little Fruit Songwriting Project with Fat Fruit
- Senior students Abbey Szakal and Peter Giasoumi attend the Arts8 Creative Collaboration with Lead Trainer Bec Neill, hosted by ANAM.
- FFFC alumni and Casus Creations founders Jesse Scott and Lachlan McAulay join the team as Guest Circus Trainers.
- Spherical rehearsal begins, led by Artistic Director Anni Davey

• JUNE

- Three preview performances of Spherical at The Cube Wodonga
- The Little Fruit Songwriting Project culminates with a showcase to families
- The 2023 graduates perform at Jones Winery & Vineyard as part of Roam Rutherglen
- 80 participants from all Australian states and territories attend the sold out National Training Project

• JULY

- Spherical premieres as part of the Sydney Opera House 50th anniversary celebrations
- Resident trainer Jake Silvestro spends 3 weeks in Broome and Beagle Bay (WA) as part of our Circus Passport program, in residency with Sandfly Circus, joined by students Chelsea Quail & Chloe Pirie.
- FFFC Alumni Manelaya Kaydos-Nitis joins the team as a Guest Circus Trainer.

• AUGUST

- Two FFFC trainers join the teaching team at VCA to complete our trainer exchange
- 15 students perform at the WSSC Gymnasium Opening.

• SEPTEMBER

- Under Construction Residency: One Fell Swoop 'In Common'
- Attendance at Australian Performing Arts Forum, Brisbane
- Term 3 Deckchair Cabaret
- 2023 graduates perform The Last Summer for Wanderer Festival, Pambula
- 33 young people audition for 2024 student intake

• OCTOBER

- Under Construction Residency: Jarrod Takle 'Titan'
- Attendance at NICA's Australian Circus Summit, Melbourne
- Albury City holiday workshop

• NOVEMBER

- Under Construction Residency: A Good Catch Circus 'Airborne'
- Keys received for the Borderville Theatre
- Rehearsal begins for Tempo

• DECEMBER

- The Borderville Theatre opens
- Over 5,000 people attend performances in the 2023 Borderville Circus Festival 2 – 22 December. Program includes:
- Circus Arts Showcase
- Night Flies Cabaret
- Circus in the Square: Changes
- The Long Pigs
- Airborne
- You & I
- The Grad Show

Company Statement

Significant change often requires a leap of faith.

In 2023 we embarked on a major extension to our creative headquarters in Albury, building our new 100-seat Borderville Theatre with dressing rooms, loading dock and storeroom. This was a long-held dream; to create for the first time, our own permanent and dedicated performance space.

Our plan was to continue normal service during construction with no disruption to our classes or artistic program, and we set a tight schedule of nine months, to complete in time for our 2023 Grad Show. All this during a very tough year for the construction industry due to the disruption of supply chains and rapidly rising costs.

Thanks to some gritty determination from a dedicated in-house team and our wonderful project partners, we were handed the keys three weeks early with our budget in tact. As planned, our graduating students were the inaugural performers on the Borderville Theatre stage as part of our December festival.

We are grateful to all those who contributed financially to this project, in particular the NSW government who made it all possible, and our many individual community donors.

Alongside this ambitious construction project, we delivered some major events.

We were proud to be asked by Sydney Opera House to perform for their 50th anniversary year and made a new show that celebrated the world's most recognisable performing arts centre. Spherical was inspired by architect Jørn Utzon's solution to the technical challenge of building

the amazing white sail roof structure, his 'spherical solution'. Anni Davey and the team crafted a high energy and highly entertaining work that was played in the round and sold-out 18 performances. Spherical is now being considered for future international touring.

This year's National Training Project was amongst our most successful, delivered again with Circa. This partnership has given the NTP more of an industry focus and lifted its profile. All places were filled and for the first time we welcomed participants from every state and territory.

Our graduating students created an original show for the Wanderer Festival in October, directed by Jake Silvestro. The Last Summer showcased the multiple individual talents of our seven grads, also featuring some memorable ensemble set pieces. More than 8,000 people attended the festival in Pambula Beach and this work formed the basis of their successful Grad Show.

We continued to reach out to the remote communities of Beagle Bay WA and Wilcannia NSW as part of our ongoing Circus Passport program and performed at a number of local events, including CoCreate at The Cube Wodonga and Riverside Vibes in Noreuil Park, Albury.

Under Construction, our popular artist residency program, supported six innovative projects and brought 31 diverse artists into our space. An exciting crucible for new work and an inspiring insight into professional practice for our young artists.

In December Borderville presented a range of productions including *Circus in the Square: Changes*, with a cast of 57 entertaining crowds of 2,500 in Wodonga and high quality independent work at HotHouse Theatre – *The Long Pigs, You & I*, and the world premiere of an outdoor show developed

through our Under Construction program, *Airborne*, in the Gateway Island amphitheatre. A spectacular Grad Show launched the new theatre with five sold out performances. Ben Franklin MLC, Minister for the Arts when this project was announced, attended the opening night and spoke of his pride at seeing the theatre complete. A perfect start for our new venue and a fitting celebratory end to a giant year.

Of the seven graduates, three have been accepted into the renowned École de cirque de Québec, for three years of advanced training. Two are at NICA, currently doing the Cert IV but hoping to transfer to the bachelor course when it becomes available. One is doing an extension year with us, and one will feature in the Channel 7 series *The Voice* this year. Heaps of talent!

A number of recent graduates continue to train and perform with Cirque du Soleil, which helped us move towards an exciting NexGen talent partnership, one of only six organisations worldwide to be invited into the program. This was finalised and announced in 2024.

Financially the company performed strongly helped by the one-off investment from the NSW government for the Borderville Theatre. As this was capital expenditure that will be depreciated over future years, the audited accounts reflect an unusually elevated surplus result. Underlying this, we acknowledge an increasing strain on our finances with static government funding and rapidly rising costs. Alongside our Arts8 colleagues, we participated in a very thorough independent review of our long term sustainability, commissioned by the federal government. Any changes to our funding will be included in the May 2024 federal budget.

2023 was a testament to our extraordinary team of humans. Each and every one contributed to the success of a year that presented many challenges, all of which were met with exemplary professionalism, good humour and a genuine passion for the work we do here. Our thanks also go to all our industry partners, our brilliant board, for keeping us on the right track, and our beautiful community.



Lara Block
CHAIR



Anni Davey
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Richard Hull
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Photos by Nic Fenton, OGA.



PERFORMANCE



We will make
and tour the best shows
for children and family
audiences.

– FFFC STRATEGIC PLAN



Riverside Vibes
Image credit: D-Gap Photos

Spherical

ON TOUR
8 – 10 June
25 June – 9 July

VENUES
The Cube Wodonga
Sydney Opera House

21
Performances

6,951
Attendance

DIRECTOR Anni Davey

COMPOSER & SOUND DESIGNER Chris Lewis

LIGHTING DESIGNER Jon Davey

COSTUME DESIGNER April Dawson

RIGGER Simon Yates

STAGE MANAGER Bek Gibbs

COMPANY MANAGER Felix Hauge

CIRCUS ASSOCIATES Ben Lewis, Lauren Shepherd

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Scott Stoddart

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER Tahni Froudust

CAST

Aysha Guiliamse-Witt
Clancy Rosewarne
Hudson White
James Wilson
Khalan Walsh-Young
Lucia Richardson

Meg Edinborough
Rachel Phillips
Ruby Muth
Rylan McDonald
Tia Young
Tyce Binding

CHAPERONES

Casey Mitselburg
Regina Richardson

Commissioned for the 50th anniversary of Sydney Opera House, Spherical takes its inspiration from the 'spherical solution' which saw architect Jørn Utzon derive the now renowned sails of the opera house from the surface of a sphere – an engineering feat of its time.

In an explosion of mechanical magic, the adventurous acrobats of the Flying Fruit Fly Circus have taken this discovery and found their own circus solution – but what is the question they are trying to answer?



Spherical at Sydney Opera House
Image credit: Daniel Boud

Borderville

DATE

2 – 22 December

LOCATION

The Borderville

17
Performances

5,296
Attendance

In 2023 the Borderville Festival was programmed over 3 weeks and 5 venues in Albury–Wodonga.

The 2023 Borderville Festival was a celebration of the vibrant and unique circus community that calls Albury-Wodonga home.

With the national youth circus on our doorstep, Albury-Wodonga has an incredible community of world-renowned circus artists connected to this place.

The Borderville 2023 program was a love letter to these artists and this community – to the young kids who are at the very beginning of their circus story, to the 18-year-olds about to graduate, leave home and explore the world, to the professional artists returning to visit the place where they grew up – ordinary people, doing extraordinary things.



Flying Fruit Fly Circus presents

BORDERVILLE

2 – 22 DECEMBER 2023

CIRCUS ARTS SHOWCASE

FREE

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER – CIRCUS HQ, ALBURY

The energy and enthusiasm of our Saturday program kids will fill the training floor to bursting at Circus HQ.

NIGHT FLIES CABARET

FREE

MONDAY 7 DECEMBER – CIRCUS HQ, ALBURY

A dazzling display from the talented Night Flies, showcasing a wide range of entertaining circus acts.

CIRCUS IN THE SQUARE: CHANGES

FREE

FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER 5.15PM, 6PM, 7PM

SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER 10AM, 11AM, 12PM

JUNCTION SQUARE, WODONGA

The extraordinary Fruit Fly ensemble will take your breath away with a brand-new work, Changes, performed throughout Wodonga Council's Fridays in the Square and Christmas Fun in Junction.

THE LONG PIGS

\$25

WEDNESDAY 13 – THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER

BUTTER FACTORY THEATRE

Spine tingling original theatre, hilariously dark and frighteningly funny.

AIRBORNE

\$25

THURSDAY 14 – SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER

GATEWAY VILLAGE AMPHITHEATRE

A breathtaking world premiere combining the art of the flying trapeze with the enchanting backdrop of the Gateway amphitheatre.

YOU & I

\$25

FRIDAY 15 – SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER

BUTTER FACTORY THEATRE

Jesse Scott and Lachlan Mcaulay return to the Border where their love story – of circus and of each other – began.

THE GRAD SHOW

\$25

TUESDAY 19 – FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER

BORDERVILLE THEATRE

The graduating class of 2023 performing their last show together as Fruit Flies in our brand new Borderville Theatre.

Find out more and book your tickets at

www.borderville.com.au

The Grad Show

DATE
18 – 22 December

LOCATION
The Borderville

DIRECTOR Jake Silvestro
COSTUME DESIGNER April Dawson
CIRCUS ASSOCIATE Misha Reale
TRAINERS Bec Neill, Ben Lewis
LIGHTING DESIGN Adam Boon
REHEARSAL STAGE MANAGER & OPERATOR Peter Giasoumi
TECHNICIAN John Carberry
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Scott Stoddart
SHOW RIGGER Simon Yates

CAST
Abbey Szakal
Arthur Hull
Bianca Hall
James Wilson
Natasha Hall
Rachel Phillips

“
Last night was just completely amazing! How can one not be inspired and filled with hope by these kids...What a powerful thing we have in this country in the Fruities, as a public symbol of what young people can do and can be

– Nick Bailey, ANAM

5
Performances

471
Attendance



The 2023 graduates

Image credit: Nic Fenton, OGA Creative Agency



Circus in the Square: Changes

3 Performances

3,000 Attendance

DATE

9 December

LOCATION

Junction Square, Wodonga

DIRECTOR Anni Davey , Byron Hutton, Ben Lewis

TRAINERS Bec Neill, Scott Neill, Tanya Lester, Per Westman, Misha Reale, Genaveive Neal, Jesse Scott, Lachlan McAulay

COSTUME Amanda Fairbanks

RIGGER Simon Yates

STAGE MANAGER Farrah Hurst

CAST

Abigail Sandral
Alanna Cameron
Allera Wight
Alyssa Lambert
Astaria Benne Keeble
Ava Dedic
Ava Hitchcock
Aysha Guiliamse-Witt
Charlotte Pugh
Chloe Pirie
Chot Walford
Claire Braunack
Clancy Rosewarne
Dakota Skrypczak
Edwina Harrington
Eli Jones
Elliott Mancer
Emilia Russell
Erin McNab
Ethan McDonald
Etta Gramlick
Evelyn Tilley
Frankie Allison
Fraser Hanssens
Griffin Castagna
Harry McEachern
Hudson White
Hunter Rush

Imogen Cole
Isabel Stirling
Isabella Turner Spessot
James Sheil
Jemima Paine
Kai Wheatley
Khalan Walsh-Young
Lucia Richardson
Lucie Mariethoz
Massi Bertacco
Meg Edinborough
Monique Blackie
Nico Pope
Olivia Crawford
Peyton Cullinger
Peyton Rose Canning
Rhianna Denton
Rosie Castagna
Ruby Muth
Rylan McDonald
Sophie Norris
Spencer Haberecht
Talia Essop
Tameka Rees
Tash Meani
Tia Young
Tom Paydon
Tyce Binding
Zahra Pirie

VOLUNTEERS

Lana Melbourne
Naomi Peters
Erica Coulston
Samantha Everton
Jessica Tilley
Mel McClure
Stephanie Wight
Letitia Harrington
Belinda McDonald
Shane McDonald
Casey Mitselburg
Makaela Hitchcock
Danni Castagna
Jess Wheatley
Adam Wheatley
Ian Cuss
Cathy McNab
Alison Essop
Matthew Gordos

Circus in the Square: Changes
Image Credit: Ian Sutherland

Presented in partnership
with City of Wodonga

Circus Arts Showcase

DATE
2 December

LOCATION
Flying Fruit Fly Circus

DIRECTOR Tanya Lester

COSTUME & ADMINISTRATION Bron Kouw

SOUND Marcela Scheuner, Bek Gibbs

TRAINERS Arabella Slattery, Aysha Guilliamse-Witt, Bodhi Noonan, Genaveive Neal, Maya Chynoweth, Monique Blackie, Nico Pope, Per Westman, Peter Giasoumi, Rachel Phillips, Tracey D'Elton, Zach Saltalamacchia

RIGGER Lachlan McAulay

4
Performances

830
Attendance

Night Flies Cabaret

DATE
7 December

LOCATION
Flying Fruit Fly Circus

DIRECTOR Per Westman

COORDINATOR Tanya Lester

ADMINISTRATOR Bron Kouw

SOUND John Carberry, Bek Gibbs

TRAINERS Genaveive Neal, Rachel Phillips, Tracey D'Elton, Zach Saltalamacchia

COSTUME Jackie McDonald

1
Performances

120
Attendance

CAST

Night Flies Ensemble



Circus Arts Showcase
Image Credit: Ian Sutherland

Airborne

LOCATION
Gateway Village Amphitheatre, Wodonga

3 Performances

CONCEPT AND CREATIVE DIRECTION
Spenser Inwood, Sharon Gruenert, Debra Batton

PERFORMERS:
Aleshanee Kelso, Claire Bindolf, Debra Batton, Jo Lancaster, Josie Wardrope, Sam Aldham, Sharon Gruenert, Simon Yates, Spenser Inwood

DRAMATURGE/ OUTSIDE EYE
Alexandra Harrison

LIGHTING DESIGN
Gina Gascoigne

SOUND DESIGN
Kirri Buchler

DATE
14 – 16 December

448 Attendance

COSTUME DESIGN
Clara Mee Yee Chan

HEAD RIGGER
Beau Dudding

STAGE MANAGER
Cosmo Polke

PRODUCER:
A Good Catch & Cluster Arts

The Long Pigs

LOCATION
HotHouse Theatre, Wodonga

2 Performances

DEVISORS/CREATORS:
Clare Bartholomew, Derek Ives-Plunkett, Nicci Wilks

PERFORMERS:
Clare Bartholomew, Mozes, Nicci Wilks

DEVISOR/DIRECTOR:
Susie Dee

SET DESIGN:
Anna Tregloan

SOUND DESIGN:
Jethro Woodward

LIGHTING DESIGN:
Andy Turner

PRODUCER:
WE3 & Cluster Arts

DATE
13 & 14 December

171 Attendance

You & I

LOCATION
HotHouse Theatre, Wodonga

2 Performances

DEVISORS/CREATORS:
Jesse Scott, Lachlan McAulay

SET DESIGN:
Lachlan McAulay

LIGHTING DESIGN:
Rob Scott

PRODUCER:
Casus Creations & Cluster Arts

DATE
15 & 16 December

256 Attendance



COCREATE WODONGA

LOCATION The Cube Wodonga

DATE 4 March

PERFORMANCES 1

AUDIENCE 1,000

DIRECTOR Anni Davey

TRAINER Jake Silvestro, Scott Neill,

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Scott Stoddart

SHOW RIGGER Simon Yates

SOUND OPERATOR Nico Pope

WARDROBE SUPERVISOR Kai Kirkovski

CAST Abigail Sandral, Alyssa Lambert, Barney Herrmann, Claire Braunack, Eli Jones, Emilia Russell, Emma Giasoumi, Finn Neill, Griffin Castagna, Jacob Kavanagh, Khalan Walsh-Young, Maya Chynoweth, Monique Blackie, Natasha Hall, Tal Shemesh, Tia Young, Yoav Shemesh

DECKCHAIR CABARET

LOCATION Flying Fruit Fly Circus

DATE 3 April

PERFORMANCES 1

AUDIENCE 150

COORDINATED Anni Davey

MC Rachel Phillips

CAST Abbey Szakal, Abigail Sandral, Aiofe Gordos, Aysha Guillianse-Witt, Barney Herrmann, Bianca Hall, Chot Walford, Claire Braunack, Dakota Skrypczak, Edwina Harrington, Emma Giasoumi, Farrah Hurst, Finn Neill, Jacob Kavanagh, James Wilson, Harry McEachern, Hudson White, Kai Kirkovski, Khalan Walsh-Young, Maya Chynoweth, Monique Blackie, Natasha Hall, Tash Meani, Nico Pope, Odette Duchesne, Rylie Holmes, Taria O'Connor, Tom Paydon, Tyce Binding, Yoav Shemesh

Special guest performances from Jake Silvestro, Ben Lewis, Byron Hutton, Caleb Hope and VCA Dance Masters students Chris and Liam.

DECKCHAIR CABARET

LOCATION Flying Fruit Fly Circus

DATE 11 September

PERFORMANCES 1

AUDIENCE 180

COORDINATED Anni Davey

TRAINERS Scott Neill, Bec Neill, Ben Lewis

NIGHT FLIES TRAINERS Caleb Hope, Dominique Cravero, Genaveive Neal, Jo Lancaster, Per Westman, Rachel Phillips, Tracey D'Elton, Zach Saltalamaccia

CAST Abbey Szakal, Abigail Sandral, Arthur Hull, Ava Hitchcock, Barney Herrmann, Bianca Hall, Charlotte Pugh, Chloe Pirie, Claire Braunack, Clancy Rosewarne, Dakota Skrypczak, Edwina Harrington, Elise Doherty, Emilia Russell, Erin McNab, Ethan McDonald, Finn Neill, Hudson White, Jacob Kavanagh, Khalan Walsh-Young, Lucie Mariethoz, Maya Chynoweth, Natasha Hall, Nico Pope, Peter Giasoumi, Rhianna Denton, Rylie Holmes, Spencer Haberecht, Talia Essop, Tia Young, Tom Paydon, Tyce Binding

NIGHT FLIES CAST Aaron Keating, Amber McDonald, Amelia Pasqualotto, Amelie Iori, Ari Dempsey, Arthur McEachern, Asha Mardling, Bethany Maxwell, Charlotte Valenzisi, Clementine Lyell, Elsie Johnson, Ethan Dimitrovski, Evan Sergi, Farrah Hurst, George McEachern, Grace Meachan, Henry Leahy, Isabella Valenzisi, Isla Britt, Isla Dixon, James Maxwell, K Edinborough, Katherine Turner, Lacie Schneider, Lilah Sisley, Patience Joss, Taria O'Connor, Temperence Parker, Will Dixon

RIVERSIDE VIBES

LOCATION Noreuil Park Foreshore, Albury

DATE 29 & 30 April

PERFORMANCES 4

AUDIENCE 600

DIRECTOR Anni Davey

TRAINER Misha Reale, Per Westman, Tanya Lester

RIGGER Simon Yates

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Scott Stoddart

CAST Abbey Szakal, Ava Hitchcock, Chelsea Quail, Chot Walford, Dakota Denyer, Dakota Skrypczak, Edwina Harrington, Harry McEachern, Imogen Cole, Imogen McDonald, Isabella Turner-Spessot, Kai Kirkovski, Meg Edinborough, Nate Klippel, Rylie Holmes, Tameka Rees, Tash Meani, Tom Paydon, Tyce Binding

WANDERER FESTIVAL

LOCTION Wanderer Festival Pambula

DATE 29 September – 1 October

PERFORMANCES 3

AUDIENCE 1,500

CAST Abbey Szakal, Arthur Hull, Bianca Hall, James Wilson, Kai Kirkovski, Natasha Hall, Rachel Phillips

DIRECTOR Jake Silvestro

COSTUME DESIGNER April Dawson

CIRCUS ASSOCIATE Misha Reale

RIGGER Ryan Taplin

STAGE MANAGER Jasper Wood

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER Bek Gibbs

ROAM RUTHERGLEN

LOCATION Jones Winery

DATE 10 June

PERFORMANCES 6

AUDIENCE 300

PERFORMED Abbey Szakal, Arthur Hull, Bianca Hall, Kai Kirkovski, Natasha Hall, Yoav Shemesh

TRAINERS Bec Neill



EDUCATION



**We will be a beacon
of excellence for
creative learning
and circus training.**

– FFFC STRATEGIC PLAN



Circus

STUDENTS
ENROLLED: **82**

PREPARATION GROUP

9 Basic Weekly
Training Hours

In the Preparation Group, younger Fruities learn to control and understand their bodies, and are trained in the fundamentals of five major disciplines – balance, acrobatics, aerial skills, manipulation and performance.

FOUNDATION GROUP

16 Basic Weekly
Training Hours

In the Foundation Group students further develop the five disciplines, increase core strength and agility, improve their understanding of body mechanics and begin to concentrate on particular disciplines or apparatus. Foundation students learn about structuring acts and creating their own performances. They also perform regularly for a family and friends audience in informal cabarets and other offerings.

DEVELOPMENT GROUP

18 Basic Weekly
Training Hours

It is in the Development Group that students begin to specialise their training in particular circus apparatus and artistic sensitivities. Each student has an individual training program that is inspired by the natural skills and interest of the student. Development students learn about incorporating different theatrical styles into their performances, creating from different stimulus, and are encouraged to develop a more conceptual approach to their performance making.

We maintain a program of training that is performance-led. This means that students are involved in creating work and performing for various audiences throughout their training. We aim to provide every student with a meaningful performance opportunity at least once in every year. Some of the performance opportunities that are regularly available to students include;

- (a) Friends & Family shows – cabarets, or less formal presentations for other students and circus community
- (b) Local Community performances – local festivals or community events often feature appearances from FFFC students.
- (c) Self-produced seasons – the new Borderville Theatre offers opportunities to make and deliver shows for our local audience. The most regular of these is the annual Grad Show.
- (d) Main stage shows – FFFC regularly produces major circus works that are available for touring regionally, in capital cities and sometimes to international destinations.

FFFC strives to encourage circus literacy, on-stage confidence, personable and unique-to-each-student performance style and a curiosity about our artform. Our students are capable of exploration and innovation because they understand their history and have a good grasp of current trends. We do this through;

- (a) Weekly creative training classes
- (b) Circus Links –regular lessons on Australian Contemporary Circus – History and Current Trends delivered as part of the Flying Fruit Fly Circus School curriculum
- (c) Exposure to different modes of exploration and development through our Artist in Residence programs that support professional artists to develop work in our spaces and show work at various stages of development to our students and community.

2023 Student Statistics



2023 graduation
Image credit: Tahni Froudust

2023 Student Enrolment

Total Students		82
	Preparation	15
	Foundation	29
	Development	38
Age	Under 16	63
	16 – 17	15
	18 – 20	4
Gender	Female	52
	Male	28
	Non-binary	2
State of Origin	New South Wales	32
	Victoria	46
	Western Australia	4

5 Year Snapshot

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Students continuing from previous year	65	60	66	70	64
New students	16	14	20	15	18
Total Intake	81	74	86	85	82
Students withdrawn	8	2	10	9	6
End of Year Completions Total	73	72	76	76	76
Year 12/13 Graduations	8	3	6	13	7

Certificate III in Circus Arts

The Certificate III in Circus Arts provides a vocational qualification in elementary level circus skills and knowledge. In collaboration with Swinburne University of Technology, NICA and Wodonga Senior Secondary College, the Flying Fruit Fly Circus is the only organisation in Australia currently delivering this qualification.

This course is perfect for aspiring circus artists seeking a qualification and as a pathway for further learning. The Certificate III in Circus Arts can be used as preparation for the Certificate IV in Circus Arts and Bachelor of Circus Arts courses at the National Institute for Circus Arts (NICA) or other tertiary institutions. 2023 was the first year we accepted year 10 students into the Certificate III with the view to transitioning this two year course to year 10 & 11 completion.

Students: 18

Our Schools

From years 3–9, our students enjoy exclusive enrolment in the Flying Fruit Fly Circus School, situated in a purpose-built facility on the Wodonga Middle Years College Felldimmer campus. This specialist school has a team of dedicated and experienced teachers who work closely with our students, supporting them to be successful in their learning and development. In-school training at the circus is incorporated into the curriculum and timetable flexibility allows for rehearsals, touring and other performance commitments. In 2023 morning training was also held on school grounds to facilitate the theatre construction project at the circus.

From years 10–12, students attend the Wodonga Senior Secondary College, which provides support and flexibility for our students to maintain their circus education and offers one of the broadest subject ranges in the state.

This unique educational partnership with the Department of Education and Training Victoria ensures our students receive a complete and high quality learning experience during their time with us, never compromising either their academic or circus studies.

Maree Cribbes

Maree Cribbes, Campus Principal of Wodonga Middle Years College, sadly passed away in 2023 after a long battle with cancer.

Maree was a passionate supporter of our circus school and the work we do. She was always warm, good humoured and 100% committed to her work in public education and to the students in her care.

Maree made a positive and lasting contribution to the Flying Fruit Fly Circus and her loss is still felt across the community. Our thoughts remain with her family and friends.





COMMUNITIES

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We are proud of our regional home and the communities we share it with.

– FFFC STRATEGIC PLAN



Public Classes

Our public classes offer an opportunity for our community to enjoy circus, regardless of age and ability. From tots to senior citizens, everyone can experience the physical, creative and social benefits of circus training. These classes continue to play an important role as feeders to enrolment in our full time circus program for local regional students.

Classes in 2023

Tots & Parents (age 18 months – 2)

Circus Tots (age 2 – 4)

Circus Pre-School (age 2–6)

Saturday Circus Arts (age 4–18)

Opportunity Group (age 6–9)

Night Flies (age 9–18)

Adult Night Flies (age 18+)

Fruit Bats (age 55+)

Attendance: 14,164

Circus Passport

Circus Passport is a program funded by the Australian Government through the Regional Arts Fund. For three years we have connected with regional and remote communities supporting existing circus activities.

In 2023 we worked with Theatre Kimberley as part of their Dragonfly Outreach Residency in Beagle Bay and Sandfly Circus in Broome.. FFFC Trainer Jake Silvestro was in residence for 3 weeks and joined by senior students Chloe Pirie and Chelsea Quail.

The 2023 workshops concluded with a final performance with a cast of over 50 students from the local school.

We have continued to develop our relationship with Outback Theatre for Young People and the Wilcannia community.

Attendance: 71

Inside the Circus

Inside the Circus is a unique experience for audience members to see behind the scenes of Australia's national youth circus while on tour. In 2023 Inside the Circus was offered alongside Spherical at the Sydney Opera House. Participants had an exclusive look at the performers warming up, a chat with Artistic Director Anni Davey, and met the cast after the show for an exclusive Q&A.

Workshops: 2
Participation: 100

Circus Workshops

In 2023 our training team delivered 13 workshops within our local community as well as additional workshops and circus experiences throughout our tours.

Connecting with surrounding communities such as Holbrook, Tumbarumba, Falls Creek, Griffith and Wagga Wagga, offsite and onsite at FFFC.

Our workshops are facilitated by senior trainers along with FFFC students who learn to teach under direct supervision from our more experienced trainers.

Attendance: 907



Circus Passport in Beagle Bay
Image credit: Theatre Kimberley



FACILITIES

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Our Creative Headquarters will meet the needs of the next generation of students, artists and visitors.

— FFFC STRATEGIC PLAN





Borderville Theatre
Image credit: Richard Hull

Creative Headquarters

Our building is owned by Albury City Council and leased to us on a secure long-term basis, managed and maintained through a successful partnership arrangement.

This purpose built 1500m2 facility caters for a wide range of acrobatic training. It features a fully equipped training hall rising to a height of 13m, rehearsal studios and modern, brightly coloured offices, amenities and foyer.

Circus House

Our two units in South Albury provide free or discounted accommodation close to the circus for visiting artists, trainers, directors and professional staff who are working with us on limited engagements. The secondary purpose is to generate income from commercial short-term rentals that contribute to the maintenance and upkeep of the property.

The artist accommodation has increased the organisation's capacity to offer residencies to circus and physical theatre artists and is key to our Under Construction residency program.

In 2023 we provided 495 nights of accommodation to artists at no cost. The accommodation was booked for 204 nights for short-term rentals.

Rental Income	204 nights	\$15,772
Accommodation Savings	495 nights	\$54,450*
Rental Costs		(\$43,708)**
	Total	\$26,514

*number of artist nights provided multiplied by \$110/night
**not including depreciation costs

Borderville Theatre

In March we began construction of our new performance space, an extension to our training HQ designed by JWP Architects, built by Joss Construction, and made possible by a \$3.3 million investment from the NSW Government.

In November, three weeks ahead of schedule, we received the keys to the Borderville Theatre.

It was all we dreamed of. An epic yet intimate black box theatre designed for making and performing circus, seating 100 people. This striking dark bronze building also includes dressing rooms, loading and storage areas.

This was a well-planned and efficient project delivered with great partners – Joss Group, JWP Architects, AlburyCity and the NSW Government.

The Australian Government, through the Office for the Arts, helped to secure the opening season and first year of operations with additional funding for a full-time Lighting and Sound Technician.

In challenging times for construction, costs did vary in some areas but we successfully bolstered project funding through both the NSW and AlburyCity Community Funds, and our own fundraising, with huge thanks to our generous community.

There is strong industry interest in the Borderville Theatre with a full roster of creative residencies already confirmed for 2024.

It was fitting that the first performers on the new stage were our 2023 graduating artists with their spectacular Grad Show in December, which sold out 5 performances.

We were included in Arts Hub's round-up of best new cultural destinations to visit in 2024, and the theatre is nominated for a Master Builders Award.

Former NSW Minister for the Arts Ben Franklin joined us for the opening. He said:

"One of my proudest moments as Arts Minister was supporting the building of this theatre."



Borderville Theatre
Image credit: Nic Fenton, OGA Creative Agency



SECTOR

”

We will support the creation of new circus works and be a welcoming destination of choice.

– FFFC STRATEGIC PLAN



Spherical, Sydney Opera House
Image Credit: Daniel Boud

Under Construction

The Under Construction National Circus Residency Program supports circus artists to develop new work. Residents receive free access to our award-winning training facility and rehearsal spaces, accommodation, staff time and seed funding towards their costs.

Thanks to the Victorian Circus Fund through Creative Australia, Victorian Under Construction residents were able to access additional seed funding and A Good Catch Circus received a further commission to present their new work Airborne in our 2023 Borderville Circus Festival.

*2023 residencies postponed to 2024.

- Our 2023 Under Construction Residents were:
- Steph & Camille Bontout-Mouat** – *Kiss the Beast, Eat the King*
 - A Good Catch Circus** – *Airborne*
 - Jarrold Takle** – *Titan*
 - One Fell Swoop** – *In Common*
 - Nicci Wilks** – *Rodeo Clown**
 - Olivia Porter** – *If the Shoe Fits**



National Training Project 2023
Image credit: Flying Fruit Fly Circus



One Fell Swoop in residence
Image credit: supplied by artist

National Training Project

The National Training project is an annual training intensive for students from around the country to train at the Flying Fruit Fly Circus with our core training staff and guest artists. 2023 was the second year of our partnership presenting NTP with Circa Contemporary Circus.

In 2023 the National Training Project was attended by students from all states and territories.

DATE 26 June – 7 July 2023

- NTP Coordinator** Daniel McBurnie
- Trainers**
- Alex Mizzen (Independent) – Handstands, Movement
 - Alice Muntz (Circa) – Ensemble & Sequence Creation
 - Bec Neill (FFFC) – Acro, Tumble
 - Byron Hutton (FFFC) – Juggle
 - Dan Power (Independent) – Aerial Hoop/Lyra, Rope, Tissu
 - Gerramy Marsden (Circa) – Ensemble & Sequence Creation
 - Jake Silvestro (FFFC) – Acro, Tumble,
 - Jesse Scott (Casus) – Acro, Chairs, Trapeze
 - Jo Lancaster (Independent) – Swinging Trapeze
 - Kathryn O'Keefe (Circa) – Ensemble & Sequence Creation
 - Lachlan McAulay (Casus) – Chairs, Handstands, Straps
 - Phil Witt (FFFC) – Teeterboard, Tramp Wall
 - Scott Neill (FFFC) – Teeterboard, Trampoline, Tramp Wall
 - Stephen Williams (Independent) – Acro, Handstands, Straps
 - Tanya Lester (FFFC) – Aerial Hoop, Static Trapeze
 - Tracey D'Elton (FFFC) – Handstands, Trampoline, Tramp Wall
 - Yos Worth (Independent) – Active Flex, Hula Hoop, Pilates

FFFC Senior Students Abbey Szakal and Chelsea Quail were employed as Junior Assistant Trainers.

Attendance: 94



Arts8 collaboration
Image credit: supplied by ANAM

Open Training

The Open Training program provides free space for senior students, alumni, staff and other circus professionals to explore and improve their practice.

In 2023 the following artists accessed the space for open training:

Alister Winn | Amelia Cole | Andi Cooper | Arabella Coghlan | Arthur Hull | Benton Adams-Walker | Bianca Hall | Caleb Hope | Chris Wade | Claire Bindoff | Darby Sullivan | Eden Manley | Ellie Hanuska | Empress Stah Power | Ewan Schell | Genaveive Neal | Holly Rose Boyer | James Bartlett | James Wilson | Jay Rensen | Jesse Scott | Jessica Robbins | Lachlan McAulay | Liam Berg | Liam DeJong | Lucia Richardson | Lucy Tan | Madison Burleigh | Maya Chynoweth | Megan Giesbrecht | Melissa Baker | Natasha Hall | Nathan Jones | Nick Marsack | Rachel Phillips | Ryan Hooper | Rylie Holmes | Stephen Williams | Tal Shemesh | Thomas Adams-Walker | Tracey D'Elton | Tully Fedorowjtsch | Yoav Shemesh

Sector Partnerships

ARTS8

The Arts8 is the group of eight national arts training organisations convened by the Australian Government to nurture excellence and creative talent across the country. We are proud to be a member of the group with the Australian Ballet School (ABS), Australian Youth Orchestra (AYO), Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS), NAISDA Dance College, Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM), National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA) and National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA).

In 2023 along with our usual Arts8 leadership meetings, we engaged with the Federal Government's Arts8 Financial Sustainability Review.

Senior students Abbey Szakal and Peter Giasoumi joined Lead Trainer Bec Neill at the annual creative collaboration, hosted by ANAM at the Abbotsford Convent, Melbourne.

NICA

We continued our strong relationship with the National Institute of Circus Arts. Swinburne/ NICA continue to auspice our Certificate III, delivered in partnership with Wodonga Senior Secondary College.

In 2023 a group of students and trainers attended the NICA Third Year Ensemble show Oneiric and met with the ensemble after the show.

Sydney Opera House

We continued our partnership with Sydney Opera House in 2023. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the House we were especially commissioned to create Spherical. We performed 18 performances, including two Inside the Circus behind-the-scenes experiences and a number of creative learning workshops.

The Cube Wodonga

The Cube continues to be an important partner as the venue where we preview seasons of our new works before embarking on tours or other city presentations. It ensures we can play to local audiences first. In 2023 we performed three performances of Spherical at The Cube in June.

FEDEC

We are a full member of FEDEC which is an international network of about 70 members representing secondary, vocational and higher education training institutions as well as information, research and circus arts advocacy, located in more than 20 countries in Europe and beyond. FEDEC is committed to supporting the development and evolution of training, teaching and creation in the field of circus arts.

Arts on Tour

Arts on Tour continues to be an essential partner for our regional touring work. They assist us to plan tour itineraries, build relationships with our regional presenting partners and develop our funding applications. Arts on Tour provide comprehensive logistical support when we are on the road.

In 2023 we developed the 2024 tour of Tempo and secured Creative Australia and Creative Victoria funding for the tour.

Executive Producer Tahni Froudish joined the Arts on Tour board in April 2023.



FFFC students visit NICA
Image credit: Flying Fruit Fly Circus



SUSTAINABILITY



We will be a dynamic and financially resilient organisation that proactively reduces our contribution to climate change.

– FFFC STRATEGIC PLAN



Environment

Students and Staff

We believe hope is our most fundamental strategy. We want our students and staff to feel empowered and supported to examine their own practice and decision making, with ideas for change filtering throughout our organisation. We also enable visitors, contractors, stakeholders and audiences to understand and minimise their pollution and carbon footprint when engaging with us. We have a ban on single use plastic and multiple recycling stations.

Our Building

Our building is 13 years old and already benefits from a number of good sustainable design features. In recent years we have installed solar panels and a water tank and fitted LED lights in the training hall. Our Borderville Theatre project delivers an extension to our existing facilities incorporating the latest environmental features.

Transport

As the Flying Fruit Fly Circus tours and our schools arrange excursions around the region, Australia and overseas, we continually assess the impact of our travelling and work to minimise carbon impact.

Our Artistic Program

We continue to tell resonant stories, relevant to our young people and that help to galvanise positive change. Accurate climate and ecological concerns are reflected in our work.

Making contemporary circus

We consider each step of the process of creating and producing shows to better understand how we can reduce their environmental impact. We share our learnings with the community and industry and encourage an exchange of ideas.

Decision making

Environment is a standing agenda item for all meetings, ensuring impact is considered at every level.



Fundraising

In 2023 our development focus was on fundraising for the Borderville Theatre construction project. Thanks to the following wonderful individuals, groups and businesses who donated to this project.

Principal Donors \$10,000+

Paul Joss

Major Donors \$5,000+

The Inzitari Family

Luke Wilson

The Spessot Family

Patrons \$1,000+

Binding Building

Caitlin and Luke Wilson

Keating Plasterers

The River Deck

Showtech Australia

Tiny and Robyn Good

Vivienne Halat

Friends \$100+

Aileen & Ken McAulay

Alexandra Wilson

Alison Essop

Anni Davey

Baani Gupta

Barbara Hernandez

Beck Palmer

Boss Squad

Brett Young

Cath Carmody

Charles Parkinson & Ina Johnson

Daisy & Lulu Dowling

David & Mandy Gordon

David Lester

Don Gargan

Emma Mancer

Evans Family Circus

Fiona Pride

The Fruit Bats

Giasoumi Family

Glenn Mancer

Hannah Mancer

Hollie & Spencer

Imogen Drury

Jackie & Stuart McDonald

Jane Mullett

Jesse Jensen-Kohl

Josephine McGrath

Karen & John Eldridge

Karla Conway

Keren Wilson

Lana Salter

Lara Block, FFFC Chair 2016–2023

Laurel Frank

Libbie Simpson

Linda Catalano

Linda & Nicholas Marks

Lisa, Sam and Kate Turner

Luca & Freddie Froudish

Madge Fletcher

Marg Leddin

Margaret Murray

Marguerite Pepper

Mary Harvey

Mel & Geoff McClure

Michelle Wild

Monique & Julian Mudge

Murray River Animal Hospital

Naomi Peters & Troy Crawford

Narelle Vogel

Norbi Whitney

The Paine Family

Pat & Tony Shelper

Paul Ingwersen

Paul & Kathryn Scanlan

Paula Rundell-Gordon

Phillip Harman

Rachel Sherrington

Richard Hull

Rob Connell

Rob Scott

Robert Love

The Rose-Lyell Family

Rosie Marley

Sam & John Froudish

Spencer Kaye

The Spry Family

Stacey & Mal Clarke

Stean Nicholls

The Szakal Family

Tahni Froudish

The Walford Everton Family

Zoe Wilesmith

Alumni Giving Circle

Abbey Szakal

Abigail Sandral

Arthur Hull

Astaria Benne Keeble

Ben Lewis

Bridie Hooper

Campbell Clarke

Deni Davidson

Dylan Ingwersen

Edwina Harrington

Eli Jones

Ellie Marks

Elliott Mancer

Emma Giasoumi

Erin McNab

Erin Monteith

Finn Neill

Flip Kammerer

Flying Fruit Fly Circus School Students

Freyja Wild

Griffin Castagna

Harry, George, Arthur McEachern

Imogen, Ethan & Amber McDonald

Isla Lewis

Issy and the Stirling family

James Bustar

James Wilson

Jesse Scott

Jules Wilson

Jy Hildred

Kai Wheatley

Kayla Hulm

Lauren Shepherd

Marike Van Nouhuys

Massimiliano Bertacco

Maya Chynoweth

Peter Giasoumi

Rosie Castagna

Sophie Norris

Spenser Inwood

Talia Essop

Tess Spry

Thomas Darby Flanagan

Tia Young

Toni Smith

Will Ledingham

Zanette Clements

Zebastian Hunter

Richard Hull, The Hon Ben Franklin MLC, Anni Davey OAM & Justin Clancy MP at the opening of the Borderville Theatre
Image supplied by Ben Franklin





FINANCIALS

Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Flying Fruit Fly Foundation Limited
and Controlled Entities

ABN 76 007 293 389

Flying Fruit Fly Foundation Limited and Controlled Entities

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Consolidated 2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue & Income	4	5,542,225	3,657,404
Employee related expenses		1,809,370	1,959,898
Production expenses		173,249	517,429
Administration expenses		149,717	151,767
Lease expense	2	250,000	250,000
Other expenses		266,733	345,284
Surplus before income tax and depreciation		<u>2,893,156</u>	<u>433,026</u>
Depreciation and amortisation	5	60,282	55,326
Income tax expense	1(b)	-	-
Net Surplus for the year		<u>2,832,874</u>	<u>377,700</u>
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to net result:</i>			
Land & buildings revaluation increment		-	303,632
Total Comprehensive Result for the year		<u>2,832,874</u>	<u>681,332</u>

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Flying Fruit Fly Foundation Limited and Controlled Entities

Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2023

	Note	Consolidated	
		2023	2022
		\$	\$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	1,155,840	827,358
Trade and other receivables	7	220,658	237,833
Other financial assets	8	400,120	325,685
Inventories		3,632	4,210
Other		48,436	20,382
Total Current Assets		1,828,686	1,415,468
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	4,556,600	1,633,961
Total Non-Current Assets		4,556,600	1,633,961
Total Assets		6,385,286	3,049,429
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	303,415	132,388
Provisions	11	213,114	231,976
Contract liabilities	12	884,374	513,710
Total Current Liabilities		1,400,903	878,074
Non-current Liabilities			
Provisions	13	10,468	30,314
Total Non-current Liabilities		10,468	30,314
Total Liabilities		1,411,371	908,388
Net Assets		4,973,915	2,141,041
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		1,370,083	1,837,209
Asset revaluation reserve		303,632	303,632
Capital grant funds reserve		3,300,000	-
Settlement funds		200	200
Total Equity		4,973,915	2,141,041

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Flying Fruit Fly Foundation Limited and Controlled Entities

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Consolidated	
		2023	2022
		\$	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Receipts from grants and patrons		5,630,404	2,736,912
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,291,908)	(2,948,864)
		3,338,496	(211,952)
Interest received		20,355	3,083
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		3,358,851	(208,869)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(2,989,491)	(632,295)
Purchase of investments		(40,878)	(66,960)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from investing activities		(3,030,369)	(699,255)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held		328,482	(908,124)
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		827,358	1,735,482
Cash at the End of the Financial Year	6	1,155,840	827,358

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



PEOPLE

”

We will be a place
where the best in the
industry aspire to work
and collaborate.

– FFFC STRATEGIC PLAN



Borderville Festival
Image credit: Ian Sutherland

People

2023 Circus Personnel

- Amber Kaldor – **Trainer**
- Anni Davey – **Artistic Director**
- Arabella Slattery – **Trainer**
- Bec Neill - **Leading Trainer**
- Bek Gibbs – **Associate Producer**
- Ben Lewis – **Leading Trainer**
- Bodhi Noonan – **Trainer**
- Bron Kouw – **Public Programs Administrator**
- Byron Hutton – **Trainer**
- Cathy Williams – **Finance Officer (Findex)**
- Daniel McBurnie / **NTP Coordinator / Circus Programs Administrator**
- Dominique Cravero – **Trainer**
- Don Gargan (**retired March**) – **School Liaison Officer**
- Donna Baldwin – **Executive Officer**
- Genaveive Neal – **Trainer**
- Jo Lancaster – **Trainer**
- John Carberry – **Technician**
- Julie Wilson – **Property and Maintenance Coordinator**
- Kate Muntz – **Trainer**
- Lauren Shepherd – **Trainer / Injury Management**
- Misha Reale – **Trainer**
- Natalie Dyball – **Trainer**
- Per Westman – **Trainer**
- Phillip Witt - **Trainer**
- Rhiannon Ersser - **Trainer**
- Richard Hull – **Chief Executive Officer**
- Scott Neill – **Trainer**
- Scott Stoddart – **Technical Director**
- Simon Yates – **Resident Rigger**
- Tahni Froudist – **Executive Producer**
- Tanya Lester – **Public Programs Coordinator**
- Tracey D’Elton – **Trainer**
- Zac Saltalamacchia - **Trainer**

2023 School Personnel

- Brendon Peisley – **Teacher**
- Derek Bowey – **(WSSC) Teacher**
- Holly Rodway – **Teacher**
- James Foley – **Teacher**
- Josh de Kruiff – **Teacher**
- Jan Johnson – **Teacher**
- Jan White – **Administrator**
- Melanie McClure – **School Coordinator**
- Naomi Liersch – **Teacher**
- Will Pleydon – **Teacher**
- Vern Hilditch (**WSSC**) – **Executive Principal**

2022 Guest Personnel

- AJ Saltalamacchia
- Alex Mizzen
- Alex Pirie
- Amanda Fairbanks
- Ania Reynolds
- April Dawson
- Bec Matthews
- Caleb Hope
- Chris Lewis
- Daniel Power
- Felix Hauge
- Jake Kenner
- Jasper Wood
- Jesse Jensen-Kohl
- Jesse Scott
- Jon Davey
- Kofi Isaacs
- Lachlan McAulay
- Liam Jones
- Manelaya Kaydos-Nitis
- Marcela Scheuner
- Mozes
- Rob Scott
- Ryan Taplin
- Sarah Ward
- Stephen Williams
- Tim Dennis
- Yos Worth

Life Members

- Audray Banfield
- Kath Dobson
- Karen Donnelly
- Mara Giourouki
- Heather Heather
- David Lester
- Guang Rong Lu
- Trevor Matthews
- Dr Jane Mullett
- Jacqui Nelson
- Charles Parkinson
- John Paxinos
- Robert 'Bomber' Perrier
- Jim Saleeba
- Rob Scott
- Faye Stevens
- Kim Walker
- Elizabeth Walsh

In loving memory of Neil McDermott

Board of Directors

- Dianne McGrath (Treasurer)
- Glenn Mancer
- James Jenkins
- Lara Block (Chair)
- Mary Harvey
- Margaret Murray
- Marguerite Pepper
- Nicholas Marks
- Vern Hilditch



Spherical at The Cube Wodonga

Image credit: JW Visuals



OUR PARTNERS

The Flying Fruit Fly Circus gratefully acknowledges our government and corporate partners for their support in 2023.



National Training Project.
Photo by Ian Sutherland.

Partners

Government

Australian Government
Create NSW
Creative Victoria
Albury City

Academic

Flying Fruit Fly Circus School
Wodonga Middle Years College
Wodonga Senior Secondary College
NICA (Swinburne University)

Industry

Arts on Tour
Circa Contemporary Circus
Cluster Arts
The Cube Wodonga
HotHouse Theatre
Professional Audio Services
Sydney Opera House

Marketing

Ian Sutherland Photography
OGA Creative Agency
Nomad Films
Regent Cinemas

Business

Best Western Plus Hovell Tree Inn
Biteit
Findex
Hume Bank
Sports & Spinal Albury

Affiliations

Arts8
FEDEC
Live Performance Australia

Projects

Spherical was supported by Hume Bank.

Circus in the Square was supported by Wodonga Council.

Circus Passport was supported by the Regional Arts Fund, an Australian Government initiative supporting the arts in regional, remote and very remote / isolated Australia.

The Borderville Theatre construction was supported by the NSW Government through the Creative Capital Fund, Joss Construction, JWP Architects and AlburyCity.



Riverside Vibes
Image credit: D-Gap Photos



The Grad Show.
Photo by Ian Sutherland.

