

To the Officers and Board of the Circus Fans Association of America:

Well, Circus4Youth has been going now for 10 years! A lot has happened that proves the success of this project.

The new website is still in operation, but it is basically used only to post youth circus show events and website links to various youth circuses and schools and an occasional news item. The website does not perform well on i Phones and tablets, and even on home computers there are problems. Perhaps these issues can be resolved in the future.

Most of our efforts are now on Facebook, and I am assuming you have all seen this page and are familiar with what is on it. This is where the kids go!

The Circus4Youth page is loaded with hundreds of photos and videos of circus. Circus4Youth welcomes youth circus kids and their family to copy, share and tag these photos! We even include positive videos of circus animal training!

Some of the comments from family members make it all worth while!

“My grandbaby LOL, baby where did the years go” ...Ida Pletz

Also, many youth circus trainers use Circus4Youth photos to spot mistakes being made by some of their students.

The flying trapeze trainer spotted a mistake being made here, pointed it out to both the flyer and catcher. Next show the trick got caught!

Circus4Youth was very involved in having a young circus fan from Australia come to America! Michael Riley first paid a visit to the Peru Youth Circus, before attending the World Circus Summit. He had NEVER been near a circus elephant, and he wanted to know if it “Might be possible” to get close to one! (He was also a big hit with their young lady performers!)

After the World Circus Summit, Michael wanted to know if there was an American circus that he could travel with for a few weeks? Circus4Youth contacted tiger trainer Ryan Easley (himself a CFA member) and arrangements were made for Michael to spend several weeks with Kelly Miller Circus before he returned home to Australia.

Three big events last summer boosted youth circus!

The World Circus Summit had some great youth circus talent that “opened the eyes” of many CFA members! Circus Smirkus was a highlight of that event!

The following week on the opposite side of the country, Circus4Youth arranged for guest performers from 3 other youth circuses to appear with the Wenatchee Youth Circus!

The guest performers came from the Great All American Youth Circus in Redland’s CA, Sailor Circus in Sarasota, FL, and the Peru, Indiana Youth Circus. At one point, girls from FOUR different youth circuses all performed together!

And then it was back to the northeast for the 2015 American Youth Circus Festival in Portland, Maine. This was a great circus event which sadly NO local CFA members attended!

Kids from all over the nation gathered for this youth circus festival!





Circus Juventas in St. Paul, MN. Circus4Youth is always a welcome visitor. I have been there 4 years in a row, and never seen any CFA members!

Then in October at the Sarasota Shrine Circus, I was asked by my long time circus performer friend Martin Alvarez if I “knew of any youth circus kids that might want to join the family circus he was taking out in 2016?” Well, in less than 5 minutes I contacted a young performer who I met at the World Circus Summit who was with Circus Smirkus, Wesley Williams. The two made contact with one another and a deal was made! Wesley is now touring and performing with the Alvarez’s Cirque Mundial!

Then on Thanksgiving day, disaster struck the Circus4Youth big top! Our Circus4Youth Facebook page got shut down! Apparently we were using the wrong format, and Facebook decided we were a business and shut down our Facebook page. Within an hour, I consulted with Youth CFA member Michael Riley who works professionally in Australia with Facebook accounts. He was very familiar with the problem, and in less than a DAY , he had us back on Facebook under a new and correct format which resulted in a dramatic increase in readership!

This past January I met two young ladies who were aerialists with Cirque Italia. They are called the "Circus2Wins". They told me that they would very much like to meet some of the great circus aerialists from circus yesterday. A couple of phone calls, and a lunch was arranged with trapeze legend Norma Fox who lives in Sarasota and is herself a CFA member!

The greatest accomplishment yet for Circus4Youth is helping an amazing young lady from Sarasota, Khera Lorrain Smith make her circus dream come true. In 2009, her dad asked me if I knew of anywhere that she could get professional level trapeze training. I made arrangements for Khera to meet Norma Fox, and within a week, Khera began trapeze practice.

Well that was then...and this is NOW! She is officially a pro! And bigger things are coming for her this summer! Soon to be announced.

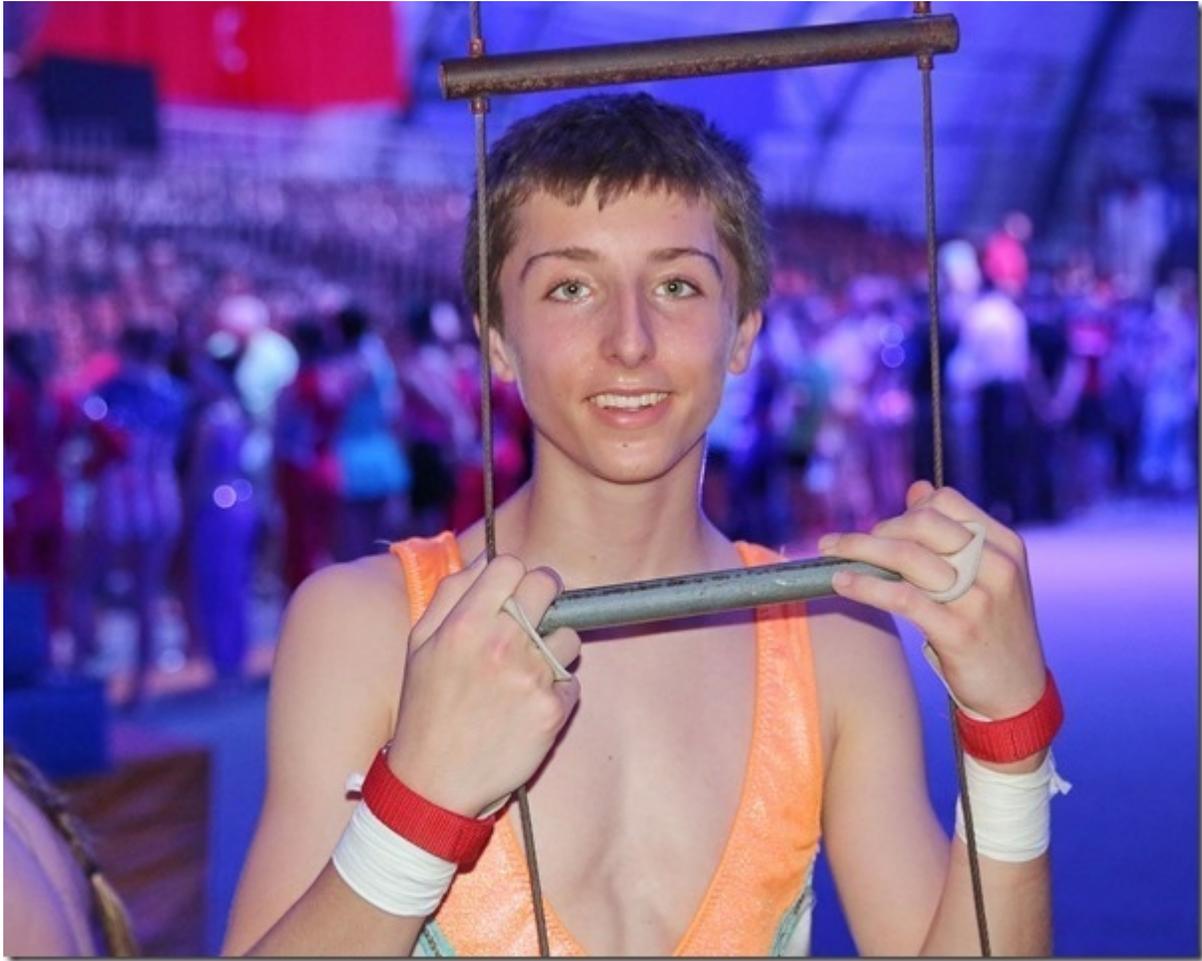


At this time, I am working closely with the Wenatchee Youth Circus to arrange for visiting kids this summer

from other youth circuses. So far, it looks like 6 may be going.









Sarah, Owen, Scottie & Katie are going to be with the Wenatchee Youth Circus this summer (+ 2 more).
Promoted by Circus4Youth!



A new temporary logo, mainly used for Facebook. May be replaced with an updated version. Designed by Wesley Williams.

I always end my reports by reminding myself about a couple of old geezer CFA members who told me once "This Circus4Youth is a waste of time! These kids today don't even know what a circus is!" Obviously they were quite wrong.

Committee Members:

Jim Cole Chairman

Ed Limbach Co-Chairman

Don Covington, CFA member

Jessica Hentoff, Director of Circus Harmony

Pam Hamilton, Trainer at Sailor Circus

Courtney Wyatt, Program Director, Sailor Circus

Heidi Jenkins, Circus Mom, Peru Circus

Amy Cohen, AYCO Director

Cheryl Lindley, Sophia Isadora Academy of Circus Arts

Michael Riley (19), Circus Avalon, Australia

Wesley Williams, (18) Circus performer, Cirque Mondial

May all our days be circus days!

Jim Cole

Circus4Youth Chairman