

Summers Here!!!



This July we will be running our **Summer Program** from July 11th-29th, 2022. For registration & more information contact us via email or phone!



This summer we've had the privilege of hiring 6 **Canada Summer Job (CSJ)** hires; Brandon, Carmen, Jacob, Stephanie, Sydney, and our newest hire Mark! Mark was a participant in our programs for a number of years and in the past year has shown tremendous leadership and initiative throughout our programs. Some achievements that paved the way for Mark in this position was his initiative to take over and run our afterschool program due to some unforeseen staffing circumstances. Mark successfully kept this program running all on his own. Mark effortlessly demonstrates our Square Circle philosophy of juggling everything around while still being able to find a balance, especially keeping his school work on-point, while showing his dedication to us and our programming. We could not be more grateful and proud of his amazing work!



We will also be re-launching our weekly **Circus in the Park** workshops open to all, every Wednesday @6pm starting July 6th. We hope to see you there!



Square Circle's Annual Report 2023 - 10th Year Anniversary!

Square Circle is a non-profit Social Circus organisation that hosts programs and provides opportunities for marginalised youth ages 9-14 from underserved communities in Toronto. Our programs allow participants to express themselves through the creative arts of Social Circus, acting, improvisation, clowning, and photography, as well as physical activities such as juggling, poi, human pyramids, trust games, and dance.

Square Circle provides a safe space for all involved. The blue square of our logo represents that safe space we create for not only our youth but for all staff and volunteers. Inside that safe space we see a collective bright positive energy full of empowerment and inspiration created and upheld by all whose lives have been touched by Square Circle, this being represented by the orange circle of our logo.

Our Vision

To educate, elevate and create a safe space for children and youth to develop their full potential that will facilitate social transformation within underserved communities.

Our Mission

To use Social Circus and creative arts to transform children and youth in developing confidence, resilience, courage and ingenuity; where they are strongly equipped to find, foster and inspire the next generation of future leaders.

Our Four Pillars:

1. Education through Inspiration
 2. Social Connection
 3. Physical and Mental Wellness
 4. Creative Expression
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This year Square Circle celebrates our **10th Anniversary!** Square Circle's numerous successes, accomplishments, and achievements throughout our first decade would not have been possible without the generous contributions and donations from our sponsors, partners, parents, staff, and founder; Clarence Ford.

Square Circle's Notable Accomplishments of 2023:

- **Cirque du Soleil** - This year Square Circle partnered with Cirque du Soleil to hold our Open House Event in their big top tent, hosting over 1000 TDSB youth in attendance.
- **The Journey Activation** - Our Leaders In Training created a remarkable 15 min act which they performed in Regent Park's event "The Journey Activation". Being a highly praised performance with the success of this first show, we were offered more performance times and in total performed 15 shows with an overflowing crowd at each!
- **Touch of Pink Gala** - The Amici Breast Cancer Foundation invited Square Circle to come perform at their esteemed gala the "Touch of Pink". With inspiration from our

performance at The Journey, our youth created and performed another amazing show for hundreds of attendees.

- **Barbados** - In partnership with **Humber College**, the **University of the West Indies Barbados**, and many other notable organisations, as Square Circle celebrates its 10th year, we have been granted the opportunity to bring the magic of Social Circus to the youth of Barbados. To kick off this amazing partnership a team of ours flew down to the Island to perform in the ACT press conference in Barbados. While there the High Commissioner of Canada in Barbados hosted a private reception in her home for Square Circle. This August, Square Circle will be facilitating a 2 week Social Circus program for youth in Barbados, which will be led by our very own youth from Toronto.

2023 Programs & Events:

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| ● The Journey Activation | ● Barbados ACT Press Conference |
| ● After School Program '22/'23 | ● Dundas Public School
Demonstration & Workshop |
| ● In-School Program | ● Summer Program |
| ● March Break Program | ● Circus in the Park |
| ● Touch of Pink Gala | ● On-Site Job Opportunity Program |
| ● Open House at Cirque du Soleil's
Big Top Tent | |

Still to Come:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| ● Barbados Summer Program 2023 | ● Square Lens Photography Exhibit |
| ● Camp Tamakwa Excursion | ● Cabbagetown Festival |
| ● After School Program '23/'24 | ● Mask Off Masquerade Fundraising
Gala |

Our Impact

“Square Circle empowers youth and raises their confidence in the classroom. Any teacher that has the opportunity to have their students experience Square Circle would be the luckiest teacher in the world.” - Ms.G (TDSB Middle School Teacher)

“Square Circle makes me feel free to be myself because the staff create this safe space with amazing energy. They just always make you want to show your true self, no matter your age, height, race, or sexual orientation. I can't imagine what my life would be like without them.”
- Jacob S. (Participant)

Square Circle delivers something profound and empowering to youth. Their staff are welcoming and patient, taking the time to get to know each child and his or her needs. The process they use builds a real community. It engages and helps kids move beyond cliques and the drama that can be such a challenge in the wider world. I'd recommend them to anyone.”
Andrew M. (Parent of Participant)

Our Partners & Sponsors of 2023



Our Barbadian Partners & Sponsors of 2023



Summer Highlights 2023

Hello Everyone!

We are ecstatic to share with you all our summer highlights of 2023!

The official start of our Square Circle summer commenced with the annual hiring of our [OJO \(On-site Job Opportunity\) Hires!](#) (formerly known as the CSJs). This year we had the privilege of hiring 8 OJOs: Brandon, Stephanie, Jacob, Mark, Hayaam, and our newest hires Akeelah, Taylor, and Ivan!

Next to follow we successfully held our annual Summer Program in Regent Park, educating and elevating youth through the creative arts of social circus, dance, improv, acting, and this summer we had the honour of having the esteemed [Racheal McCaig](#) teach our participants photography!

Alongside our Summer Program we participated in numerous events including our new revamped Circus in the Park workshop & performance.

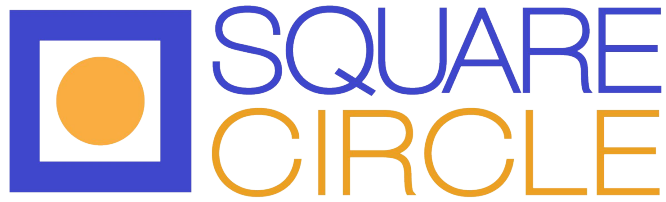
This summer for the first time ever Square Circle has successfully brought Social Circus to the Island of Barbados! In collaboration with many amazing organizations we are hosting a 2 week [Summer Program in Barbados!](#)



Coming Soon!

Next up we will be having our After School Program in partnership with the MLSE Launchpad. Registration is officially open! To find out more and register please call us at 647-775-8182.

We are so happy to announce our Mask Off Masquerade fundraising gala is back in-person for the first time since 2019! Tickets will be available soon for purchase.



Engage. Educate. Empower.

Square Circle teaches Social Circus and other creative arts with the goal of empowering youth to become directors of their own lives. We focus on youth ages 9-14 in underserved neighbourhoods.

Our programs develop communication, interpersonal, artistic, and physical skills in a safe, collaborative and fun environment



Square Circle's mission is to strengthen communities by fostering confidence, resilience and courage in youth through Social circus and creative arts.

The four pillars of Square Circle:

- Education through Inspiration
- Social Connection
- Physical and Mental Wellness
- Creative Expression

Our programs and events teach circus disciplines: juggling, poi, team building games, hula-hoop, aerial techniques, clowning, pyramids, circles and a mixed variety of creative arts activities: dance, acting improvisation and photography.

We offer free:

- in-school programs
- after-school programs
- sessions during March Break and the summer months
- Interactive open house

The cost of our programs and events are covered solely through charitable donations, in-kind contributions, sponsorships and grants.



@SquareCircleHQ



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2023 Programs:

Square Circle's After School Program

Date: September 2022 to June 2023

Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 4pm-5:30pm

Location: MLSE LaunchPad

Age: 9 to 14

Square Circle's In School Program

Date: 8 weeks during the school year (TBD)

Time: 80 minutes per session

Location: Six schools within the GTA

Age: Grades 5 and 6

Square Circle March Break Program

Date: March 13-17, 2023

Time: 9am to 3pm

Location: Regent Park Community Centre

Age: 9 to 14

Square Circle's Summer Program

Date: July 10-28, 2023

Time: 9am to 3pm

Location: Regent Park Community Centre

Age: 9 to 14

Circus In The Park Workshops

Date: July and August 2023

Time: 5pm until dusk

Location: Community Event at Regent Park's Big Park

Age: All Ages Welcome!

Square Circle's Leaders In Training Program (LIT)

Date: January thru December

Age: 14 to 18

Sponsors



TUCKER HIRISE



OSLER



SKIN AND BONES



DON & DENYSE GREEN

BUDMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Partners



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For more information on our program and to register please contact

info@squarecirclehq.ca or call 647-775-8182