



**2018
Annual Report**



“They laughed Mr. Steve. They laughed. I didn’t think I could make people happy.”

— A child



Contents

Letter from the Executive Director	1
Introduction	3
By the Numbers	
Our Mission & History	
Board Members & Staff	
Programs	7
Classes & Camps	
Social Circus	
Workshops	
Circus Youth In Action	
Community Engagement	
Performances	11
Youth Circus Extravaganza	
Advanced Camp Show	
Circ-A-Thon	
Finances	15
Financial Report	
Supporters & Donors	
Social Emotional Study Report	19
Looking Toward the Future	20
Donate	22

Letter from the Executive Director



2018 was an exceptional year for My Nose Turns Red Youth Circus.

Starting off with our students and coaches: Ten of our Circus Youth in Action students went to Chicago to earn their Level 1 Coaching Certificate in German (gym) Wheel in October. Coach Natalie Roenker finished her two-week Cirque du Monde Social Circus Training in Seattle in and participated in Carrie Heller's Adaptive Recreational Circus Arts Training at the Circus Arts Institute. Both Natalie and Jarrod Elliott, intern and technical advisor, were on the work-study team at the American Circus Educators' EdCon in Atlanta.

Our educational circus program, All About Balance was performed in local libraries, schools and theatres in the tri-state. Youth performances included the Chinese New Year's Celebration at the Lexington (KY) Opera House, the Kennedy Heights Play in the Park series, Miamisburg's Bicentennial Celebration, and ArtsWave's Sampler Weekend. Students also performed in our Advanced Circus Camp Show, the 2018 Youth Circus Extravaganza: Back to the Fifties, a Rock n Roll Circus and at our annual fundraiser Circ-A-Thon.

We all celebrated Elijah Kirk's acceptance into the prestigious École Nationale de Cirque, the National Circus School in Montreal. Elijah was with us for seven years as both a student and our German wheel coach. Elijah will major in German (gym) wheel.

We continue to work with the national Social Circus Network and began our first year at Roberts Paideia Academy. We thank Transformations, CDC for their support by bringing the youth to the program, to the summer camps and the Extravaganza.

We also released the findings of the Social and Emotional Study we participated in 2017. The study, which was commissioned by the American Youth Circus Organization (AYCO) and conducted by the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Effectiveness (CYPE), revealed that social circus programs made progress in the development of social and emotional skills at the level of other exemplary youth development programs and well ahead of a nonselective group of after-school programs.

The board of directors contracted with OneSource for Non-Profits for a strategic plan consultancy. A small group of dedicated board members worked with Steve Roenker (co-founder and program manager), and myself to develop a fundraising, marketing and organizational development strategic plan. The plan will help us move forward and a new marketing committee was formed from the consultancy project.

In addition, through our work with Pro Bono we now have a new waiver and employee handbook.

In summary, 2018 was a year of hard work and great vision for the upcoming year. As part of that vision, the board developed a budget for 2019 that allowed me to assume the role of executive director and it is with great joy that I write to you in this capacity. I thank them for their vision and persistence to make this happen. As we move forward, we all thank you for your continued support.

Jean St. John
Executive Director



Introduction By the Numbers



Years of Circus

35



Total Enrollment

450



Increase from 2017

10%



Zip Codes
Represented

51



Under-Served Students
who Attend for Free

30%



Total Audience

40,000

In 2018 My Nose Turns Red Students Traveled. . .

120

Miles by German Wheel



11

Miles on the Tightwire



3,500

Miles by unicycle



Introduction

Our Mission

Through the art of the theatrical clown and the one-ring circus, My Nose Turns Red cultivates a supportive environment that inspires youth to challenge themselves, develop essential life skills and engage audiences.

My Nose Turns Red (MNTR) is the only non-profit organization in the Greater Cincinnati area dedicated to youth circus. Every year MNTR provides year-round training and performance opportunities for over 400 youth in the art of the one-ring circus and the theatrical clown. We believe that youth circus is a magical blend of theatre, movement, physical fitness, imagination and childlike wonder. Our instructors blend the ability to play with the precision of circus arts to create programs where youth learn teamwork and trust in a non-competitive environment. From beginners' classes to advanced performance programs, MNTR provides a safe arena for young people to take risks and challenge themselves.

History

My Nose Turns Red was founded in 1984 when co-founders Jean St. John and Steve Roenker began touring as theatrical clowns Juice and Shootang, bringing their art form to thousands of children through school performances, workshops, residencies, and community performances. In 1997, MNTR created a circus program designed to give youth the opportunity to experience the joys and challenges of circus training and performing.





Introduction Board & Staff

Board of Directors

Grace Royalty, President

Luke Schelly, Treasurer

Minet Williamson, Secretary

Kathy Gentile

Erin Roll

Nicolette Van der Klaauw

John Morris

Staff

Jean St John, Executive Director

MNTR Co-Founder

Jean co-founded MNTR 34 years ago with Steve Roenker. Together they have performed their beloved Juice & Shootang clown act to countless schools, libraries, festivals, children's museums, and clown festivals as well as conducting school residencies. In 1997, they began the youth circus program which is her greatest love. Appointed as MNTR Executive Director in on April 1, Jean is very proud of all the circus students and is constantly amazed at their courage, strength, discipline, and talent. She works extensively with the Advanced Ensemble and Circus Youth in Action program.

Steve Roenker, Artistic Director/Program Manager

MNTR Co-Founder

With 30+ years of experience as a performer and arts educator Steve still loves to perform and conduct residencies, when he is not engaged with his real love: the youth circus program. Steve considers himself lucky to work with all these great children.

Jesse Alford, Head Coach

Board president of the American Youth Circus Organization and the American Circus Educators, Jesse also teaches at Suspend Louisville, Turners Youth Circus, and CirqueLouis. Jesse grew up in the Great Y, a youth circus program in Redlands, CA.

Natalie Roenker, Coach/Social Circus Project Manager

A graduate of Northern Kentucky University in theatre and dance, Natalie grew up in the youth circus program. She has completed Cirque du Monde's Social Circus training program and participated in Carrie Heller's Adaptive Recreational Circus Arts Training at the Circus Arts Institute. She has also been on the American Youth Circus Organization and American Circus Educators work-study team since 2014.

Jarrood Elliot, Intern Coach/Technical Advisor

Jarrood has been with MNTR for two years and shares his love for juggling with the younger students. Working now on five balls, his day job is a software engineer. Jarrod graduated from Northern Kentucky University.





Programming

Classes & Camps

At My Nose Turns Red, we offer youth the opportunity to run away and join the circus without leaving home! Youth learn how to juggle, balance on the rolling globe as well as the basics of creating a clown character. Classes are highly engaging and challenging; as youth learn to walk on the wire, balance on the rola bola and build human pyramids, they build their physical literacy and hand-eye coordination. Through a wide variety of circus games, they build teamwork and cooperation, trust and friendship in a safe and non-competitive environment. My Nose Turns Red classes are led by highly experienced, professional circus coaches and experienced assistant coaches. Gym wheel coaches are certified by Internationaler Rhönrادتurn-Verband.

My Nose Turns Red conducts weekly after-school circus classes in the Greater Cincinnati Area. In 2018, after-school circus classes were held at:

- Fairview-Clifton German Language School
- Hyde Park Elementary School
- Woodford Paideia Academy
- Roberts Paideia Academy

Social Circus

My Nose Turns Red Youth Circus has been nationally recognized as a member of the Social Circus Network American Youth Circus Organization. The Social Circus Network is designed to bring up-to-date research and resources to the 17-member network to increase youth circus participation and improve program design.

Social Circus is defined as an “innovative social intervention approach based on circus arts. The primary goal is not to learn the circus arts, but rather to assist with participants’ personal and social development by nurturing their self-esteem and trust in others, as well as by helping them to acquire social skills, become active citizens, express their creativity and realize their potential.”

A recent study of the sector research concludes that social circus: promotes physical and mental health and wellness; fosters human connection and belonging; encourages civic engagement and cultural and socio-economic integration, and builds resilience. The Weikart study found social circus to be exemplary in social and emotional development.

My Nose Turns Red’s strategic plan calls for 30% of enrollment to be underserved and attend for free. This includes scholarships, two 24-week sessions at Woodford Paideia Academy and Roberts Paideia Academy, ongoing programming at Diocesan Catholic Children’s Home (14 years), and the TALL





Programming



Institute, an organization for adults with intellectual and developmental challenges.

MNTR also reaches underserved children by offering full scholarships to our after-school programs circus classes, summer camps, and the unicycle and Circus Ensemble programs at the Evendale Cultural Arts Center.

Circus Youth in Action

Circus Youth in Action (CYA) is My Nose Turns Red's creative youth arts leadership development program for teens 14+ who are also members of MNTR's Advanced Circus Ensemble. CYA students receive instruction on safety, providing instruction to others, as well as developing solo and group acts. CYA members are also valuable members of MNTR's teaching staff. Many serve as assistant instructors at camps and after-school programs. CYA represents MNTR's commitment to developmentally appropriate learning and growing student leaders.

Community Engagement

2018 was the third year we received ArtsWave's Sustaining Impact grant focused on its Blueprint goals: Arts Enliven Neighborhoods and the Art Fuel Creativity and Learning. In 2018, we served 450 youth and engaged the community 34 times.



Performances

2018 Youth Circus Extravaganza Back to the Fifties: A Rock n Roll Circus

The annual Youth Circus Extravaganza brings together all of My Nose Turns Red's youth circus students to perform in a venue that gives them an experience to remember. When Jean and Steve envisioned the idea of a youth circus, performing in a theater with full production values was a key part of the program.

The 2018 Youth Circus Extravaganza was held in the Jarson-Kaplan Theater in the Aronoff Center for the Arts. The 2018 Youth Circus Extravaganza: Back to the Fifties, a Rock in Roll Circus was held Saturday, April 21, 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 22, 2 pm to a packed house. 24 circus ensemble members were joined by our after-school circus sites from Fairview-Clifton German Language School, Hyde Park Elementary and our social circus site Woodford Paideia Academy. Altogether, there were 67 students in the 2018 Extravaganza.

The parent volunteers managed backstage with ease. Over the years they have mastered the management bringing students into a professional venue. Each individual piece had a Circus Youth in Action captain who made sure the piece was ready to go on stage at the right time. The coaches also encouraged the younger performers and eased their performance butterflies.

The theme, Back to the Fifties opened up with the clowns lost in the audience. Once onstage the hoop portal descended. What else to do? Step through the portal into a different decade full of the beginning of rock n roll.

Intermediate/Advanced Circus Camp Show

In 2018, My Nose Turns Red held 10 weeks of summer circus camps. We adopted a model from other youth circus organizations offering more two-week camps with the option of taking only the first week. But if you are in the Intermediate/Advanced camp, you must take both weeks! We brought in Sam Sake, Chicago, IL to coach German (gym) wheel and Jenna Lowry, Redlands, CA to coach aerials.

The Intermediate/Advanced Circus Camp Show is always a highlight of the summer. Held at the Fairview-Clifton German Language School, the audience is always amazed at the progress the students make during this intensive two-week camp.

The camp show was also a fundraiser, with a pay what you can at the front door, a raffle, split the pot, and a wine pull.





Performances

Circ-A-Thon

Circ-A-Thon is My Nose Turns Red's annual friend and fundraising event. Just like a walk-a-thon, students seek pledges for their circus challenge, set a goal and challenge themselves to master it by Circ-A-Thon. In 2017, the students raised \$7,210 in pledges and the raffle, auction and concessions raised \$2,970 for a total of \$10,180. In 2018 the students raised \$8,556.50 and the raffle, auction and concessions raised \$3,760, a 21% increase from last year.

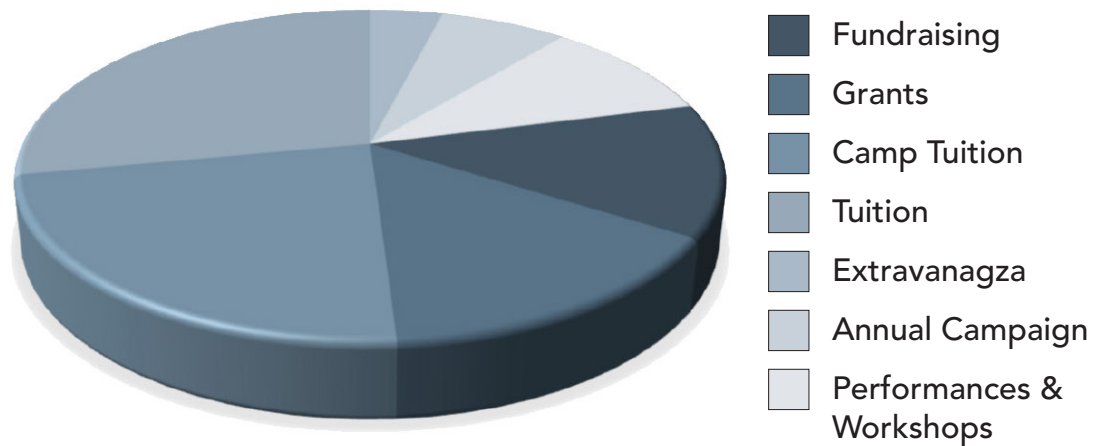
“

Participating with MNTR has proven to promote a work ethic and supplied the children with the valued experience of success.”

— **Mickey Shannon**
Director of Recreation and
Special Events DCCH Center
for Children & Families

Finances 2018 Financial Report

Revenue



Expenses



Revenue	
Performances	\$6,583.00
Workshops	\$3,225.00
Residences	
Tuition	\$40,067.00
Diocesan Catholic Children's Home	\$4,194.00
MNTR Camp Tuition	\$28,626.00
Camp income - other	\$5,000.00
Fund Drive – Fall	\$9,890.00
Fund Drive – Spring	
Fundraising Kroger Gift Cards	
Fundraisers	\$17,597.00
Swag Sales	\$222.00
Grants	\$29,741.00
Sponsorships	\$905.00
Admissions	\$4,620.00
Interest Income	
Prop Project	\$555.00
Total Revenues	\$153,243.00

Expenses	
Wages	\$76,574.00
Fringe Benefits	\$8,600.00
Subcontractors	\$8,810.00
Accounting Expenses	
Ad Exp. – Printing & Mail	\$3,440.00
Ad Exp. – Paid Ads	\$2,045.00
Ad Exp. – Website	\$1,314.00
Auto – Fuel	\$1,341.00
Auto – Repair & Maintenance	\$641.00
Auto – Registration & License	\$65.00
Auto – Mileage Reimbursement	\$233.00
Auto – Rental	\$532.00
Bank Charges	\$5.00
Visa Finance Charges	
Conventions & Conferences	\$270.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$645.00
Depreciation Expenses	\$1,943.00
Insurance – Life	\$471.00
Insurance – Liability	\$1,102.00
Legal & Professional	\$250.00
Meals	\$231.00
Misc	
Office	\$2,547.00
Office – Technology	\$490.00
Supplies & Small Equipment	\$131.00
Promotional – Other	\$2,794.00
Promotional – Fundraising	\$1,847.00
Props & Costumes	\$2,783.00
Costume T-Shirts	\$2,274.00
Rent	\$12,101.00
Taxes – Payroll	\$6,519.00
Worker's Comp	\$772.00
Telephone – Cincinnati Bell	\$957.00
Travel – Housing	\$573.00
Air Fare	
Travel Perdiem	\$385.00
Utilities/Heat	
Prop Project	\$542.00
Total Expenses	\$143,227.00

Finances Supporters & Donors

Grant Supporters



William O. Purdy, Jr. Foundation Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation

Sutphin Family Foundation

General Mills Foundation Hometown Grantmaking Program

Corporate Supporters



**SCHOOL
OUTFITTERS®**

*Furnishing great
places to learn.®*



Thank You to our Annual Campaign Donors

Jugglers \$0 – \$49

Eric Volck
Cate O'Hara
Mark & Anne Kuntz

Clown Patrons \$50 – \$99

Roger Auge
Jan Epton & Ted Feitshans
Stephen & Melissa Mills
Gabrielle Pinkstone
Debbie & Dick Westheimer
Cathy & John Barwell

Mary Pat Buck & John Savage
Bethany Hosbach
Quanita Roberson
Joanne & Albert Murphy
Ken & Jan Roenker

Ringmaster Patrons \$100 – \$499

Tom Reese
Pat & Dick Roenker
Sue & Bob Roenker
Grace & Tim Royalty
Barbara Summer
Nicolette Vanderklaauw & Allen Davies
Emily & Travis Vieux
John Towsen
Jean St. John & Steve Roenker
John Bruggen

Kathy Gentile
Deanna Heil & Jim Guthrie
Erin Roll
Susan Watts-Taffe & Dennis Taffe
Jennifer & Nick Cupps
Helen O'Connor
Grady Gibson
Sara Schoenberg & Roger Paige

Circus Tent Patrons \$500+

Luke Schelly
Kim & Patrick Gates
Michele Mischler
John Hall
Richard J. Lajoie, Jr.



Social Emotional Study Report

In 2017, MNTR participated in a 10-month study, conducted by the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, investigating the quality of social circus programming and its impact on social and emotional learning among youth. The eleven participating social circus programs were compared to benchmarks for social and emotional learning found in other youth development programs, including those deemed exemplary.

The report of the study indicated that students participating in social circus program achieved high levels of curriculum challenge, responsive instruction, and youth engagement. Additionally, social circus programs were found to positively impact the social and emotional learning of its participants producing behavioral changes comparable to those found in exemplary youth development programs with long histories of validated success in impacting social and emotional learning. When compared to the general non-selective sample of youth development programs, the impact of social circus was greater. Additionally, youth who entered social circus programming with higher social and emotional behavioral risk displayed the highest gains (Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, 2017).

Looking Toward the Future

As we move forward, our strategic plan will direct our efforts to grow and expand. With the enthusiasm and dedication of our students and parents, the hard work of our coaches and board of directors, and our collaboration with the Social Circus Network and educational consultants, we have the resources to advance our social circus programming and increase the robustness of our ongoing assessments and self-evaluation aimed at continuous improvement.

Most of all we are inspired. Watching a child's face light up when they learn a new skill or make an audience laugh is the reason we continue to provide a safe and supportive environment for youth to explore their potential. Our core mission is to provide a framework for youth transformation through circus arts.







Donate Contact Us

Visit: <http://www.mynoseturnsred.org/>

or

Contact Jean St. John

Email: info@mynoseturnsred.org

Phone: 859-581-7100

Payments are accepted via PayPal on
<http://www.mynoseturnsred.org/support-us-2/>
or via check to My Nose Turns Red
Theatre Company, PO Box 14445, Cincinnati OH
45250.

See us in Action!

