Our Artist Residency program provides rehearsal and performance space to innovative professional artists, supporting the creation of new circus and physical theater works in our community.

Artists in Residence can be individuals or groups at any stage in their professional development, as long as they have a focused vision, commitment to the circus arts, and a desire to progress. For the duration of their residency, Artists in Residence have access to training spaces, equipment, and promotional support for act creation, act development, and performances. In exchange, they become representatives of the Circus Center community, which includes professionals and leaders in the field of circus arts, physical comedy, acrobatics, and aerial arts. At the conclusion of their residency, Artists in Residence present a free performance or workshop to showcase their developed work.

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. To apply, please send a letter to Felicity Hesed, Artistic Director, at felicity@circuscenter.org. Please use subject: Artist Residency Application.

In your letter, please provide the following:

- Information about your company
- Examples (eg videos, photos, reviews) of past work
- A statement about the purpose of the proposed residency
- Desired dates of residency (it is useful to provide a range as well as to include any scheduling restrictions or needs)
- An estimate of the kinds of space/apparatus you would want on a daily/weekly basis
- Proposal for a culminating workshop or performances

Typically, Circus Center will provide some combination of:

- Space for act creation/development and rehearsal for the duration of the residency
- Space for private showings
- Performance space for performance
- Staff support for scheduling space and coordinating the performance
- A locker per individual for equipment storage
- Promotional support such as listing and linking company on Circus Center website, and mention of the artist residency in the newsletter
Typically, Artists are expected to:

- Provide a performance or workshop for Circus Center’s community
- Post Circus Center’s logo on Artists’ website
- Tag and credit Circus Center in social media posts regarding any work being created during the residency
- Grant Circus Center permission to use photos and video taken of Artists during their Residency
- For any future productions of the work developed during the residency, verbal and/or written credit in the following format: “Developed under the auspices of the Artist Residency program at Circus Center in San Francisco.”

Residencies can be as short as three weeks and as long as three months, with most running 6-8 weeks. Artists are encouraged to apply at least 3 months in advance of the project start date in order to best accommodate the residency.