

OPEN CALL FOR PROJECTS

circusnext • edition 2025

Application deadline: 30th April 2024 (11 a.m. Paris time)

A European program to support emerging circus authors

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ABOUT CIRCUSNEXT

For over 20 years, circusnext has been paving the way for circus emerging authors with original, unusual, and unseen writings. **More than 100 companies** have been identified and supported at a European level such as Un Loup pour l'homme, Cridacompany, Alexander Vantournhout, Familiar Faces, Julian Vogel, etc.

☆☆ Discover all former selected artists [here](#).

Currently, circusnext carries out its work in a European programme **to identify and support emerging circus artists with 24 partner venues across Europe** (festivals, creation and touring venues), based in **15 countries**.

☆☆ Find out more about circusnext [here](#).

WHY APPLY

If you want to develop your project at European level and gain capacity building, this programme is for you!

- **Financial support:** grants of €3,000 for Finalists & €5,000 for Laureates
- **Creation and touring support:** residency opportunities across Europe, laboratory with authors from all over Europe, exposure of your work on stages across Europe
- **Communication support:** increased visibility thanks to promotional opportunities with communication coverage through our website and social media
- **European networking:** opportunities to meet with circusnext partner venues

SELECTION STEPS & CALENDAR

August - October 2024

As a **pre-selected artist**, you will be invited to participate to a Lab at one of our partner venues in Europe under the mentorship of an experienced artist..

November 2024

Selection of Finalists

The **12 Finalists** are announced, after having been selected by the members of circusnext Platform.

December 2024 - May 2025

As a **Finalist**, you will benefit from a creation grant, training sessions, residencies and work-in-progress presentations across Europe.

May 2025

Selection of Laureates

You will take part in the **Selection of Laureates** in Paris and **4 Laureates** will be selected by our artistic jury.

🌟 More info on the selection steps and juries [here](#)

June 2025 - June 2026

As a **Laureate**, you will benefit from a creation grant, an additional year's residency and touring opportunities, and communication support.

WHAT CIRCUSNEXT SEARCHES FOR

circusnext is a space for **artistic risk-taking, research and experimentation**.

Any artist who wishes to develop a **circus creation in progress** can apply (only acts are not allowed).

There is **no defined type of circus creation** to apply for, all creative contexts, all types of forms, formats, durations, aesthetics, universes, themes, audiences, all circus disciplines and all interdisciplinary endeavours between circus and other art forms are welcome.

Our aim is to identify and support the most innovative and bold emerging circus authors who wish to develop a circus project at European level, who dare to **experiment and push boundaries**.

We understand "author" as **authorship**, an artist who has authority over their work and is in the process of finding their "artistic signature", the ability to define their artistic position.

Emergence is understood as a level of professional recognition and should not be confused with youth: there is no age limit for applicants.

To select the project, the juries will consider the following criteria:

- **Originality of the project:** it could be a new approach to circus techniques, an original research process, the construction of an unseen artistic universe, etc.
- **Authorship:** the ability to defend one's work and artistic choices, the ability to position oneself and one's work in the field of circus art, the need to create, etc.
- **Coherence and relevance:** between one's artistic intentions and the way the project is structured, thought, how the elements that compose it are arranged, etc.
- **Quality of the performance:** quality of movement, rhythm, stage presence, i.e. the ability to make the intentions of the proposal tangible on stage, etc.



For further insights, read the artistic jury's statement [here](#).

Please note that the definitions of the criteria are not limited to the explanations above which are here only for a better understanding.

IS MY PROJECT ELIGIBLE FOR CIRCUSNEXT?

a) Who can apply

- Emerging circus authors (see definition below) as individuals or company
- No age limit (min. 18-years old)
- No circus degree required
- You should not be studying in a circus school when the support starts (August 2024)
- No previous circusnext shortlisted/Finalists or Laureates
- Resident in a Europe Creative country (see list below)

N.B: circusnext applies a non-discrimination policy.

A legal structure is required when applying and must be based in a Europe Creative country. You may be self-employed; in this case an official registration number is requested.

List of eligible countries

The project is co-funded by the program Europe Creative of the European Union. Therefore, only the applicants from these countries are eligible (residence and legal structure) :

- European Union: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland (Republic of), Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands
- Other countries participating in the Creative Europe programme: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Kosovo, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine

b) Who is considered emergent

circusnext and its partners evaluate the emergence in relation to each national context.

It is a question of professional recognition at a European level, not of age.

Evaluation of emergence is based on the following:

- **1 - Number of previous professional creations as an author**

You can apply with:

- your 1st or 2nd creation as author in France, Belgium, the Netherlands
- your 3rd creation in all other eligible European countries

N.B: self-produced creations do not count.

- **2 - Visibility:** have your previous creations (as author/s) toured significantly at European/international level?
- **3 - Financial support:** have your previous creations (as author/s) received important creation subsidy from a public body?

N.B: Emergence criteria apply to all artists considered as authors of the creation project, but it does not apply to performers. Collectives including an author who is non-emerging, are ineligible.

A non-emerging outside eye who holds in fact the position of co-creator makes the project ineligible.

c) What projects?

- all circus creations in progress except acts, from any circus discipline(s) are admissible
- You can apply as an author only with one creation project per edition
- You can re-apply with the same project only if your project was not selected as Finalist or Laureate in a previous edition

d) Where can one apply?

- online at circusnext.eu
- in the country **where your production is based** (legal structure is based)

e) Calendar requirement for 2025

Applicants should be available to present work-in-progress presentations on stage in Paris:

- **18 to 24 May 2025:** Selection of Laureates (*presentations 21-23 May to be confirmed*)
- **12 & 13 June 2025:** *circusnext Revelations* event

The premiere of the project should not take place before the Revelations event (12 & 13 June 2025).

WHAT SUPPORT CAN I EXPECT FROM CIRCUSNEXT?

For the pre-selected

Participation in 1 European laboratory:

For 10 days, 6 to 9 authors from different countries gather abroad to work on each other's projects under the mentorship of an experience artist. It is a collective experience of **working together and exploring each pre-selected project**, testing artistic material on stage and receiving feedback from the group, with a focus on circus writing and dramaturgy.



Discover the Lab experiences of previous pre-selected artists [here](#).

Dates of the Labs in 2024

- Dynamo (Denmark): 23 August - 2 September 2024
- Riga Cirks (Latvia): 23 August - 2 September 2024
- Cirkusfera (Serbia): 1 - 10 September 2024
- CIAM (France): 12 - 21 September 2024
- Room 100 (Croatia): 20 - 29 October 2024
- circusnext (France): 28 October - 6 November 2024

For the 12 Finalists

Participation in the Selection of Laureates on stage

You will be invited to present a 15-to-20-minute **presentation** of your artistic material in front of professionals at Théâtre de la Cité internationale in **Paris from 11 to 18 May 2025**.

Each company will be able to network, pitch its projects, meet, and exchange with circusnext's European partners (Platform members).

The event is only open to professionals invited by circusnext.

Further support:

- **Financial support: €3,000** co-production grant for each Finalist
- **Creation support: residency opportunities** across Europe at circusnext Platform members' venues with work-in-progress presentations to European audiences
- **Networking & promotion support:** meetings with a strong network of European professionals online and on site in Paris, promotional communication, and coverage of our network through our website and social media
- **Training support:** online trainings on specific topics such as communication, including ecological transition into one's creation process etc.

For the 4 Laureates

Participation in the circusnext Revelations event:

You will be invited to present a 15-to-20-minute **presentation** of your artistic material to the general public in **Paris** at Théâtre de la Cité internationale on the **12 & 13 of June 2025**.

Further supports:

- **Financial support: €5,000** co-production grant to each Laureates
- **Creation support, networking and promotion support, training sessions until September 2026**

Note on the global financial coverage of your participation to circusnext activities:

circusnext will cover at least the transport, accommodation, and meals for the travelling artistic team for all activities carried out in the programme: for the laboratory, residencies, work-in-progress presentations, and diffusion.

A fee will be paid by circusnext or its partners for all work-in-progress presentations and shows open to the public, as well as for participation in the selection of the Laureates and the *circusnext Revelations*.

Note on the hosting conditions for the selection of Laureates:

Please note that the technical conditions are limited, as the 12 finalist projects will share two stages at the Théâtre de la Cité international. A technical team will be available to assist you, but some technical adaptations may be necessary depending on the projects selected.

circusnext will cover:

- Accommodation, transport and meals for the whole artistic team travelling for the week (authors, performers, 1 technician) and 1 production/diffusion officer for a limited period;
- a fee for each member of the artistic team.

HOW TO APPLY

Deadline to apply: 30th April 2024 (11 a.m. Paris time)

[Click here to apply](#)

It is an online application process on JotForm composed of the following elements:

A – Data on the project and the authors: find all the info asked [here](#).

B – Requested documents:

1. Application form (to be filled in and uploaded online)
2. Link to a video (to be directly filled in online)
3. Creation material (to be uploaded online)
4. Provisional creation calendar (to be uploaded online)
5. Provisional budget (to be uploaded online)

Details on requested documents

1 • Application form

An application form to describe your project and your intentions. Find the word template [here](#). Please save as a PDF File to upload on the online JotForm.

Language:

- For all applicants: the application should be filled in English AND if you wish, you may fill in another time in the language of the country where you are applying.
- For applicants in France & Italy: the application must be filled once in English and once in French or Italian

List of eligible languages: Bosnian, Croatian, Czech, Dutch, Estonian, French, Finnish, Flemish, German, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Serbian, Spanish, Swedish.

If your language is not in this list, please fill in the application in English only.

2 • A video

The video should help the jury understand your project better and is complementary to your written application. Ideally, it should show your movement, technique, scenography elements used in the project you are applying with. If you don't have any footage of your project yet, you may use extracts of your previous projects. If you wish, it may include an oral presentation of the project you are applying with.

Requirements:

- Format: maximum length 10 minutes. Limited editing (i.e. not a teaser or a promotional video)
- Add the link directly to the JotForm online

3 • Creation material

You can add any creation or visual material you find relevant to help the jury understand your project, artistic path, artistic universe and/or technical requirements.

For instance: artistic dossier or mood-board which may include other videos links, photos, drawings etc.

Requirements:

- 1 PDF, entitled "Name of the project_creation material", upload in the JotForm online

4 • Provisional creation calendar

You must upload online your provisional creation calendar (from your first working session to your premiere, even if provisional).

Requirements:

- 1 PDF, entitled "*Name of the project_creation calendar*", upload in the JotForm online

5 • Provisional budget

You must upload online provisional budget and mention if the financial partners are secured or waiting for confirmation. It will help the jury understand where you're in the creation process, how your project your budget, and how far are you already supported.

Requirements:

- 1 PDF, entitled "*Name of the project_provisional budget*", upload in the JotForm online

RECOMMENDATIONS

Deadline anticipation:

We strongly recommend that you submit your application in advance of the deadline to make sure that there are no technical problems.

1 - Before applying

- Carefully **read the useful documents:** the call for project, the application form and the technical information asked on the online portal, all is available on our website.
- **Check your eligibility:** carefully read the criteria of eligibility and emergence. If you have any doubts do not hesitate to contact info@circusnext.eu or register to an [info session online](#).
- **Check your availability:** each applicant must be available for the Selection of Laureates on the 11 to 18 May 2025 and for the Revelations event the 12 & 13 of June 2025. Your premiere should not be before that date.
- **Prepare all the required information:** gather the information requested in the online portal (technical information, authors information)
- **Prepare all the requested documents:**
 - Application form filled-in
 - A link to a video (10 min. maximum)
 - Creation material PDF
 - Provisional creation calendar PDF
 - Provisional budget PDF

2 - Submit your application

- Go to www.circusnext.eu in the open call section
- Click on Apply
- Fill in the online JotForm then click on “skip create an account”
- Upload the documents required, please be precise while naming your files

You don't have to complete your application in one go. You can start and finish your application later. To do so, click on “*save and submit later*”, then “*skip create an account*”.

Once you have clicked on the 'Submit' button, you will receive a confirmation email a few minutes later. It will also contain a link to an anonymous survey that will help circusnext to better understand the profiles of the applicants and to improve the selection process in the future, thus helping future emerging authors applying to circusnext.

Good luck on your application!

Any questions, contact us at: info@circusnext.eu

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