

THE WILD RUMPUS READER

News from the Mazo Movement Arts Center

November 2011



In This Issue

[Holiday Circus Play Days!](#)

[Trapeze in the News](#)

[Like us on Facebook!](#)

[Mazopalooza!](#)

[Benefit Circus at the Goodman Center](#)

New Neighbors, Old Friends.

I am staring out the window of my upstairs office, trying to get started on November's newsletter before December rolls around. Suddenly the branches closest to my eyes are filled w/bluebirds. Three? Four? I think they are considering spending the winter; yesterday they showed serious interest in a bird box we've got perched atop a fence post out back. Hope they decide to stay in the neighborhood; their presence brings us joy, as does yours when you visit, with your dance clothes and sleeping bags for a weekend of contact improvisation, with your kids, the shy and the bold, who you lend to us for an hour or a week of circus learning and laughter, with your yoga mats and dedication to movement as practice.

After a fairly quiet fall (quiet, that is, except for the tutu-clad gorilla doing bicycle ballet downtown on Halloween night) we're anticipating plenty of visitors in the next month or two. We'll be holding holiday circus play days (all ages, no experience necessary!) here in Mazo as well as in Madison over break. Last year we were surprised and delighted by the mix of new and old friends from near and very far away that turned up. And there's similar delight in store in early January, when for the tenth dead-of-winter in a row, Mazo's quiet streets and shops and community building will be filled with improvisational movement and music, Mazopalooza-style. The Wild Rumpus Circus will be featured in the expo hall at the Monona Terrace in Madison as part of US Bank Eve, so if you're looking for something to do for New Year's, stop by and give the tight wire or the German Wheel a try. Lastly, we're hoping to meet up with hundreds of you at the Goodman Community Center in late January, where we are creating a special benefit performance.

We've taken advantage of the late-fall lull to do some community outreach here in Mazo. In November we started offering free community circus, creative movement and yoga classes, all of which will continue into December. As a result, new local kids and families are turning up and trying new things with us, and we are getting to know our neighbors. And, at long last, a demo reel from the Wild Rumpus World Circus, our touring show, is viewable on-line! We are planning a



photo: Mick McKiernan

Circus Play for the Holidays!

Come walk the wire, turn yourself and your loved ones upside down and sideways, and practice your hand/eye coordination with us over the holidays! We're hosting an afternoon of circus activities for all ages at the Mazo Movement Arts Center on Weds. Dec. 28 and in Madison at the Goodman Center on Thurs. Dec. 29. Gift Certificates available. How's that for a locally produced, participatory, healthy and fun stocking-stuffer? See our [current schedule](#) for all the details!

We are also available for private lessons, birthday parties, special events, and would love to customize a program or performance to suit your needs.



photo: Amber Arnold

Trapeze in the News [Check out this great article](#) about [Cycropia's](#) annual introductory low-flying trapeze class series from the

trip to the east coast and possibly overseas for March, dreaming of heading west in May, so please feel free to share the link with your school PTA/O's, your local arts organizations, your scout troops, and put us in touch with them if they're interested in providing a nest, a classroom or a stage for our next seasonal migration.

We wish you a joyous holiday season, and hope that you'll be one of those bright flyers, dancers, jugglers, etc., who'll liven up this quiet winter landscape of ours.

Breathing thanks,

Mars and Jacob



photo: Mick McKiernan. Click on the image for more great shots from 2011

Mazopalooza!

Jan. 6-9, 2012 will mark our tenth year of gathering in this lovely driftless corner of Wisconsin in the dead of winter to retreat, sauna, practice contact improvisation, fill our dancing bodies with home-grown delicacies, investigate other improv forms, including performance, music, aerial, storytelling, site-specific, vocal and comedic. In other words, we'll laugh, dance, sweat, roll around, fly through the air, listen and respond and land in a heap, eat, play, relax and then get up and do it all over again for a day or four. The [Mazopalooza flier and registration form](#) are now on-line. Please send yours in soon!

Wisconsin State Journal's Sunday Best section a couple of weeks back! Low-flying trapeze, claims Mackenzie Dunn (far right in this photo) is "one of the most fun things I've ever done in my life. I am completely addicted." Ready to give it a try? [Here's all the info](#) on my next session of aerial arts classes and [here's](#) how to register.



*Photo by Mick McKiernan from our Winter Circus in Mt. Horeb. Jan. 2009.
Click on the monkey to see more!*

Like us on Facebook!

We've finally got a Wild Rumpus Circus/Mazo Movement Arts Center page on Facebook.

[Click here](#) to visit our page, see photos and updates, and "like" us so that we feel socially networked...

Quick Links

[Schedule](#)

[Register](#)

[Circus Camps](#)

The Wild Rumpus Winter Circus Presents: Good for the Goodman!

Join us on January 28th for a family circus performance aimed to entertain, as well as to raise funds for a brand new Circus Arts Scholarship Fund, which will allow low-income patrons of the Goodman Center to join our classes and camps as well as work with other members of our unique regional circus arts community. We've got an awesome group of kids, teens and adults collaborating on four new aerial numbers and a German Wheel act. Several other circus- and performance-focused groups that practice at the Goodman Center will be performing as well, including the [Madison Unicyclists](#), the Dead of Winter Jugglers, and the [Greasy Gears](#). Shows will be at 4 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28 at the Goodman Center, 149 Waubesa St. in Madison.

