

CIRCUS SMIRKUS

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Circus Smirkus Kicks off 36th Annual Tour of New England

Opening July 1 in Greensboro, Visiting Waterbury July 4-6 and Greensboro August 18-19

Greensboro, VT – The 36th annual Circus Smirkus Big Top Tour opens on Saturday, July 1, 2023 at The Circus Barn in Greensboro, Vermont. The opening weekend performances will be Saturday at 1:00 PM and 6:00 PM. These are the first two performances of the 62-show tour that will visit 5 states and 14 towns over 50 days this summer.

The 30 budding circus stars in the 2023 troupe are ages 11 to 18, and bring youthful exuberance and polished circus skills to grace the Big Top from regions across the United States. They hail from 12 states: **California** (7), **Colorado** (1), **Connecticut** (1), **Massachusetts** (4), **Maryland** (1), **New Hampshire** (5), **New Jersey** (2), **New York** (3), **Oregon** (1), **Pennsylvania** (1), **Rhode Island** (3), **Wisconsin** (1).

Celebrating its 36th year, Circus Smirkus is the only traveling ‘tented’ youth circus in the United States—its shows are among the most beloved arts events of the New England summer. Performing under a traditional European-style circus tent, Circus Smirkus troupers delight and inspire audiences of all ages. (Note: there are no animal acts in these performances.)

This year’s tour continues the tradition of Smirkus’ annual theme-based shows with **The 2023 Big Top Tour: A Midsummer Night’s Circus**. The show will feature a vast array of circus arts — including aerials, acrobatics, juggling, and clowning — a dazzling display of brilliant costumes, and many other surprises. The 2023 Big Top Tour takes to the road July 1 and travels through mid-August with a tour caravan that requires some 23-support vehicles and 80 people—including performers, coaches, cooks, tech and tent crew and a live circus band playing an original score written specifically for this show. The award-winning circus company performs across New England to approximately 40,000 patrons each summer.

Visit smirkus.org for a complete tour schedule. Tickets for each performance on the tour will be available starting on May 1st by calling 1-877-SMIRKUS toll-free. Contact tour@smirkus.org for sponsorship opportunities.

About the Show **The 2023 Big Top Tour: A Midsummer Night’s Circus**

Enter an enchanted forest and let your imagination run away with the circus! Circus Smirkus brings magic and mayhem, love and chaos to the big top with the 2023 Big Top Tour: A Midsummer Night’s Circus. A cast of thirty talented youth get entangled in the dream-like woods where sprites contort in the trees and fairies fly through the air. Trouble ensues when they all cross paths with the king and queen of the fairies, their fantastical court, and the chief mischief-maker, Puck! This exquisite acrobatic adaptation of Shakespeare’s beloved comedy will leave you awe-inspired and utterly enchanted!

About Circus Smirkus

Located in Greensboro, Vermont, Circus Smirkus is a nonprofit arts and education organization whose mission is to promote the skills, culture and traditions of the traveling circus. Since 1987, it has inspired youth to engage in life-changing adventures in the circus arts through three principal programs: the [Circus Smirkus Big Top Tour](http://www.smirkus.org), [Smirkus Camp](http://www.smirkus.org), and [Smirkus School Residency](http://www.smirkus.org) programs. Learn more at www.smirkus.org.

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