

SARAH NORDEN

6257 rue Molson, Montréal, QC, H1Y 3C2, (207) 712-0202, swbnor@gmail.com



EDUCATION

École Nationale de Cirque, Montréal, QC — DEC

June 2024

MAJOR: Aerial hoop; MINOR: Foot juggling

AWARDS: Governor General's Academic Collegiate Bronze Medal

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT — Bachelor of Arts

May 2021

MAJOR: Science in Society; MINORS: Dance, Environmental Studies

GPA: 4.13/4.00; 4 year degree earned in 3 years

AWARDS: Class rank #1/679; Phi Beta Kappa, Dean's List, all semesters

PERFORMANCE

CIRCUS ARTIST

Pronouns: she/they

Nationality: USA

Age: 25

Height: 5'6"

DISCIPLINES

CIRCUS: Aerial hoop, foot juggling, clowning

PERFORMANCE: Contemporary dance, acting, immersive & site specific performance

OTHER: Coaching, dramaturgy, research, performance writing

LANGUAGES

FLUENT: English & French

BEGINNER: Spanish

Play Dead – People Watching

August 2024

Replacement for Hup State Circus Festival
Duo acrobatics, dance, aerial hoop

Le Cabaret du Fierté – Le Monastère du Cirque

August 2024

Solo aerial hoop number in pride month cabaret

Tomber, En Amour – La Tohu / ENC

June 2024

Aerial hoop, clowning, & group acrobatics in ENC graduation show
Directed by Helena Bittencourt & Goos Meeuwsen

NSO Masterworks: Under the Big Top – St. John's Circus Festival

September 2023

Aerial hoop solo in circus fusion show with live orchestra
Directed by Isabelle Chassé

RESEARCH

Conference Presenter – Circus and its Other's IV, Bogotá, Colombia

February 2024

- Selected to present research on innovation at international circus studies conference

Circus Researcher – Centre de Recherche, Innovation et Transfert des Arts du Cirque, Montréal, QC

September 2022 – Present

- Conducting auto-ethnographic study of innovation in circus, with the goal of illuminating how the form's fixation on newness and individually influences the artistic and personal development of circus students
- Selected to be CRITAC's first ever student researcher

Environmental Theater Researcher — Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

June – November 2020

- Awarded Wesleyan College of the Environment Summer Research Fellowship to develop a participatory environmental theater curriculum with a peer
- Co-taught workshop series to advanced theater students at York Town High School (VA) to encourage them to use art to connect with the politics, history, and ecology of their local areas

COACHING & DIRECTING

Individual Acts Program Co-Director – Circus Smirkus, Greensboro, VT

July – August 2024

- Co-wrote curriculum and coached technique, act creation, & performance skills in one-on-one and group classes to help 14 campers create solo acts in 3 week advanced camp session
- Co-wrote and directed 1 hour show to present solo acts in cohesive, moving performance

Aerial & Clown Coach – Circus Smirkus, Greensboro, VT

Summers 2022 – 2024

- Wrote curriculum and coached clowning, performance, & improvisation to advanced campers to nurture playful performance skills & presence
- Led team of aerialists to teach technique, research skills, & healthy training habits to students of all levels –including directing acts for a final show–with the goal of nurturing skills, creativity, and self-esteem

SKILLS & INTERESTS

SKILLS: Strong work ethic, good listener, playful

INTERESTS: Queerness, materiality of the body, the role of theory and ethics in performance