



# Annual Report 2021





# In this report:

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We are proud to present you with an overview of our work and achievements starting from 1st of January and ending on December 31, 2021

For more information about our work in general, our approaches, our work in the past and daily updates, we invite you to read more about us on our website [www.placircus.ps](http://www.placircus.ps) and to like our Facebook page: [The Palestinian Circus School](#)

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# Introduction

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Dearest supporters and friends of the Palestinian Circus School,

This year report will cover PCS programs and activities from 1st of January and ending on December 31, 2021.

Despite the many challenges, including the influence of COVID -19 for the second consecutive year on the lives and well-being of many people worldwide and in Palestine, we've managed to implement almost all our planned activities, as you will see in this report.



# About us

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## Vision

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A free Palestine in which Palestinians engage in a dynamic cultural and artistic life that embraces creativity, freedom of expression and diversity as the main pillars for a just and inclusive society.

## Mission

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By teaching, creating, performing and programming circus arts, the Palestinian Circus School strengthens the creative, social and physical potential of Palestinians, seeking to engage and empower them to become constructive actors in society and raises local and international awareness about the positive Palestinian potential and its different challenges.

You can read more about the history of PCS [here](#)

## Values

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- JUSTICE
- BELONGING
- CREATIVITY & INNOVATION
- RATIONALISM
- PROFESSIONALISM



## The staff in 2021

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Mohamad Rabah	Executive Director
Ahmad Rezaqalla	Financial Manager
Rana Nasser	Programs Officer
Marah Al Natsheh	Research, Development and Marketing Coordinator / artist
Hanya Abdallah	Administrative & Financial Assistant
Alaa Jayousi	Safety and Technician
Nayef Abdallah	Educational Department Coordinator
Mohammad Abu Sakha	Circus Pedagogy Coordinator
Motasem Ghaith	Coordinator of Moon & Sun groups
Mohammad Dweikat	Yalla Nilab Coordinator
Viola Lucrezia	Development Advisor (ZFD - GIZ program)
Noor Abu AlRub	Performers' Coordinator
Mohammad Abu Taleb	Pool of artist Coordinator
Ahmad Abu Taleb	Productions' Coordinator

### Board of Directors

- President: Dr. Yousef Al Rimawi
- Vice President: Ms. Rawan Harb
- Treasurer: Mr. Sinan Mansour
- Secretary: Ms. Nadia Awad
- Member: Mr. Khaled Miqdadi
- Member: Mr. Raed Sadeq
- Member: Ms. Tina Rafidi

From the bottom of our hearts, we want to thank **all local volunteers** for sharing their valuable experience and time with us and for contributing to the further development of the PCS. You are always to our big circus family!!

Due to travel restriction caused by Covid-19 pandemic we haven't received any international volunteers. If you wish to volunteer with us in 2022, Please fill the application form on our website page

# Financial Overview

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## Statement of Activity

Donor Contribution	1,092,333
In-kind Donors Contribution	20,492
Board Membership	800
Donation, subsidies and others	367,117
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>1,480,742</b>
Project expenses	1,080,116
General and administrative expenses	306,616
Currency differentials	129,115
Depreciation Expense	148,529
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,664,376</b>
Change in net assets	183,634
Net assets, beginning of year	2,331,374
<b>NET ASSETS (END OF YEAR)</b>	<b>2,147,740</b>

## Financial Position

Total Current Assets	2,501,735
Total Non Current Assets	499,065
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,000,800</b>
Total Current Liabilities	7,612
Total Non Current Liabilities	227,860
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>235,471</b>
Total Net Assets	2,765,328
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	3,000,800

# Educational Activities

## Accessible for all

At the PCS we continue to invest strongly in the 'circus for all' idea. In our vision we state that we want to contribute to a just and inclusive society. For us this means that all Palestinians, despite their different backgrounds, possibilities and abilities, are welcome at the circus school. The main strategies we use to make circus possible for all are:

- To welcome all children and youth from all religious, political, social, economic and gender backgrounds.
- A scholarship system, that allows people to pay the fee they can afford.
- The outreach program, where the circus trainers travel weekly to different locations.
- The development of partnerships with specific organizations that work with more vulnerable groups in our society. In this sense we have developed a strong partnership over the last years with the Social Rehabilitation Centre for girls in Jenin, and with Star Mountain Rehabilitation Centre and Al Nahda Centre which both work with people with intellectual disabilities. In addition to Al Bustan in Sylwan, The Freedom Theater in Jenin and Dar Qindeel in Tulkarem.
- To open our doors for anybody who feels like passing by, come and see a training, and by organizing many shows for free or for very low charges to allow all to enjoy the circus magic.

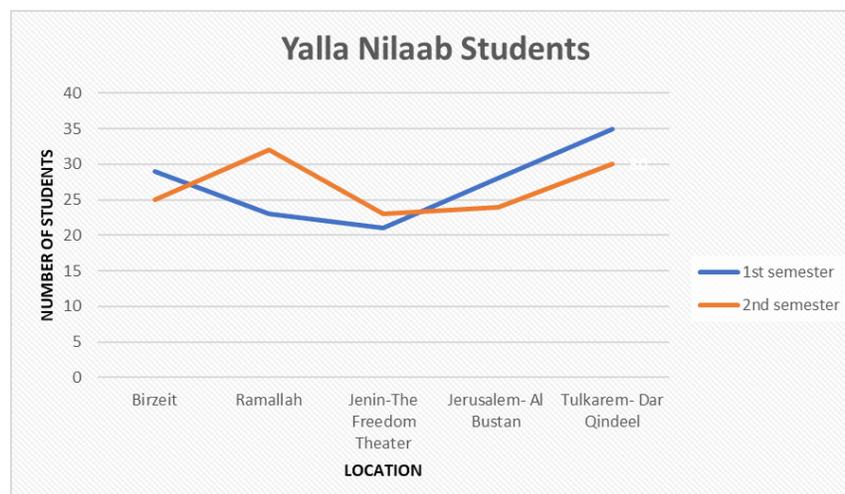
## Educational Programs:

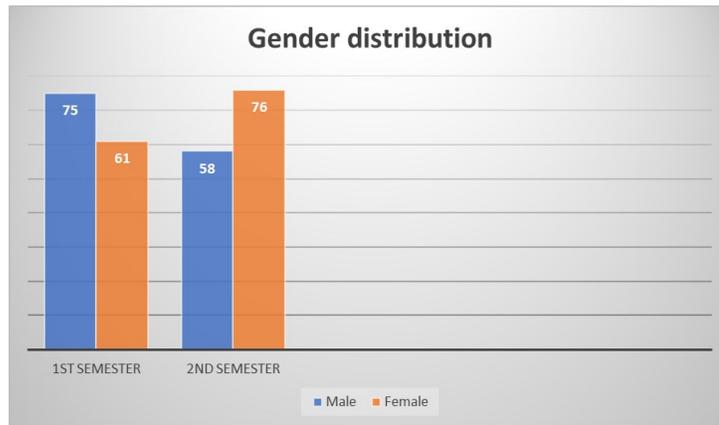
Weekly Clubs: are once in a week training program organized yearly from September to May

### Yalla Nilaab (let's Play):

A Two-year weekly program designed for students between 6 and 10 year old in Birzeit, Ramallah, Tulkarem, Jenin and Jerusalem.

The program uses games and exercise as a learning tool. It also introduces the students to the basics of circus specialties, including trapeze, tissue, balls, diabolo, gymnastics, dance, technical exercises and improvisations.





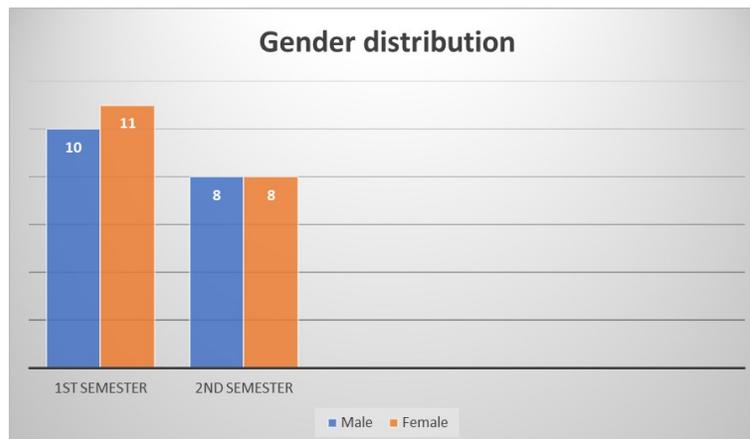
**Moon:**

The program receives graduates of “Yallah Ni’lab” program, or students from the 11 to 14 age group, after having technically prepared them with workshops or summer camps. “Moon” program is considered advanced and not intended for beginners. The program also focuses on the specialization of each participant according to their desires, inclinations, and distinctive abilities and the development of the artistic and creative aspects. The transfer of the students takes place after evaluating their levels at the end of each program. And then determine their readiness to move to the third Program “Sun”



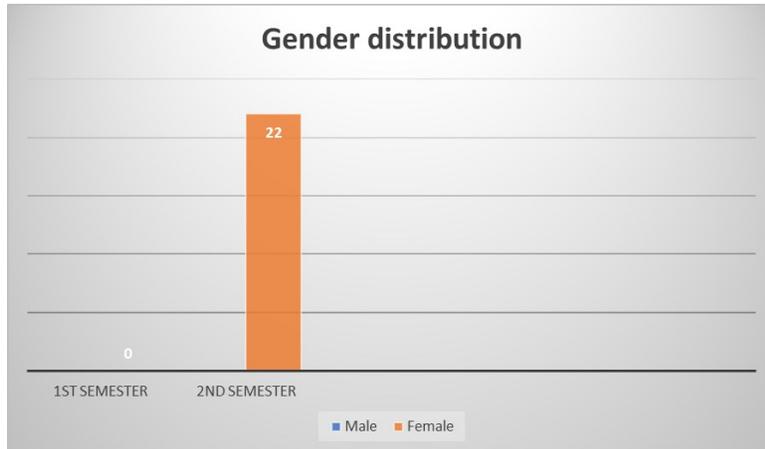
**Sun:**

Sun Program receives trainee graduates who have completed “Moon” program, within the age group of 14 to 18 years old. The program focuses on the advanced technical side, to prepare students to produce shows or participate in many various artistic presentations then prepare students to the “training of trainers” or “professional artistic” program.



## **Inhale:**

This program is specialized at working with women, who face internal and external cultural challenges. We seek to contribute to the empowerment of women by developing their physical, psychological, emotional, intellectual and productive skills.

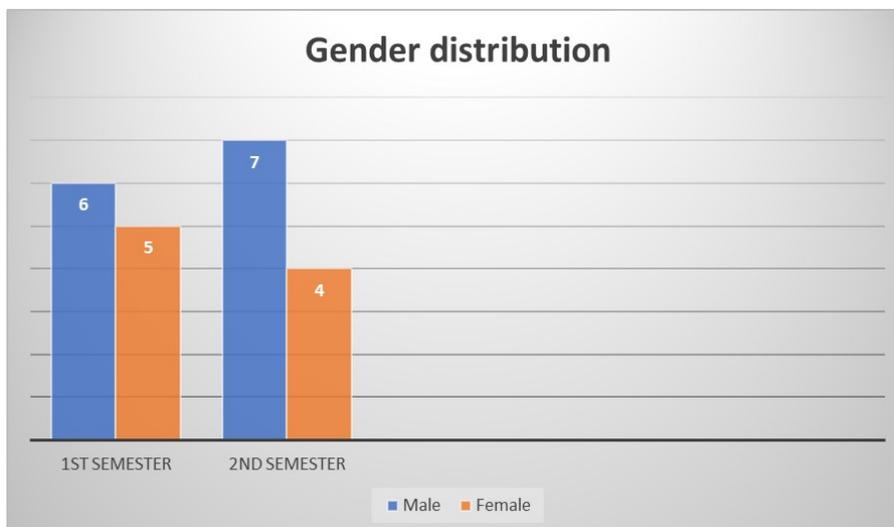


## **Passion:**

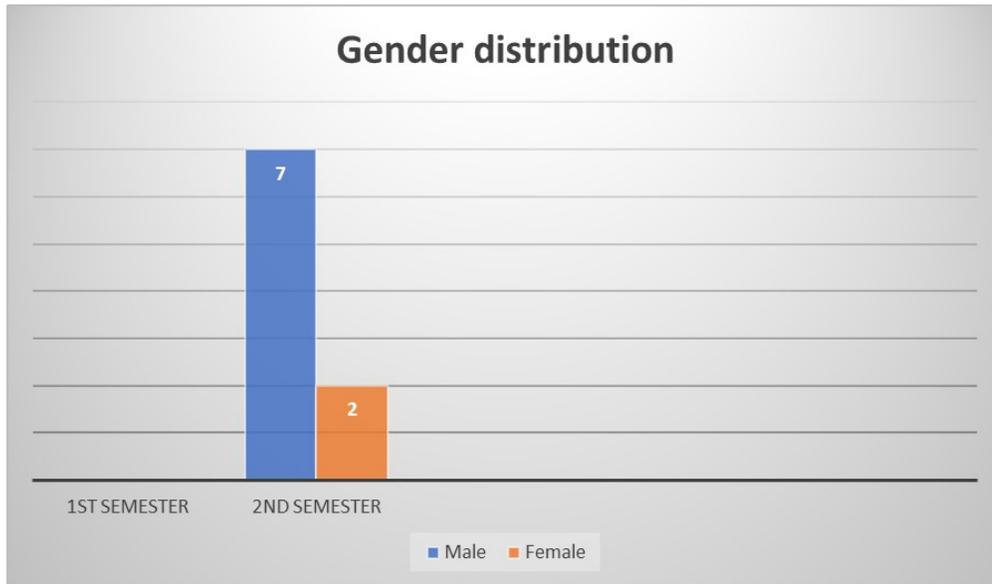
The Palestinian Circus School considers that social circus programs for people with intellectual disabilities is a natural right. We seek through this program to use social circus in order to develop the personal, physical and cognitive abilities of students, as well as opening the space to interact with others in creative ways. In addition to providing them with the opportunity to express themselves and release their energies.

We also seek to use circus art to raise community's awareness towards people with intellectual disabilities and their struggles. The artistic capabilities of children with intellectual disabilities are used to claim their social rights.

## **STAR MOUNTAIN**

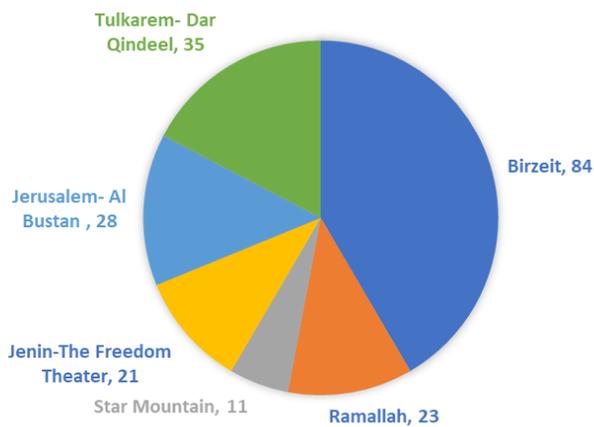


Al Nahda

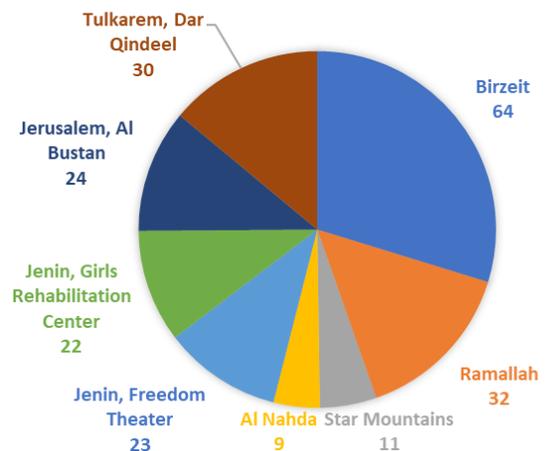


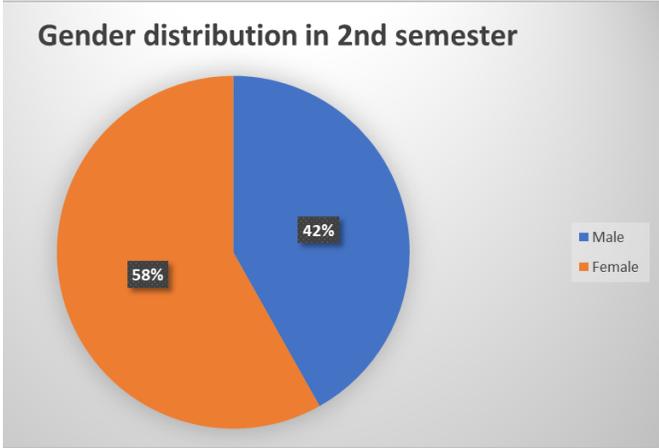
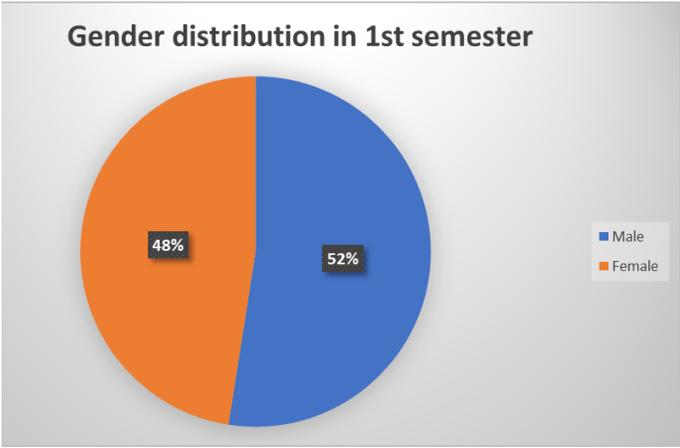
**Overview of students and gender distribution in 1st and 2nd semesters:**

**STUDENTS IN 1ST SEMESTER (202)**



**STUDENTS IN 2ND SEMESTER (215)**





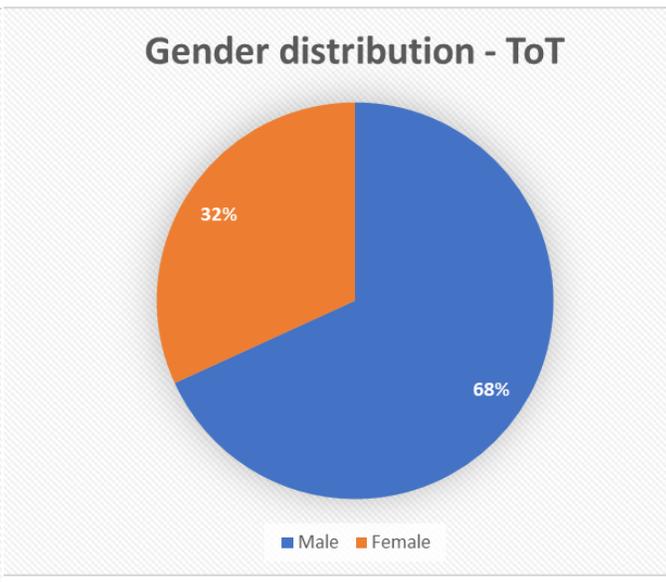
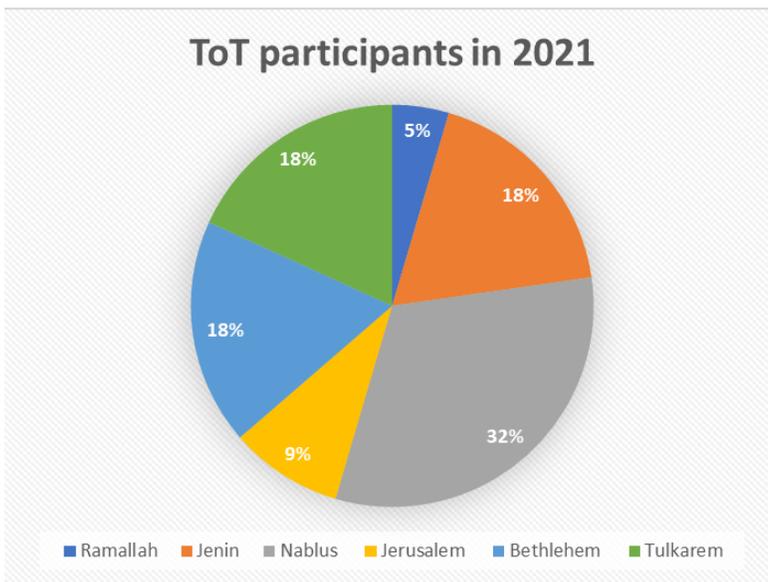
## Training of Trainers

Our **Training of Trainers program**, which we offer every year, is open to anyone who is above 18 and have the motivation to become a circus trainer.

PCS conducted a Training of Trainers workshop between the 15th and the 26th of August 2021. The workshop targeted new trainers, in addition to trainers from the previous workshop (22 in Total). With focus on preparing them to lead the social circus trainings in all the locations: Jenin, Tulkarem, Ramallah, and Jerusalem.

New trainers were recruited through our partners: Freedom Theater and Girls Rehabilitation Center from Jenin, Dar Qindeel from Tulkarem, Al Bustan from Jerusalem, Nablus Circus & Performing Art School from Nablus, Lajee Center from Bethlehem and Baladi Center from Beit Jala.

Educational videos have been developed as a technical reference that help trainers and hobbyists to learn circus techniques. [You can watch all of our videos on our YouTube page on the link](#)







## Open Days

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PCS offers its students the opportunity to present their newly acquired skills to their social network. That's why by the end of each scholar year, PCS organizes a series of open days in its different training locations.

Due to Covid -19, we were only able to organize open days for:

- 11 students from Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center on 10th of June
- 57 students from Yalla Nilaab groups from Ramallah and Birzeit on 8th and 9th of April
- 22 students from the Girls Rehabilitation Center on 14th of June

## Summer Camps

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This summer, we were able to organize three **summer camps** in Birzeit, Jerusalem and Jenin.

- In **Jenin** we had 70 students (45 boys and 25 girls) between the 28th of June and the 1st of July.
- In **Jerusalem**, Al Bustan organized a summer camp for 33 students (15 boys and 18 girls) between 2nd and 24th of September.
- In **Birzeit** we had 90 students (54 boys and 36 girls) between 27th of June and 27th of July.

In addition, PCS organized intensive trainings for its students from Ramallah and Birzeit from 1st to 9th of August to compensate them for missed trainings due to country closure. 61 students attended the intensive training (32 females and 29 males).

## Workshops

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### Bridges for Youth

PCS participated in an international circus exchange with Bridges for Youth-Germany. An online training session was organized on the 26th and 27th of August for 40 participants from Palestine, Germany, Belgium and Slovenia.

Participants exchanged culture and skills and prepared for face to face exchange in Germany in 2022.

### Joint Training (PCS & Nablus Performing Art & Circus School)

PCS welcomed 20 students from Nablus Performing Art and Circus School on 8th of October who attended a joint training with our students from Sun Group. On 12th of December, 20 PCS students visited Nablus Circus School for a joint training.

### Inclusion Activities

Our students from the Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center performed at an open day in one of the schools in Beit Seera and in an event in Ziad Abu Ain School in Ramallah. Human pyramids were formed, and Mohammad Assi had a diabolo performance.

### **Trampoline & Acrobatic Workshop**

PCS organized a circus workshop on trampoline and acrobatics from 4th of February to 8th of April for 12 participants.

### **Yalla Nilaab Workshop**

PCS organized a one-year circus workshop for 4- and 5-year-old children in its premises in Birzeit. The workshop is attended by 8 students.

### **Caravan meetings in Belgium and Slovenia**

PCS Circus Pedagogy Coordinator, Mohammad Abu Sakha, travelled to Belgium from 18 to 21st of December and to Slovenia from 21 to 24th of October to attend several meetings in preparation for handbook on social circus.

### **CTF workshop in Slovenia**

In the framework of Caravan's CTF training program, two of our trainers; Mohammad Dwekat and Motasem Gheith, participated at Circus Transformation in Action project in Slovenia between 12 and 18 of September and in Finland between 13 to 17 of December.

### **Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center**

PCS participated in a workshop on the rights of children with disabilities in cooperation with Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center in June





# Artistic Activities

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## Productions, Performances & Artistic Services

Spreading circus arts in Palestine and introducing Palestinians to a new form of performing arts, is an important quest for PCS. In order to fulfill this goal, PCS produces shows and organizes tours both locally and internationally. In addition to offering several artistic services such as capacity building workshops, specialized disciplines, artistic consultation and venue /equipment hiring

### Productions:

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#### ACTIVE PRODUCTIONS/CO-PRODUCTIONS:

- ASIMO
- My Share
- Tirhal for Contemporary Circus for their production "Aside"
- Black Team for their production "A Letter from the Past"
- Issam Abu Snaineh for his production "In Between"
- Murtada Hmouz for his production "The Two Villages of Omba and Comba"
- The Levant Labyrinth"



## Artistic Preparation Program

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Is a one year technical and artistic program for +18 students. Students train for 6 hours weekly with the aim of preparing them to become professional circus artists. By the end of the year, a circus show is produced. This year, the program included 7 students (5 males and 2 females)

### “My Share”

My Share is a student production of PCS. The show revolves around family relationships and highlights several topics within a family. Artists embodied and presented it using various circus techniques.

During the show, several things occur between members of this family, related to the distribution of roles and responsibilities inside of the house, issues of inheritance and gender discrimination, and the conflict arising from these situations among members of this family.

“MY SHARE” is performed by: Ehab Motan, Ahmad Odeh, Mohammad Abu Farha, Layan Rafidi, Omar Abu Omar, Yazan Burbar and Julia Rafidi.

Funded by: Italian Agency for Development Cooperation

Directed by: Noor Abu AIRub

Stage Management: Mohammad Abu Taleb

Technician: Alaa Jayousi

Photography: Alaa Ali Abdallah



## Performances of “My Share”

The show was performed 8 times inside the circus tent in Birzeit and 5 times in different locations, reaching around 3000 people from different West Bank cities

The 8 shows that were performed inside the circus tent in Birzeit were followed by an interactive workshop for parents and children. Workshops were given by the artists participating in the show.

By the end of each workshop, an evaluation session was conducted and participants' opinion on the activity was heard.



## Performances and Services:

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- **Tour in Jerusalem**  
Ahmad Al Jubeh toured with his show “Show in a case”. The show reached around 600 people and was organized in cooperation with many Jerusalem partners.
- **Palestine Red Crescent Society in Hebron**  
PCS performed in an event organized by Palestine Red Crescent Society in the old city of Hebron on 2nd of February
- **Nablus Performing Art & Circus School**  
PCS organized “Aside” show for Tirhal Group at Nablus Circus School on 20th of February.  
PCS hosted “Fading” show of Nablus Performing Art & Circus School on 21st of June.
- **The Freedom Theater**  
PCS organized a show of “Aside” by Tirhal and “In Between” by Esam Abu Sneineh at The Freedom Theater on 22nd of February.
- **Alf Leileh W Leileh Event**  
PCS had a circus presentation in Saffa on 24th of April

- Al Rozana Association**

In cooperation with Al Rozana Association, PCS performed at Evangelical School in Ramallah on 29th of May.

PCS had several performances during Souq Al Baboureyeh. On 3rd of July, ASIMO show was performed under PCS tent.

PCS performed several times for visitors from the 48 land, coming through Al Rozana Association on 4th of September and on 11th of September.
- Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival**

In cooperation with Stereo 48, "A Journey to Jerusalem" was presented during RCDF on 8th of July.

In cooperation with Nablus Performing & Circus School, "The Levant Labyrinth" was presented during RCDF on 10th of July
- Ashtar International Festival**

In cooperation with Nablus Performing & Circus School, "The Levant Labyrinth" was presented during Ashtar International Festival on 4th of July
- The International Festival Liberal Theater**

In cooperation with Nablus Performing & Circus School, "The Levant Labyrinth" was presented during the festival in August
- Khalil Al Sakakini**

PCS offered a one-day workshop to 40 children and their parents during an event organized by Khalil Al Sakakini on 21st of May.
- Ramallah Municipality**

PCS performed during the National Day of Economy on 10th of June

PCS participated at Souq Al Harjeh on 16th of July. PCS presented a circus show, "Letter from the Past" show and a presentation by the Parkour Group

In addition to our participation in Yalla Al Hadika Festival on 9th of September, Christmas Market from 2nd to 7th of December and Santa Al Tareeq on 19th of December.
- Krinal Mansour**

PCS hosted an artistic residency for Krinal Mansour from 19th of May to 16th of June
- Ashtar Theater**

PCS organized "Letter from the Past" for the Parkour show at the Municipal Theater of Ramallah Municipality on 2nd of July



- **Anotech**  
PCS offered team building workshop for staff from Anotech in July
- **Show in Rantis**  
PCS had a circus presentation in Rantis on 11th of July
- **Arab Academy School in Surda**  
PCS performed “Asimo” at the Arab Academy School in Surda on 12th of July.
- **Noor Land**  
PCS performed “Asimo” in Noor Land Park in Deir Al Ghusoon village on the 14th of July.
- **Conventional Palace**  
PCS performed “Asimo” at the Conventional Palace in Bethlehem on 15th of July
- **Jazeeret Al Atfal Kindergarten**  
PCS organized a show “Omba and Comba” in Birzeit for children of Jazeeret Al Atfal Kindergarten on 1st of August.
- **Parent Theater Group at the Angelican School**  
PCS performed “Asimo” for a group of parents and their students from the Parent Theater Group at the Angelican School in Jerusalem on 3rd of October.
- **Dunia for Breast Cancer**  
PCS performed at an event organized by Dunia Center at Sarreyet Ramallah to raise awareness on breast cancer issues on 1st of October
- **Al Qimmeh School in Birzeit**  
PCS performed “Asimo” at Al Qimmeh School in Birzeit on 7th of October
- **Ya’bad Girls School**  
PCS artists’ performed “Asimo” and gave a workshop to 60 girls from Ya’bad Girls School on 25th of October
- **YMCA - Bethlehem**  
PCS organized a show for Nablus Performing Art and Circus School at YMCA in Bethlehem on 31st of October
- **Palestine Red Crescent Society**  
PCS participated in two events organized by PRCS for the disabled people in Jericho on 11th of March and at the Deaf School of PRCS on 30th of November
- **Lycee French School**  
PCS organized circus workshops for 16 kids participating at the summer camp of the Lycee School. PCS also offered circus workshops at the winter camp organized by the Lycee in December
- **Qumran Kindergarten**  
PCS offered a circus workshop for 30 kids from Qumran Kindergarten on 12th of August
- **Circus En Beweging**  
“In Between” was performed in Belgium on 5th of August

- **Sarreyet Ramallah**  
PCS performed during Christmas market organized by Sarreyet Ramallah on 9th of December
- **Birzeit Municipality**  
PCS participated at the lightening of Christmas tree on 11th of December
- **Birzeit Orthodox Scouts**  
PCS participated at Christmas Parade organized by the scouts troupe in Birzeit on 16th of December
- **Media Plus**  
PCS participated at the Christmas Parades organized by Media Plus in Bethlehem on 19th of December and in Ramallah on 22nd of December

## Pool of Artists

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### Performing Artist Convention

PCS conducted a one-week summer camp from 18 to 24th of June gathering 40 artists from different cities around Palestine, and different artistic backgrounds. This summer camp opened up the chance for many artists to come together in one place, sharing their artistic experiences (Dance, Theatre, Music, and Circus).



### EVS Program

PCS offered European volunteering opportunities in Belgium and Germany to 3 of its artists



# Institutional

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## Strategic Partnership with Red Noses

PCS and the Red Noses announced their partnership in October 2021. Within this collaboration, both organizations agreed on using the common premises and its facilities located in Birzeit. In addition to finding synergies on the programs level to fulfill mutual goals in spreading joy, laughter, and hope in Palestine.

## Unity Pyramid Event

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PCS and REFORM association organized a “Human Unity Pyramid” Event on October 29, 2021 at Al Istiqlal Park in Al Bireh. The event included almost 350 participants from different regions of Palestine in partnership with 8 cultural groups and organizations: Nablus Performing art and Circus School, Dar Qandeel in Tulkarem, Al Bustan Association in Sylwan, Lajee Center in Bethlehem, The Freedom Theater in Jenin, Al Nahda Women Association, Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center, and Black Team Parkour Troupe. All circus students from the West Bank and Jerusalem including our students with intellectual disabilities participated at the event to form the World longest human pyramid. PCS brought together all circus addicts from different parts of Palestine promoting equality and inclusivity. Despite of their age, gender, geographical area, physical and mental abilities, all students were given the opportunity to participate.

[Unity Human Pyramid - هرم الوحدة البشري - YouTube](#)



## New Website

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new website. [Check it now](#)

# Capacity Building Workshop

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- **Online Stage Management Course**

Mohammad Abu Taleb, the Coordinator of PCS Pool of Artists, took a 100-hour online stage management course with Bamboo Manager Project

- **Workshop in Correspondence Techniques and reporting**

PCS organized a 5-hour workshop for its staff members in May focusing on techniques of writing official correspondences, reports, and meeting minutes.

- **Bissan Workshop**

Hanya Abdallah, our Admin & Financial Assistant, took a 20-hour training session on Bissan System at YWCA Ramallah in August.

- **Several workshops with Palestine Workshop Organization with support from Drosos**

In cooperation with Palestine Workshop Organization, our staff members attended several workshops on the writing of success stories, digital marketing, design basics, writing of press release and storytelling.

- **Excel /Accounting Workshop**

Ahmad Rezqalla, our Financial Manager, attended a 4-month workshop in accounting and excel.



## Supporters

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Our impact and achievements wouldn't be the same without the precious support of all our donors, supporters and partners. We are very grateful for the large belief and trust all these people and institutions have in our work. For our activities and festival this year, we received support from:

- **Drosos Foundation**
- **Caritas**
- **Poppies for Peace – Klaprozen voor vrede**
- **Flemish Government / Flanders**
- **PAC**
- **Medical Aid for Palestinians**
- **GIZ - ZFD**
- **Italian Agency for Development Cooperation**
- **CARAVAN.**
- **A.M Qattan Foundation**
- **AECID in partnership with Novact**
- **Clowns Without Borders Sweden**
- **DHIP**
- **OSF**

You are always welcome to join the family of supporters to guarantee that our work will continue and be able to make real changes in the life of our children and youth.

See [here](#) how you can support us!!



[www.palcircus.ps](http://www.palcircus.ps)

**THE PALESTINIAN CIRCUS SCHOOL**

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[The Palestinian Circus School](#)



[The Palestinian Circus School](#)

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