

20  
24

# THE PALESTINIAN CIRCUS ANNUAL REPORT



سيرك فلسطين  
The Palestinian Circus



# THE PALESTINIAN CIRCUS

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# VISION & MISSION

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## VISION

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

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 the Palestinian Circus from our website.

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## MESSAGE FROM **THE PC FAMILY**

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2024 has been a year of immense suffering for the Palestinian people. The genocide and relentless aggression against our people have left deep scars, taking countless innocent lives and devastating our communities. As a team, we have not been untouched by this pain. We continue to deeply miss our colleague, Mohamad Abu Sakha, who has been unjustly kidnapped by the Israeli occupation since June 2023 ,9, under the illegal practice of administrative detention. His absence is felt every day, and we remain steadfast in demanding his immediate release.

Despite these hardships, our commitment to our mission has never wavered. The Palestinian Circus, through the dedication of our team, artists, trainers, board of directors, general assembly, and our partners and supporters has worked tirelessly to bring hope to children, youth, and communities across the West Bank, Jerusalem, and Gaza. Through circus, we have created spaces of resilience, joy, and resistance—offering Palestinian children and youth a moment of relief and a means to express their strength in the face of oppression.

In every performance, workshop, and initiative, we have seen the power of art to inspire and uplift. In a time when our people are enduring so much pain, we remain committed to using circus as a tool of hope, resistance, and unity.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all those who have stood by us, supported our work, and amplified our voices. The struggle continues, and so does our commitment to life, freedom, and justice.

Palestinian Circus Team

## THE PALESTINIAN CIRCUS

### FAMILY

#### Board Members

Ms. Rawan Harb	President
Ms. Elham Zeineh	Vice president
Mr. Sinan Mansour	Treasurer
Ms. Kifah Jamal Zhoor	Secretary
Mr. Raed Abu Awad	Member
Mr. Rafat Jamil Washaha	Member
Dr. Yousef Rimawi	Member

#### Staff Members

Mohamad Rabah	Executive Director
Ahmad Rezaqallah	Admin & Financial Manager
Hanya Abdallah	Admin & Financial Coordinator
Rana Nasser	Programs Officer
Julie Abdallah	Communication Coordinator
Malak Takruri	Communication Coordinator
Nayef Abdallah	Educational Officer
Marah Ashmar	Social Programs' Coordinator
Mohammad Dwikat	Children Programs' Coordinator
Viola Lucrezia	Development Advisor (ZFD/GIZ)
Alaa Jayousi	Safety & Technical Coordinator
Mohamad Abu Sakha	Social Programs' Coordinator
Noor Abu AlRub	Artistic Officer
Mohammad Abu Taleb	Productions Coordinator
Ahmad Abu Taleb	Artistic Development Coordinator

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### BREAKDOWN

Statement of Activity	NIS
In-kind Donors Contribution	0.00
Board membership	1,550
Donations , Subsidies and others	646,950
Net assets released from temporary restricted	1,246,592
<b>Total unrestricted grants &amp; donations</b>	<b>1,895,092</b>
Project Expenses	1,221,577
General and administrative expenses	562,795
Currency differential	38,484
Depreciation	176,132
<b>Total expenses and unrestricted net assets</b>	<b>1,998,988</b>
Change in Unrestricted net assets	(103,897)
Change in Temporary restricted net assets	3,099,084
<b>Total change in net assets for the year</b>	<b>2,995,187</b>

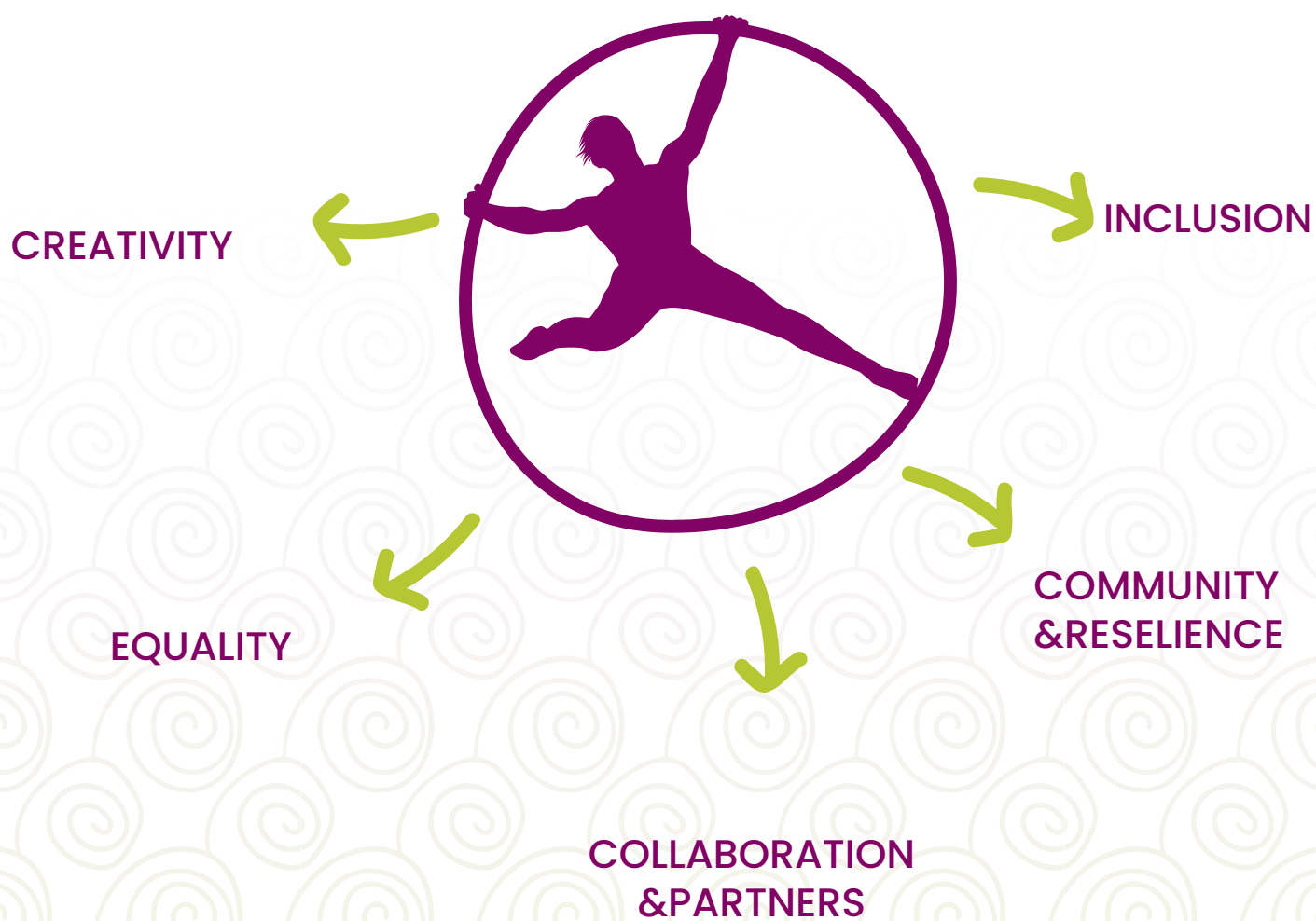
Financial Position	NIS
Total Current assets	5,652,368
Total Non Current assets	467,136
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>6,119,504</b>
Total Current Liabilities	9,763
Total Non Current Liabilities	437,114
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>446,877</b>
Total Net assets	5,672,627
Total Liabilities and Net assets	6,119,504

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## **CIRCUS**

FOR ALL

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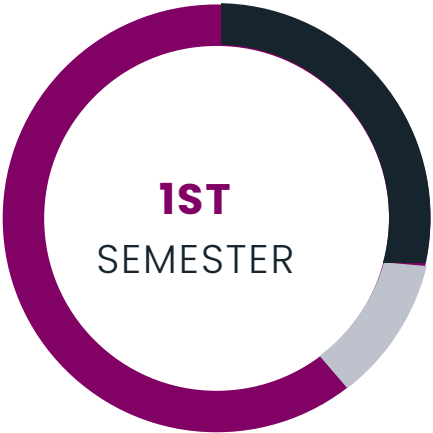
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*we believe that everyone has a talent that deserves to shine, and every heart deserves joy. Thus, we provide a vibrant space filled with passion and creativity, connecting trainers with beneficiaries in their communities. Together, we shape a resilient, collaborative generation, ready to face life with love and determination.*

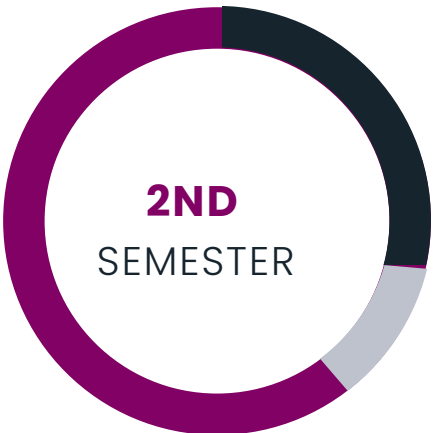




EDUCATIONAL  
PROGRAMS

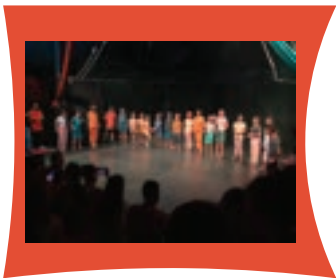


CHILDHOOD: 96  
SOCIAL: 70  
Tot: 28



CHILDHOOD: 182  
SOCIAL: 65  
Tot: 20

OUR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



CHILDHOOD



SOCIAL



TOT

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## CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

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The Childhood Program at the Palestinian Circus targets children aged **5 to 9** years through specialized three-month workshops. Additionally, children aged **10 to 14** years are engaged through the annual "Moon" program, which runs throughout the year.

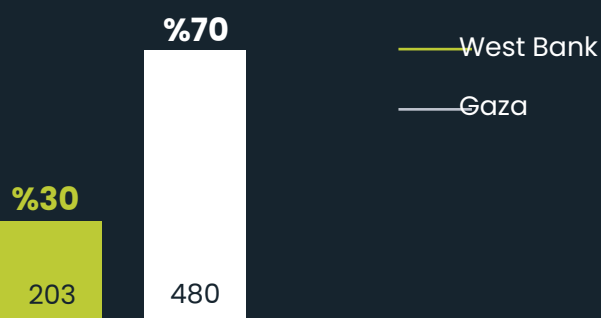
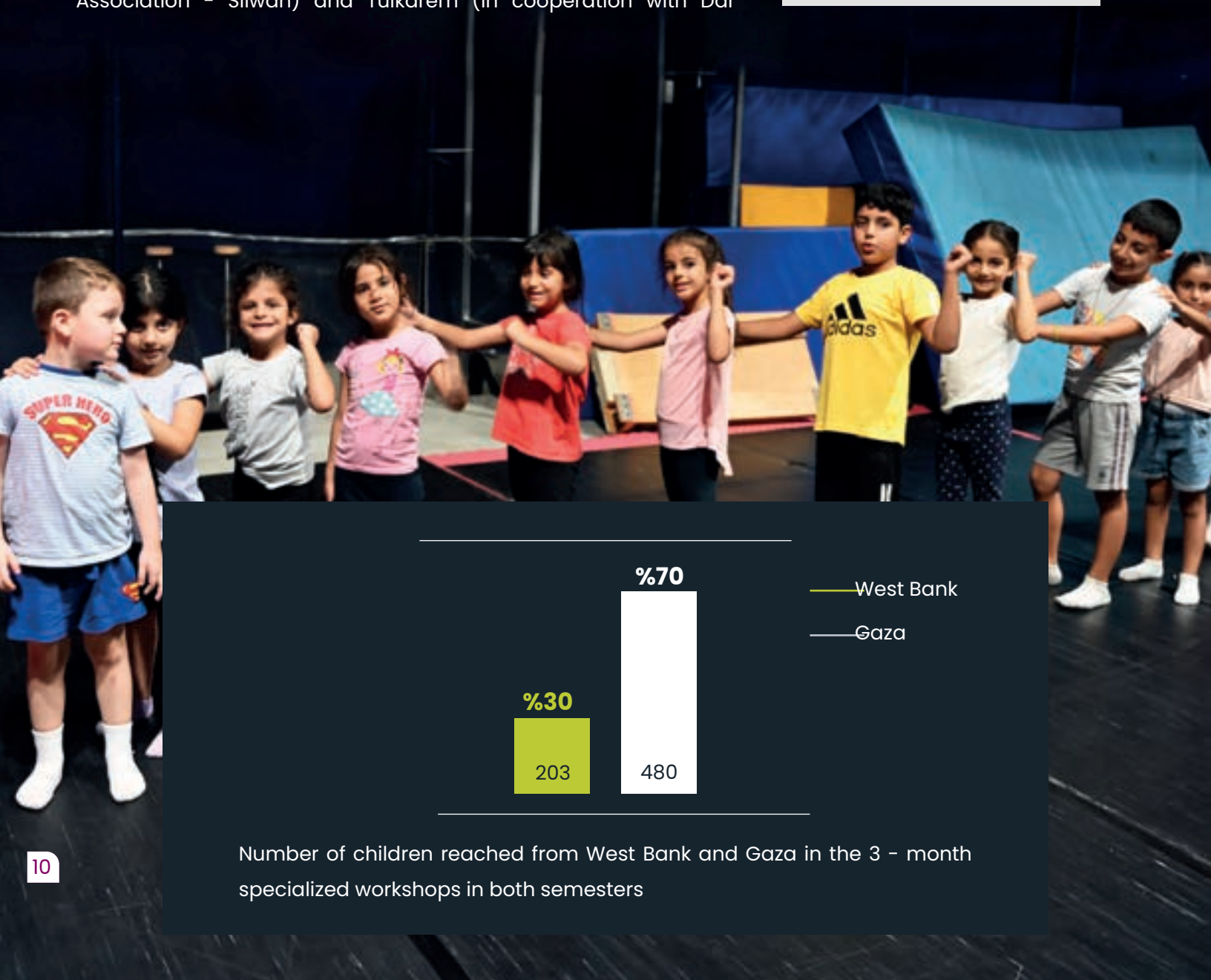


### 3 – Month Specialized Workshops

The 3-month specialized workshops are designed for children between the ages of 5 and 9, aiming to familiarize them with the basics of acrobatics, juggling, and aerial disciplines. In this program, we engage with youngsters to foster self-discovery and promote social change.

PC trained 65 students during the first semester (from January to May 2024), and 138 students during the second semester (from September to December 2024) in Birzeit, Jenin (in cooperation with the Freedom Theater), Jerusalem (in cooperation with Al Bustan Association – Silwan) and Tulkarem (in cooperation with Dar

PC has also conducted trainings sessions in Gaza in cooperation with four local circus groups—Free Gaza Circus, Gaza Circus School, Gaza Stars Circus School, and Gaza School for Circus.



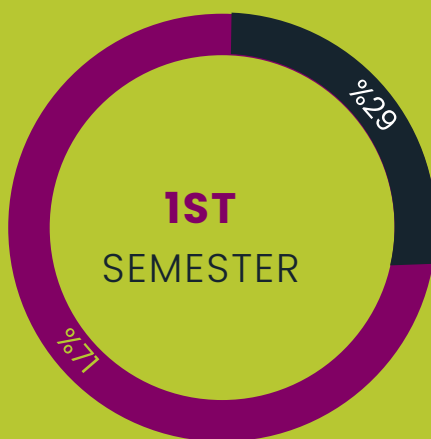
Number of children reached from West Bank and Gaza in the 3 – month specialized workshops in both semesters



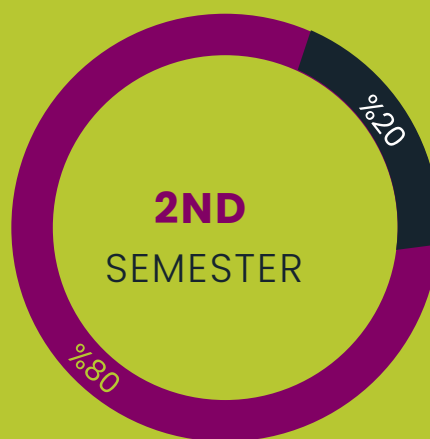
## Moon Group

The "Moon" annual group is intended for young individuals aged 10 to 14 who have received technical training from specialized workshops or summer camps.

As part of Moon group, our students facilitate joint workshops with their parents to discuss thematic issues that matters to them and develop an action plan and a performance that tackles the theme. This years theme was adaptation and coping mechanisms.



Female : n = 22  
Male : n = 9



Female : n = 35  
Male : n = 9

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## SOCIAL PROGRAM

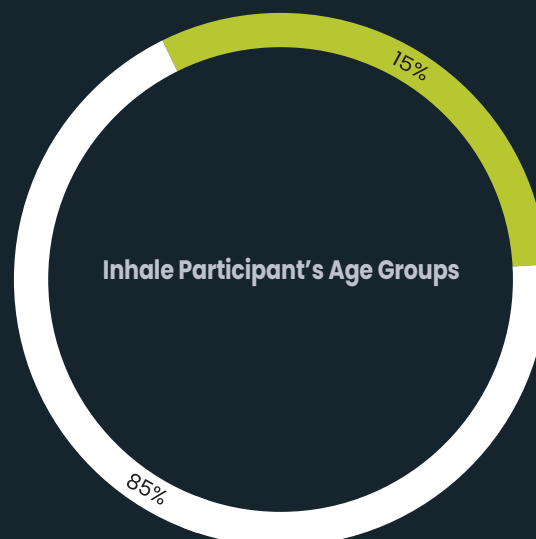
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### Inhale Program

Our program is designed to support women who encounter cultural obstacles and difficulties, both internally and externally. Our focus is on empowering women by enhancing their physical, psychological, emotional, intellectual, and productive skills.

As part of CAPE (Creative Arts for Peace and Equality) project, and in collaboration with Clowns without Borders – Sweden, PCS trained 40 female students in the first semester and 39 female students in the second semester in Birzeit and Balata Camp.

The majority of participants in Inhale program are from the age group of 8 - 16 years, which reflects the youthful spirit of the program.



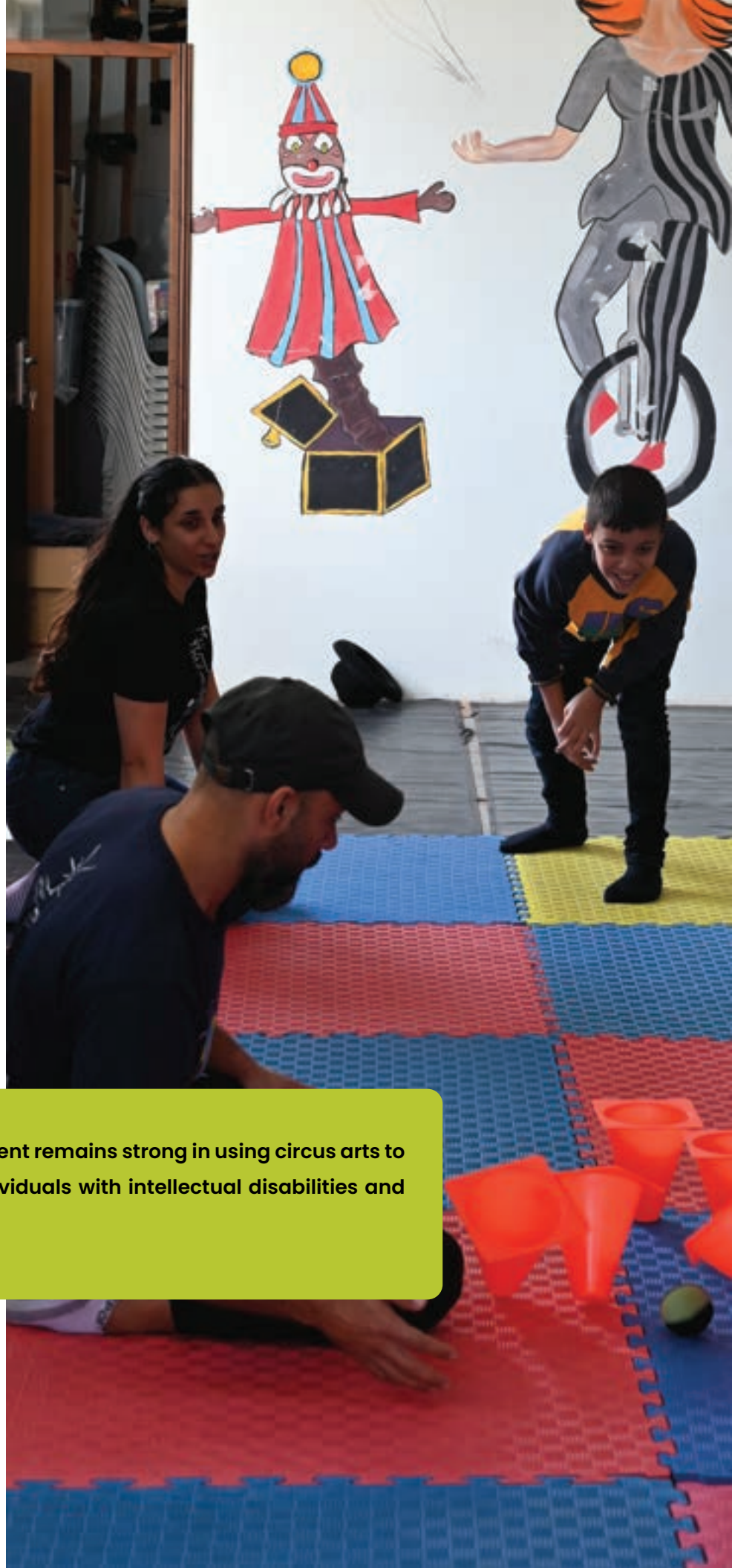
8 - 16 yrs: n = 67  
40 - 65 yrs: n = 12

## Passion Program

At the Palestinian Circus, we believe social circus is a fundamental right for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Our program supports their personal, physical, and cognitive growth while offering a space for self-expression and energy release.

In 2024, ongoing political circumstances hindered our partnerships with the Arab Women Society and Al Awdeh Center, limiting us to working only with The Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center and Al Nahda Women Association. During the first semester, 30 children with disabilities participated in the program, followed by 26 in the second semester.

**Despite all the challenges, our commitment remains strong in using circus arts to foster community understanding of individuals with intellectual disabilities and advocating for their social rights.**



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## TRAINING OF TRAINERS PROGRAM

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The Training of Trainers program forms a cornerstone of the Palestinian Circus, enabling the implementation of numerous programs and workshops, and helping reach as many target groups as possible across all regions to fulfilling the circus's vision of **"Circus for All."**



ToT Workshop on Social Circus  
for Children with Disabilities

South Africa ToT  
Workshop

In 2024, the goal was achieved by  
reaching 46 participants in the  
Trainer Training Program at the  
Palestinian Circus



Training of Trainers  
with CARAVAN  
Network



Inhale Program ToT  
Workshop





## OPEN DAYS

At the end of each year, the Palestinian Circus School provides its students with a chance to showcase their newly developed skills to their social circle. To achieve this, PCS arranges a range of open days across its various training locations. This year, PCS organized a total of 9 open days for all training groups, attracting over **930** individuals.



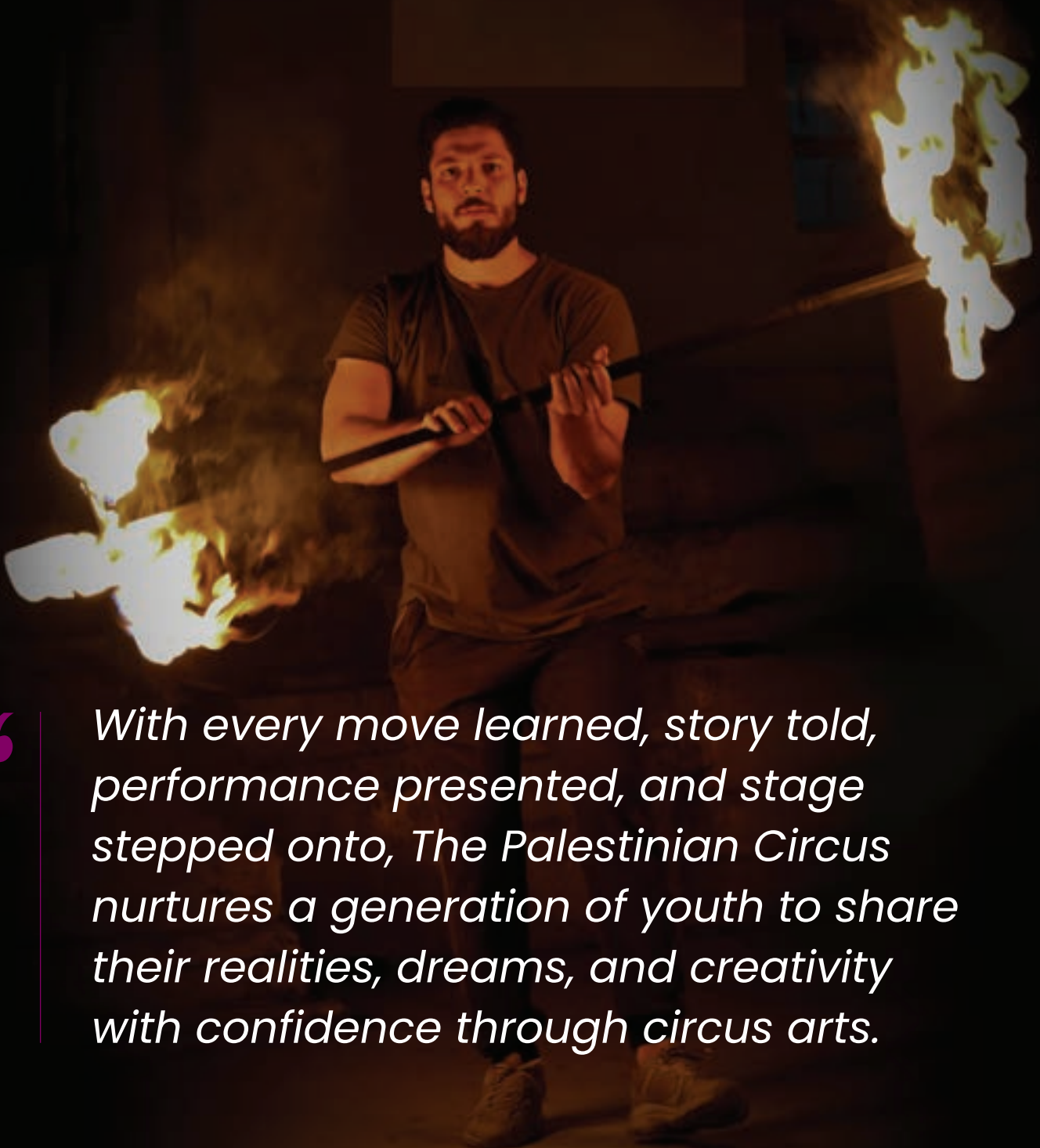
## Summer Camps

A total of 7 circus summer camps were organized between June and August this year in all training locations reaching **190 students** (109 females and 81 males).





# THE ARTISTIC Programs



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*With every move learned, story told, performance presented, and stage stepped onto, The Palestinian Circus nurtures a generation of youth to share their realities, dreams, and creativity with confidence through circus arts.*

### ARTISTIC PROGRAMS

The Palestinian Circus (PC) is dedicated to bringing circus arts to communities in Palestine and beyond. **Locally**, it creates shows and offers artistic services, including workshops, capacity-building, consultations, and venue & equipment rentals. **Internationally**, PC tours productions, sharing Palestinian stories and fostering cultural exchange through workshops and training programs. Explore our artistic work on our website [here](#).

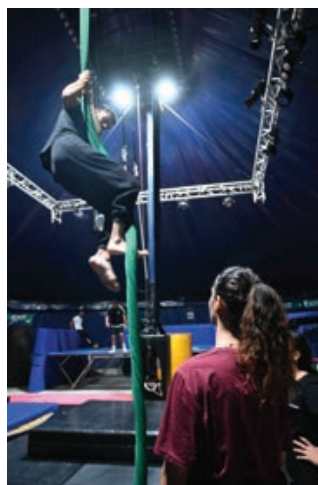


Our artistic team persevered and delivered a remarkable arrange of activities, These achievements reflect our team's dedication and resilience.

**2 New Productions | 40 Local Performances | 17 International Performances**

**1 Artistic Service | Ongoing Training & Workshops**

### PRIMARY ARTISTIC PROGRAMS



**CAPACITY  
BUILDING**



**PRODUCTIONS**



**PERFORMANCES &  
ARTISTIC SERVICES**

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## ARTISTIC CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

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### Masar

As part of the **DROSOS FOUNDATION** project "**Circus Arts for Socio-Economic Development in Palestine**", the 6-month Professional Circus Training program targets **10** young individuals per year, offering comprehensive training in various circus disciplines. Launched in **September 2024**, it currently engages **12** aspiring artists, empowering them with professional skills and contributing to the local circus arts scene.

In our efforts to showcase the Masar Artists, we launched the "**Artist's Tale**" video series, where they share their personal journeys. This initiative has enabled us to reach a broader audience and continue to inspire the youth generation, especially those of similar age to the artists.

[Click here to view the latest Artist's Tale" video](#)



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## ARTISTIC CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

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### Sun Group

Targeting youth (ages 18-14), the program enhances artistic and technical circus skills, emphasizing discipline, creativity, and proficiency. Participants engage in consistent training and workshops over two semesters, with intensive 4-hour weekly sessions to build abilities and prepare for careers in the circus industry.

**Highlight:** As part of this year's summer program, our students engaged in a series of training sessions that resulted in a facilitation workshop and a joint student-parent session held in partnership with Secours Catholique-Caritas France. A particularly exciting highlight was the students' production of an engaging circus performance.



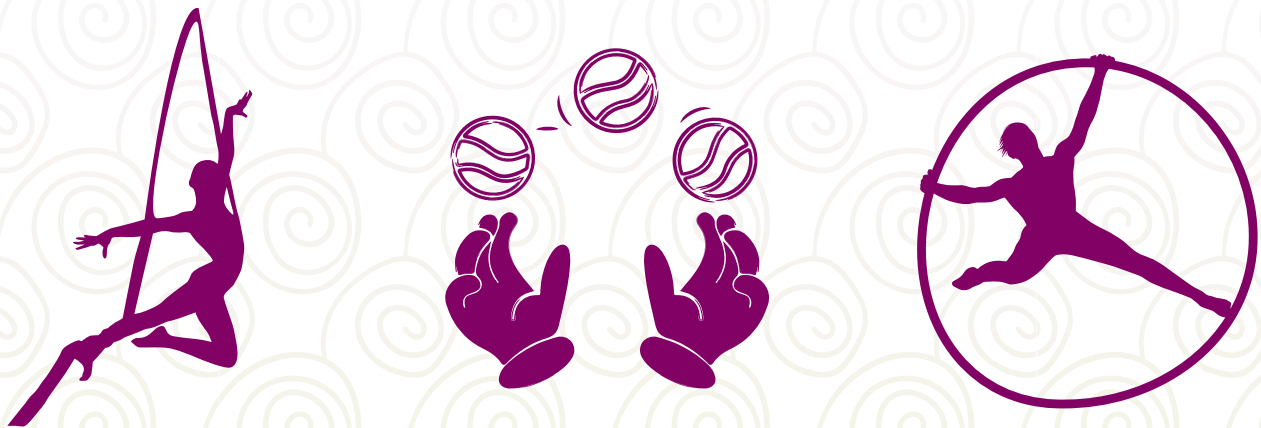
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## ARTISTIC CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

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### Artistic Group

The Palestinian Circus has established a dedicated group to support the professional development of performing artists in Palestine. This group focuses on capacity-building initiatives, production support, and providing performance opportunities. Through these efforts, PC empowers artists, strengthens partnerships, and creates income-generating opportunities.





## ARTISTIC GROUP ACTIVITIES

### Artistic Village Summer Camp with Ashtar Theater

First Edition | 🇵🇸 August 4–29, 2024 | 📍 Palestine

Organized by the Palestinian Circus School in partnership with ASHTAR Theatre, the Artistic Village Camp brought together 16 young participants (8 male, 8 female), aged 21 to 35, for an intensive month of training. The program culminated in a powerful performance that combined both disciplines and was presented three times to the public.

### EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS (ESC)

Through the European Solidarity Corps, the Palestinian Circus sends youth and artists to Europe for cultural exchange. This year, two artists—Aseel Ashour and Tala Younes—joined a year-long volunteer program in Germany.

### ARTISTIC RESIDENCIES

Between July and December 2024, the Palestinian Circus engaged in both local and international artistic residencies. Highlights included the Sawa Sawa Project, in collaboration with the French Consulate, hosting Stereo 48's dance company summer camp, and sending Ihab Mutan for a one-month artistic residency in Italy in October 2024.

### YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Circus ID – Second Edition | 🇵🇸 July 9–31, 2024 | 📍 Belgium

Circus ID united 45 young artists from Palestine and Belgium for three weeks of training, cultural exchange, and performances, reaching over 2,400 people and building lasting connections through circus arts.

This edition was made through the collaboration of **six Belgian circus schools**: Cirkus in Beweging, Circolito Circusatelier, Circus Zonder Handen, Cirqu' Conflex, École de Cirque de Bruxelles, and Circus Planeet, funded by Erasmus+ program.

## MOMENTS FROM YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM



For a glimpse into the program, watch the highlights in this documentary



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PC  
**PRODUCTIONS**

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**Eileh A'al Takkeh**

In collaboration with Red Noses in Palestine, The Palestinian Circus created Eileh A'al Takkeh, a unique show inspired by the challenges of Palestinian communities blending clowning, humor, and circus arts to bring joy and strengthen family bonds.





## **“Sarab”**

Originally directed by Paul Evans, Sarab explores the unpredictable journey toward an elusive goal. As we navigate challenges and obstacles, we reach a destination that feels nothing like we imagined—only to realize it was a mirage.

### **Reworked in 2024**

In 2024, the Palestinian Circus reworked its theatrical performance Sarab under the direction of Mohammad Abu Taleb, featuring a new cast. The updated production continued to shed light on the global plight of refugees and was performed 8 times in France (supported by AGORA PNC – Boulazac), 2 times in Belgium (supported by École de Cirque de Bruxelles), and 3 times in Italy (supported by Gammazita).

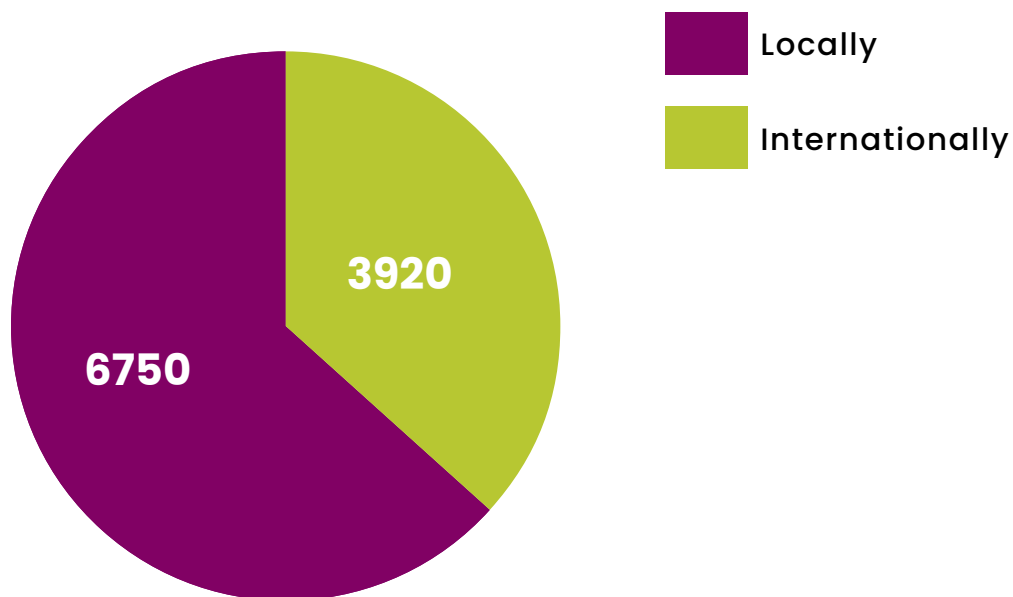
Altogether, Sarab reached an audience of nearly 4,100 people through its local and international tour.



## PERFORMANCES & ARTISTIC SERVICES

In 2024, PC delivered over **40** circus performances across Palestine and internationally, reaching more than **10,000** audience members. These shows engaged diverse communities.

### PERFORMANCES AUDIENCE REACH



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## **OUR SUPPORTERS WITH GRATITUDE**

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Our impact and achievements would not be possible without the invaluable support of our donors, supporters, and partners. We are deeply grateful for the trust and belief that these individuals and institutions have placed in our work. This year, we received support from the following organizations:

**Secours Catholique – CARITAS FRANCE**

**DROSOS FOUNDATION**

**Poppies for Peace – Klaprozen voor vrede**

**PAC**

**Medical Aid for Palestinians**

**Red Noses International**

**GIZ– ZFD**

**CARAVAN**

**PPAN**

**Clowns Without Borders – Sweden**

**The Danish House in Palestine**

**Erasmus+**

**Novact**

**Friends of the Palestinian Circus**

**The French Consulate**

We warmly invite you to become part of our family of supporters, helping us continue our work and create meaningful change in the lives of children and youth.

