

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION FOR CITIZENS**

**Funding monthly shows for community outreach of public education for health basics and citizen rights in a community plagued by lack of education, extreme poverty, alcoholism and child prostitution.**

GREAT CIRCUS ARRAIAL – Pernambucana Circus School is a NGO (non-governmental organization) that has its focus in child-youth education, using art in general as an instrument in its own way and the art of the social circus as a pedagogic tool. The objective is to provide a set of systematic actions of inclusion, capacitating, integration and socialization of children, adolescents and youth in situations of social and personal risk. They attend to the Village of the Buriti, an area of Macaxeira, a community located in the north zone of Recife,

An area known to need special attention in the areas of political organization in order to confront the many social ills that they encounter, where the largest number of slums exist and where the city has registered the highest number of poor people per square meter, and extreme unemployment and criminality severely impact the development of children and youth in the area.

The smile of a child who has realized his or her place in the world through art is the motivation of Escola Pernambucana de Circo (EPC), who since 1996 has been working with over 100 at risk children and adolescents who live in one of the poorest areas of Recife in the northeast of Brazil. Offering social circus classes, dance classes, individual tutoring, and psychological support to the children and their families, EPC believes that no child should have limits on his or her ability to dream and that in order to build a better future it is mandatory to provide their children with a life full of possibilities and options. EPC offers daily activities and support free of charge with just one pre-requisite – stay in school. The youngsters who show the most skill and promise are chosen to participate in their circus troupe, Grande Circo Arraial, which has about 20 youngsters who train every Saturday, preparing their own acts to perform in festivals and events around the state. Two of their boys were recently chosen amongst 150 candidates in the state to join “Doutores da Alegria” or “Doctors of Joy” – a Brazilian version of the Clown Care Unit - a program bringing laughter and joy to the hospital bedsides of acutely and chronically ill children. EPC and Grande Circo Arraial were recently chosen by BNDES (out of 1342 candidates) to receive 1 year of support to mount a new show, buy necessary school materials and create a website. EPC is currently using a small workspace, which was temporarily lent to them by the neighborhood association of Vila Buriti. Unfortunately, the space does not offer the best conditions for circus training, so the school is currently running “a brick campaign” to raise money to buy an appropriate facility. In 2002 Dreams Can Be donated money to help set up and run their capital campaign office, and to purchase circus and art education supplies and costumes. Dreams also supported the group in 2003 and 2004.

The project that we are aiding them in funding is for a set of shows that they wish to mount to their own community in order to bring important health and social information to an area that deals with extreme social problems. In order to reach the entire community and also to bring in groups from nearby communities that suffer the same social problems they are looking for contributions to realize 6 months worth of shows. These shows will be performed along with different social programs that will highlight their areas of expertise in the shows in order to educate the community to themes such as ‘Racial Inequality’, ‘Drug Prevention’, AIDS/STDS, Violence, and sexuality.

The following proposal was submitted in Portuguese to request funding for a part of a larger proposal that will be funded in partnership with various agencies that provide relief for programs in Brazil. Dreams Can Be Foundation is trying to raise the amount in the budget at the top of this proposal.

The geographic area of Brazil where this project is located is one of the most impoverished areas of Brazil. Located in the Northeast of Brazil, an area where a good many people migrate from to larger city's in the hope of finding employment. These people whether in their home town or in another city mostly work in the informal job sector in jobs such as maids, daylaborers etc. They work on the fringe without the benefit of any social safety nets and often the work that they can find in their own communities amounts to some type of scavenging for resources. Abject misery is a commonplace in their communities that suffer from extreme overcrowding in shantytown like areas that have sprung up without any city planning but are really more like squatter communities located on land that was not being used in most undesirable locations like along side of rail road tracks.

Their communities suffer from high indices of alcoholism, child prostitution, domestic violence. Illiteracy rates can top 50%. Average schooling is between 4 and 7 years. The projects that operate in the communities in this area are often the only social services available to many of the communities inhabitants. Basic sanitation like fresh clean running water are not available and the children often have skin ailments related to bathing in and drinking contaminated water. Public hospitals are far away and when reached are substandard at best. The projects are often the only source of information and generally provide health clinics with visiting doctors and other health practitioners on a limited basis. They provide education in areas of sex education, family planning, STD education, personal hygiene, and conflict resolution in addition to their early childhood development classes such as alphabetization, school tutoring and classes in art education. Projects use theatre and other art forms to attract community members to educational shows that serve the purpose of divulging information in areas of health and human rights and also offer a form of entertainment to the members of the community.

#### Budget for Community Shows

ITEM	VALOR R\$
Invited group	200,00
Divulagation material	200,00
Infra-instructure	200,00
Transport	100,00
<b>Monthly total</b>	<b>700,00</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>8.400,00</b>

## Projeto Quartas na Praça

### ***Apresentação***

Com intuito de criar um espaço de diálogo mais amplo, junto à comunidade onde atua, Vila do Buriti, a Escola Pernambucana de Circo-EPC, desenvolveu o *Projeto Quartas na Praça*. Tem por objetivo principal a formação política e social do seu público alvo, abrindo perspectivas de educação através do lazer, propiciando aprendizado do exercício efetivo da cidadania, aquela onde o cidadão é conhecedor dos seus direitos mas também percebe seus deveres numa sociedade que busca ser mais igualitária.

Na segunda quarta de cada mês, às 19h na Praça do Buriti, a EPC estará convidando uma organização da sociedade civil para vir apresentar uma intervenção artística e discutir com o público local, temas da atualidade como: DST/AIDS, Drogas, Sexualidade, Igualdade de Racial e Violência.

Inicialmente, a prioridade dos convites serão para as instituições da zona norte do Recife, dada a proximidade à sede da EPC e o desejo da escola de se integrar melhor junto à essas instituições e suas comunidades beneficiadas. Não havendo um grupo no perfil do projeto (temas, formato e datas) nesta área, partiremos em busca d'outras instituições da região metropolitana do Recife.

Pensando em fazer do Quartas na Praça uma ação de protagonismo juvenil, os jovens monitores e integrantes da Trupe Circus, da EPC, estarão assumindo as várias atividades deste projeto: produção, articulação e comunicação.

### ***Equipe Quartas na Praça***

Articulação: Márcia Cruz, Flávia Moura e Bruno Fernando.

Produção: Hosani Gomes, Jackson Santanna e Anne Gomes.

Comunicação: Ronaldo Aguiar, Eronildo Souza e Allison Santanna.

### ***Público***

Moradores da comunidade da Vila do Buriti e seus arredores, compreendendo, adolescentes, jovens e adultos.

### ***Cronograma 2005***

<b>DATAS</b>	<b>TEMAS</b>	<b>INSTITUIÇÃO CONVIDADA</b>
10/08	DST/AIDS	Grupo de Teatro Curso de Arte e Saúde, ONG Mulher Maravilha
14/09	Drogas	Instituto Papai
12/10	Violência	ONG Alto Falante
09/11	Igualdade Racial	Daruê malungo
14/12	Sexualidade	Grupo de Teatro Loucas de Pedra Lilás

### ***Custos Mensal***

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>VALOR R\$</b>
Ajuda de custo aos grupos convidados	200,00
Material de divulgação	200,00
Infra-estrutura	200,00
Transporte	100,00
<b>TOTAL MENSAL</b>	<b>700,00</b>
<b>TOTAL ANUAL</b>	<b>8.400,00</b>

## **Contrapartida da EPC.**

- Divulgação do evento na comunidade do Buriti e arredores;
- Organizar a praça para receber o público e a instituição convidada;
- Ajuda de custo para instituição convidada;
- Infra-estrutura para as apresentações e debates.

## **Contrapartida da Instituição convidada.**

- Estar presente na sede da EPC uma hora antes do evento;
- Realizar a intervenção artística dentro do tema daquele mês;
- Debater o tema apresentado com o público presente.

## ***Contatos EPC***

Emails:

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