

I RAGAZZI DEL CIRCOSTRASS



LOCATION: CARPI (Modena), Italy

TARGET GROUP: Young people with disability


OUR HISTORY Everything began with a project conceived by Professor Cosetta Bottoni titled "From Clown to Commedia dell'Arte" to improve the quality of school integration, funded by the Ministry of Public Education (INDIRE) in 2001/02. This project ranked 6th in Italy and allowed us, as "O. Focherini" Middle School in Carpi, to create a Street Theatre workshop that included students with behavioural problems and disabilities. Subsequently, the students continued working with Cosetta Bottoni, becoming experts themselves. The year 2020 marked a turning point for our association as it became a Sports Amateur Association, which means that, in addition to our Children's Circus activity, we will practice many other sports activities. Currently, we specialize in aerial disciplines. Social Circus projects were launched from 2002 to 2004 at "Focherini" Middle School, in primary and nursery schools in Limidi and Soliera, and in the "Sbulloniamoci" project in Soliera in 2006. In "G. Fassi" Middle School, Novi and Rovereto Middle Schools (2010/2011), the "Noi per Loro" Association of Mirandola (2019-20), and currently, we work in the primary school of Correggio. In the last 3 years, we have participated in the Matemagica Workshops of Carpi in collaboration with Domus.



Through clowning, participants develop positive relationships and learn to appreciate the joy of making others laugh, seeing the clown as a part of themselves that needs to be rediscovered and protected. "I Ragazzi del Circostrass" works with children, teenagers, and adults, promoting a barrier-free circus that can be practiced anywhere, without the need for expensive equipment or tents.

SOME INCLUSION ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED "CIRCOL'ABILE" is an integrated circus project that aims to discover each person's hidden ability. This activity has been practiced for about 20 years in Carpi.

The basic skills of a juggler, an acrobat, and a tightrope walker can be taught at any age. The aim of this course is to have fun while "playing the game of the circus." The more "technical" part is integrated with games that develop trust in others, awareness



of one's body, space, and the opportunity to express creativity. Through the Clown game, positive relationships with others are developed. Learning to laugh is very important, as it helps discover that making others laugh is a positive quality. Discovering one's own clown is a quest that can last a lifetime. The clown is our inner child to be rediscovered and protected. No expensive equipment or a tent is required. The circus can be done anywhere.

The workshop aimed at the Sopra le righe Association in Carpi highlighted that autistic children have a strong sense of balance. The 2018/19 regional project CIRQ AUT ART, which was funded for two years, achieved excellent results, including the integration of 15 young people with disabilities. The lead organization was the Incontrarti Association of Carpi.

For more information visit [their website](#)

CONTACT: Cosetta Bottoni: bottonicosetta3@gmail.com

Alexandra Goldoni: alexandragoldoni@gmail.com