



IJA eNewsletter

Register by April 30

to benefit from reduced rates

The International Jugglers' Association
64th Annual Juggling Festival
July 18-24, 2011
Rochester, Minnesota, USA

Really Turn It Up To '11!

by Mike Sullivan, 2011 Festival Director

Can you imagine missing a chance to see a performance by the amazing Françoise Rochaise, direct from Tours, France? Or passing up a chance to see the astounding Russian jugglers, Alexander Kulakov and Dmitry Chernov. Or missing the first performance in North America by the phenomenal Stefan Sing, from Germany, or Melaku Lissanu, from Ethiopia? Or skipping an opportunity to see Luke Wilson, Michael Davis, Jacob Sharpe, The Danger Committee, The Jugheads, Playing By Air and more amazing, world-class jugglers from around the world, all on one stage in a single week?

That's why every juggler who can make it will want to be at this year's International Jugglers' Festival in the beautiful city of Rochester, Minnesota. All of those incredible jugglers are planning to be on stage during the IJA festival this July, and you can have a front-row seat for all of it **at the best prices if you REGISTER NOW.**

For a full week this coming July, some of the most incredible jugglers from all over the planet will be coming to the IJA festival -- and you'll only be able to see it all if you're there!

EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS THIS WEEK, on April 30, and festival package rates go up on May 1. So to get the best price on this year's festival and get the best deal on this amazing week of fun, **REGISTER ONLINE NOW** at <http://juggle.org/festival>

Once you arrive in Rochester, a week of astounding sights and amazing juggling is at your doorstep: an immense, spotless, state-of-the-art juggling facility,

connected to a huge stage and auditorium for daytime shows and competitions, just down the hall from a beautiful and modern formal theater for the **FIVE NIGHTS** of evening shows and championships.

And it's all just a short walk away from any of 2,500 downtown hotel rooms (all connected by an elevated, air-conditioned walkway), dozens of shops and restaurants, comfy bars and clubs, and a beautiful and welcoming downtown plaza. **Rochester is ready to welcome the IJA -- will you be there to take it all in?**

Plus, check out all the other great things going on during the week in Rochester, including dozens and dozens of workshops taught by expert jugglers and organized by the incomparable Matt Hall, a four-day Special Workshop by the mesmerizing Stefan Sing, a special Comedy Juggling workshop by veteran performer Dan Holzman, and much, much more.

And don't forget the long list of world-class performers coming to the Cascade of Stars stage, some appearing for the first time ever in front of a North American audience!

Don't miss your chance to see Melaku, Stefan, Dmitry, Alexander, Look Sharp! and the legendary Michael Davis -- all on one stage, all on one amazing night!

REGISTER NOW at the lowest rates and lock in your festival week at the best prices available. Click on <http://juggle.org/festival> and register before May 1 -- and we'll see you in Rochester!

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FEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The IJA's annual summer festival is an immense undertaking for our Association, and it can't happen without the generous volunteer help of dozens of IJA members. Pitching in just a few hours during the week can help make our week fun and easy for everyone, and chances are you'll meet some amazing new friends along the way!

**NUMBERS CHAMPIONSHIPS DIRECTOR VOLUNTEER NEEDED
FULL FESTIVAL COMP PACKAGE AVAILABLE!**

We're still looking for help with several key volunteer positions for the 2011 festival including **Security Director**, **Numbers Championships Director**, **Festival Newsletter Editor**, and many more. **Some volunteer positions earn a full or heavily discounted festival event package!** And no matter what volunteer job you help with, you'll leave town with a special gift (or two!) given only to IJA festival volunteers!

If you can pitch in, even for just a couple of hours during the week, please see [the Volunteers page](#) of the IJA Web site or email IJA Festival Volunteer Coordinator Dina Scharnhorst at festvolunteers@juggle.org.
THANKS!

Festivals:

Santa Cruz, CA
College Park, MD
Montreal, QC
Lincoln, NE
Ann Arbor, MI
Springfield, IL
Rochester, MN

Looking for performers for the 2011 Youth Showcase.
If you are interested in performing please contact
Pam Hamilton at [Showcase@juggle.org](mailto>Showcase@juggle.org).



Hey Jugglers!

Without further ado, here are the winners for the 2nd Annual IJA Video Tutorial Contest!

10 - Doug Sayers

Three Club Backcrosses - [www.youtube.com]

9 - Joli Heeg

The Scoop – Diabolo - [www.youtube.com]

8 - The Jeremys (Jeremy Perkins and Jeremy Fein)

The Handshake Takeout - [www.youtube.com]

7 - Alex Koren

How to Teach how to Learn Three Clubs - [www.youtube.com]

6 - Bekka Rose and Yuki Ueda

Partner Tricks #1/3 – Shared Columns - [www.youtube.com]

Partner Tricks #2/3 – Take Out Combo - [www.youtube.com]

Partner Tricks #3/3 – Five Club Passing Variation - [www.youtube.com]

5 - Dustin Chan

Boston Shuffle Yo-Yo Variation - [www.youtube.com]

Time-Reversed Burke's Barrage - [www.youtube.com]

How to Unicycle – From Mounting to Riding - [www.youtube.com]

4 - Brian Thompson

Hand Club Fishtails - [www.youtube.com]

3 - Bri Crabtree

How to Spin a Tray - [www.youtube.com]

2 - Jordan Campbell

Poi – the Whipcatch - [www.youtube.com]

The Fastest Trick in the World! – 423 claws - [www.youtube.com]

The Doctor Attack! - [www.youtube.com]

1 - Emily Carlson and Mike Moore

Behind the Head Passing - [www.youtube.com]

Juggling.TV Subcontest – Bekka Rose and Yuki Ueda – “Partner Juggling Tutorials #1/3” - [juggling.tv]

Void & Howie at JTV said - "Nicely explained, step-by-step, everything was visually very clear, a few variations to add challenge, not too long, and all presented with the right amount of humour and character. What's not to like?"

Congratulations to everyone!

Juggle Magazine Contract, by *Don Lewis*

The JUGGLE magazine contract will be up for renewal at the end of this year. Each time this happens we have to consider our options. The decision is complicated by the fact that it comes only a few months after a new group of Board members are elected. Would be directors should familiarize themselves with the issue before the election in July.

JUGGLE magazine is a flagship product. It is a physical reference that chronicles the IJA and the juggling world. It is a major benefit of membership. For many members, it is their only tangible link to the IJA. It is also an expensive proposition to produce. It costs slightly more than the revenue derived from membership fees. Cross funding by other IJA activities allows us to continue producing JUGGLE.

JUGGLE is the successor to Juggler's World, an IJA volunteer based magazine. At the time, it was felt that changing to professional production, and increasing the number of yearly issues from four to six, would favor an increase in membership to offset the extra expense. The increased membership never materialized. Limited test marketing on news-stands did not yield positive results either.

These changes came about at the same time that the Internet was beginning to develop into a dominant communication medium. The JIS (Juggling Information Service) appeared as an experimental web compendium of juggling wisdom (which has not been updated since about 1995), and rec.juggling became available to an exponentially growing number of jugglers and casual onlookers. The relevance of print media has been an issue ever since.

As the Internet reveled in the euphoria of "everything must be free", even the pertinence of the IJA's existence began to be questioned. JUGGLE magazine was castigated by a few as an expensive anachronism foisted on an unwilling membership by an imprudent directorate. Those members not attached to the Internet were barely aware of the sometimes strident controversy.

The IJA eventually cut the publication of JUGGLE back to four issues per year to reduce costs somewhat. This eNewsletter began to publish on a monthly basis to ensure the possibility of regular communication with most members, and to experiment with Internet-delivered content. It has never been intended as a replacement for JUGGLE magazine.

It is clear that the magazine industry is in decline. Even paper recyclers have noticed a significant decline in paper based publications. Each year new magazines appear on the news stands, but a larger number disappear. Publications with significant advertising bases may survive longer, but that does not apply in our case. Ours is what the industry calls a vanity publication. Certainly not a direct revenue producer.

As long as we are willing to pay the price, we can keep producing paper copies of JUGGLE.

What other publishing options could we consider ?

An all digital magazine might take one of several forms. It might be a web based service, a pdf like this enewsletter, or some form of electronic magazine that takes advantage of the new tablet computer formats. Digital formats have some interesting advantages. For one thing, the frequency of publication does not have to depend on the availability of press time. Delivery is no longer dependent on the vagaries of the postal system. Information can be distributed on a timely basis.

Those members who are resolutely non digital might be served by adapting a digital product to the print on demand market. For an extra fee, some members might opt for a paper based product, printed and mailed by a third party. In the past, the main objection to this has been quality. Today's high speed digital presses produce very acceptable results, and can economically print and mail very short runs.

The major disadvantage of going digital is in distribution and rights management. Once your digital publication is in the wild, it can, and probably will be, copied and widely distributed. This would likely lead to an accelerated erosion of the membership base. Paper based members would have no reason to belong, and others would coast on "free" copies. Editing and creating content is still the major cost factor even in a "free" publication. In fact it's probably 90-95% of the cost of the magazine, so not printing JUGGLE would not save much. Things such as Google Ads can provide some revenue. However, some jugglers seem to be deeply offended by advertising. It isn't clear that online ads would be a useful option.

Could we return to a volunteer produced product? Certainly that is possible, but not particularly probable. Each time the contract comes up, the IJA is willing to consider proposals. Practical ones from people with experience are much thinner on the ground than impatient demands that "Someone should do something!". It is a LOT of work. Presumably much more than this simple eNewsletter (which also takes some work by several people).

Eventually, the cost of producing JUGGLE will likely exceed the membership's capacity for supporting it. Is that time now?

Let the IJA know what you want. Post your opinion on the open forum, or send an email to BoardPlus@juggle.org

Burletta

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67QDd9A8ZM>

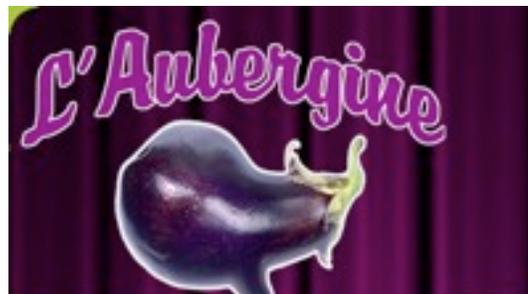
Burletta, reviewd by Don Lewis

Burletta is an Italian word which means a short, comic opera. This show, which is aimed squarely at young people, is exactly that. It is nearly an hour of attention holding fun.

The Theatre Aubergine (eggplant in English), was created in 1974 by Paul Vachon, its current Artistic Director, Josette Déchène and Lina Vachon. It has since produced over 50 shows for young and family audiences that have toured widely. The company works towards a fusion of music, circus arts, theatre and emotion while promoting the individual strengths of the artists.

I saw the show on one of its stops in Montreal to play to school children. For many of these youngsters, it is their first exposure to sitting in a real theatre for a live show. The show's set is simple, Some canvas draped at the back of the stage, invoking the image of a tent. A pail of flowers provides wonders, because each flower has a handle (not unlike a green club) and the troupe of five actors proceed to juggle them in a shared pattern.

The Actors are: Wanderson Damaceno, Dominique Grenier, Joannie Hébert, Véronique Provencher, and Karina Werneck-Assis. Each has a specific skill, and contributes to the group dynamic as well. They play musical instruments as varied as a miniature accordion to



<http://www.aubergine.qc.ca>

a saw blade played with a bow. The result is surprisingly musical and delights a child's sense of the absurd.

There is a lot of juggling woven throughout the show. Véronique is a skilled juggler. In addition to the group flower club juggling, she also manipulates up to three diabolos with much drama and does some contact juggling. Some kids seemed to think the contact sphere was alive!

Wanderson did a great job with a traditional plate spinning act. He had the kids totally revved up as they warned him about every plate that was about to drop.

I know that the IJA members are interested in the juggling, and it was good, in fact very good for this level of audience. But the rest of the cast was superb as well.

Dominique's persona of a shy clown with a passion for jokes pulled the audience into her universe within seconds. Karina has a totally mischievous approach to physical clowning. And Joannie danced and turned herself into a full sized miniature puppet.

The collective energy level of the show is sustained for the full length of the nearly hour long show. The dialog is French, but you could sit any child down in front of this show and they would have a great time. Perhaps the show will tour near you sometime. If it does, take your inner child to see it.



Spark Commentary, Reviewed by Don Lewis

Michael Karas has created a commentary to go along with his popular juggling film *Spark*. You can sync the commentary to the film and get insights on how the film was made, and information about the locations and props that were used. The commentary is accessible on the VIMEO file sharing site.

In the world of contemporary dance, there are often live audience talks after the show that enrich the performance experience. Michael has chosen an interesting way to enrich his film, by providing us with these insights into his creative process in a way that all his widely dispersed audience can access.

The film was introduced by Michael in the May 2010 eNewsletter and reviewed in June 2010 eNewsletter. If you haven't seen the film, you should get a copy. It is 45 minutes of interesting juggling.

If you are worried that the film is distributed in wmv format, and it won't play on your device, stop worrying. If you don't already have software that can play the file, you can download the free and excellent video player VLC. In addition to simply playing the video, VLC can transcode the file so that you can watch it on other devices, like an iPad. Get [VLC](#) here if you need it.



<http://vimeo.com/21229630>

www.michaelkaras.net

Homeopathy Not Toxic, by Don Lewis

Regular readers of this newsletter will know that I like using homeopathic remedies when it is appropriate. I've received more feedback on the subject than any other, mostly from those who are convinced it is quackery and diverting people from safe and effective treatments.

Homeopathic remedies are safe. In a well coordinated attack on homeopathy, several groups in Europe attempted mass public suicide by buying low potency homeopathic remedies in pharmacies, and each person consuming a massive overdose. No one had any ill effects, and their argument was that the remedies are completely useless and should not be sold.

If they knew anything at all about homeopathy, they must have known they were pretty safe. Homeopathic remedies are not toxic in bulk, although you might get a sugar high from taking a whole mouthful. Try the same thing with regular OTC medicines and the result would be deadly. Correct dosing with

allopathic medicine is effective, but there are often side effects.

But does homeopathy work? Well, yes. It can be very effective when used properly for conditions that are appropriate. The Oprah show's Dr. Oz came right out and said that his family uses it regularly at home and found it effective.

A couple of years ago I took a week long specialized seminar on homeopathy. I found myself sitting between an orthopedic surgeon and a GI specialist. They both told me that using homeopathy as an adjunct to conventional therapies gave them better results with fewer complications. They liked the flexibility of using the best of both systems.

Is it for you? Maybe. Don't let the high profile critics scare you off without checking a few other opinions. And don't assume that it is the only answer.

<http://www.nationalcenterforhomeopathy.org/articles-research>



Stagecraft Corner: Listen To Your Audience, by Brad Weston

How do you know if you are a good entertainer? Ask your audience. There is so much that they want to tell you, if only you will attune yourself to the message. Listening to the crowd can be both the most empowering and humbling thing that you will ever do.

Sometimes an audience can eat you alive and it's not your fault. Occasionally they really are a bad crowd. At other times they can be so receptive, scratch that, they can be so complacent that they hardly respond at all. There is something to learn from every show you do and the most direct place for learning is not inside you. It's out there beyond the footlights.

You definitely can not come off stage and change your opinion about yourself or your work after just one show. That would be career suicide. That is something that you have to be really careful not to get caught up in. You must do a bunch of shows and look for the average. There will always be things outside of your control, like the sun in the audience's eyes, or the wind, or the screaming children on the Ferris wheel near your stage.

Whenever you can get control of the environment, before the show begins, by all means, do so. I like to have the front row really close to the front edge of the stage. I have found for my act that if the audience is both far away and spread out then they will not behave as a single audience, but instead they will be a bunch of little groups. Because of that, the nature of infectious laughter will not work its magic and so the laughs will not be as cohesive and easy to control.

After you have been performing for awhile, and after you have experienced each environment that you are likely to come across, you should have more successful shows in each new place. You will know that for a crowd of drunks you will be performing differently than you would at a retirement home. Some shows you will have to put more emphasis on refocusing the audience, and other shows you will win them over by being more subtle.

After you have done what you can for the environment, make sure you understand what the audience experience is during your act. Is the sound quality okay, or is it too loud or too quiet? Can everyone see you, do you need to stand closer or use the sides of the stage more? Did the old man who passed out from heat stroke and get carried away on a

stretcher, perhaps, cut into the cohesion of your act. Once you are aware of the audience experience, then you can start to get a sense of the act itself.

Like I said, you must not base your beliefs about your performance and effectiveness on just one show. You have to look for an average of a whole bunch of performances, preferably in the same environment. So what this means is, if you want to get better, you are going to have to do as many shows as possible. But mere repetition of your work isn't enough. You need to always be evaluating how things are going. You should never stop honing your act.

The other good thing that comes from listening to the audience is that in the beginning with a new act, if the crowd is engaged properly and there is a dead spot in the act someone is likely to blurt something out. If you are lucky, that blurt will be hilarious. Keep it. It is yours now. No one will ever accuse you of plagiarizing your audience.

There are a lot of techniques out there to engage the audience and get them to respond and be more lively. Make sure you know what these techniques are so that you can use them effectively. One classic technique is to tell them to clap a rhythm. This is usually done at the end of an act. The audience will do what you tell them to, and then they will remember that they clapped a lot and they will assume, in their memory, that they really enjoyed the show.

It is important that you don't make that same mistake when you evaluate your show. If they clapped when you told them to, it does not necessarily mean that everything went as well as it could have. Always be pushing yourself to be not only as good as you need to be for whatever level you are on, but as good as you need to be to do well at the next level up.

Brad Weston is a writer, juggler, and variety performance generalist from way back. For more information about him and other articles, check out his blog at <http://www.bradweston.com/wordpress>

Do you have a tip, technique, or observation that you would like to share? Write it up and send it in to enews@juggle.org.

Get Running !

Each year IJA members elect their representatives to the IJA Board for a two year term. There are seven Board members serving two year terms. This year, three positions on the Board will be open for election.

This is your opportunity to influence the current and future direction of the IJA, either by accepting a nomination or by proposing someone you respect. Full details about the nomination and election process are on the IJA website at: <http://www.juggle.org/business/nominations>

In an all volunteer organization like the IJA, it is important that ALL members take a moment and seriously consider what they would like to get out of the IJA, and to support those people whom they believe can best lead the volunteer effort to achieve those goals.

Board members are protected by Directors and Officers liability insurance. Professionally prepared financial statements and budgetary assistance are provided to simplify the Director role.

Board meetings are held via toll free conference call once a month. Between meetings, discussions are held via email and private forums.

One's first instinct is usually "Oh, I couldn't possibly...". But actually, you can, because many of us have had that reaction and gone on to accomplish things that have helped the IJA survive and prosper. It can be a deeply rewarding experience.

Now it is your turn

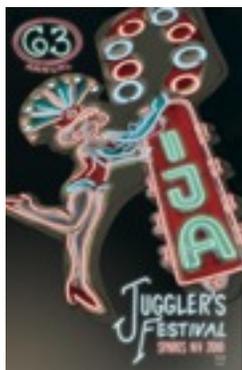
IJA Help Wanted

The following volunteer positions are open:

Volunteer Coordinator

Help us attract volunteers and make sure they get the help they need to keep their projects on track.

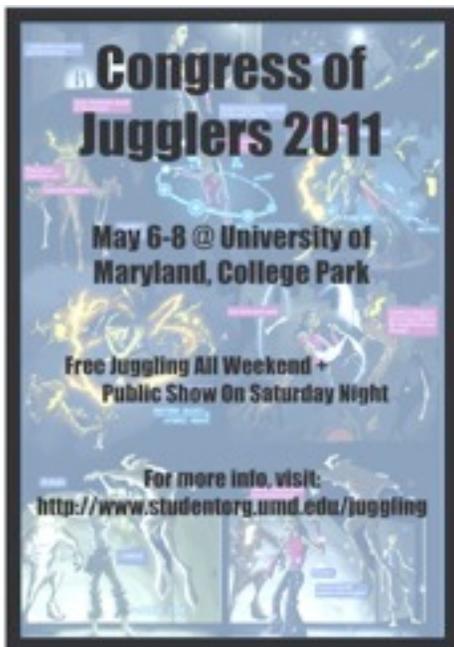
If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, or would like more information, please contact Kim Laird (laird@juggle.org).



2010 Sparks DVDs now for sale!

The IJA 2010 Sparks Festival DVD 2-Pack, again beautifully produced by Ivan Pecel, captures the excitement of the 2010 IJA festival, including full Championships routines, highlights from incredible shows, amazing juggling in the gym, and other competitions at the fest. The 2-DVD set is \$30 for members and \$40 for everyone else. It is [available and shipping now](#).

Contrary to what we told you in this eNewsletter a few months ago, the IJA will not be offering a Sparks video download -- it would have been too big and would have taken too long to download.



Montreal Circus Festival

May 13 - 15, 2011

Special Guest

Eric Longueuel

www.festivaldecirquedemontreal.com

Juggling Festivals

Santa Cruz Juggling Festival

May 6 - 8, 2011

Santa Cruz, CA

<http://ucscjuggling.com/festival/>

Congress of Jugglers 2011

May 6 - 8, 2011

University of Maryland

College Park, MD

[website](#)

Montreal Circus Festival

May 13 - 15, 2011

Montreal, QC

[website](#)

Flatland Juggling Festival

May 13 - 15, 2011

Lincoln, NE

[website](#)

Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Festival

May 14, 2011

Ann Arbor, MI

[website](#)

WJF 7

July 4 - 10, 2011

Springfield, IL

<http://www.thewjf.com/wjf7>

64th IJA Juggling Festival

July 18 - 24, 2011

Rochester, MN

<http://www.juggle.org/festival>

Other Events:

FCM International Convention

July 11-15, 2011

Marion, IN

<http://fcm.org/usa/convention.php>

North American Unicycling

Convention and Championships

July 23 - 30, 2011

Madison, WI

<http://uninationals.com>

Having a Juggling Festival? List it here!

If you're organizing a juggling festival (or if you simply know of a juggling fest) and you want to advertise it in the IJA eNewsletter, just drop a note to eNewsletter editor Don Lewis enews@juggle.org. Such listings are free.

The eNewsletter generally comes out near the end of each month. Your festival can be listed for a few months, and you don't have to be an IJA affiliate to have a fest listed. Hey, jugglers want to know about juggling fests. Help them out and get more jugglers to your fest at the same time.

More Festivals!

Check the world wide juggling event listings on the IJA Website at <http://www.juggle.org/events>.

The information on that page is updated daily thanks to an XML feed from the International Juggling DataBase. You can submit your own event to the list where it will be reviewed by an editor before being added. <http://www.jugglingdb.com/events/submit.php>



Best Catches is a feature of StreetJuggling.com. Chief editor **Nathan Wakefield** has graciously agreed to share this feature with IJA eNewsletter readers.

Best Catches is a sifter for the unplugged, the lazy, and the busy. It's a monthly roundup of the freshest juggling videos, forum topics, and blog posts – in short, it does a lot of work so you don't have to.

See the list of suggested videos, etc., below.

- :: Toby Walker does some amazing [technical juggling](#) with clubs, including six club Mills Mess.
- :: The Amazing Kenny shows off some practice footage with [clubs](#) and [contact juggling](#).
- :: Pavel Evsukevich unleashes some incredible technical juggling in '[Practice volume 2](#)' and rocks out with some multi-angled [11 ring flash action](#).
- :: Michael Karas does a Tetris inspired [juggling routine](#) in his latest video. He has also released a [commentary track](#) for his 2010 juggling film "[Spark](#)".
- :: A video of actress Ellen Page demonstrating her [juggling skills](#) recently made its way online.
- :: Bri & Brian do a very interesting two person [routine](#) with balls.
- :: Shao has a video up from his new buugeng [performance](#) piece.
- :: A new circus artists blog called [Circus Geeks](#) is now online.
- :: Play recently released the innovative one piece customizable club, the [D Club](#).
- :: The WJF has posted highlights from the WJF 6 Freestyle Competitions of [Balls](#), [Clubs](#), and [Rings](#).
- :: Video of The National Prestigious Society of Collegiate Jugglers performing at Washington University's Lunar New Year Festival [is online](#).
- :: Ori Roth has released a short documentary of [juggling in his family](#) history.
- :: The blog [MaNiPuLaTiOn ArTs](#) was recently started.
- :: A new Club Motion video by Kevin Axtell on [The Ultimate Pattern](#) has been posted. You can also download the Club Hybrid Music Remix [Mp3](#) for free.
- :: JugglersPray was recently created to encourage the people of Japan in the wake of the recent tragedies. Check out their [video digest](#) and their [website](#).