



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

Turn It Up To '11!

by Mike Sullivan, 2011 Festival Director

There is so much going on with preparations for this summer's IJA festival that we could fill this entire edition of eNews with festival items, and still not cover it all!

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll read Matt Hall's report on the long list of new, fun things coming to the Rochester festival, courtesy of the generous support of an anonymous donor who has established the "IJA Fun Fund," with a goal of making our week of juggling every summer even more amazing than it has been.

And you'll read Dave Pawson's item on the new Busking Competition, sure to be an exciting new event during the week and a great outlet for all the amazing talent of the street performers at the festival.

But there's so much more coming to Rochester this summer! We're truly going to **"Turn It Up To 11"** at the 2011 festival!

Fire nights on Tuesday and Wednesday nights after the evening shows, where you can spark up your fire props in a safe, open-air space outside the Civic Center.

For the first time in more than a decade, we'll have a public parade through downtown! Join your fellow jugglers on Saturday morning as we take to the streets of Rochester with a public parade, ending up in beautiful public plaza right in the center of downtown!

The Danger Committee, a very popular trio of performers from the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, have just been confirmed for the festival, adding to an amazing lineup of world-class performers featured in the Cascade of Stars.

A fabulous morning is in the works for Thursday, where the IJA's popular "Planting the Juggling Seed" learn-to-juggle public demo and lessons will be held on a giant public stage right in the middle of downtown! We'll be part of downtown Rochester's "Thursdays on First" street fair, taking the main stage for the Planting the Juggling Seed show and participation by the folks in the audience.

The fabulous support we're receiving already from the downtown Rochester business community makes us sure that we'll be very welcome during our visit this summer, with dozens of businesses already alerted to our festival and waiting for us to arrive.

By the time you read this edition of eNews, there will be **only a month left** to make your festival plans at the best rates, with the early-registration discounts ending on April 30. Be sure to hurry over to <http://juggle.org/festival> right away to get your festival package reserved before rates go up May 1!

Believe me, you won't want to miss a minute of the fun in Rochester, because we're working night and day to "Turn It Up to '11!"

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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!

New Festival Promo Video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uwAQ4eSTTKs>

Festivals:

Rochester, NY
St. Paul, MN
Tucson, AZ
Tallahassee, FL
Santa Barbara, CA
Santa Cruz, CA
College Park, MD
Montreal, QC
Lincoln, NE
Ann Arbor, MI
Springfield, IL
Rochester, MN



You Tube Juggling Tutorial Contest!

Vote for your favorite

Go to www.juggle.org for voting instructions

Look for the results on the website mid-April

For more information: www.juggle.org/youtubecontest

With additional prizes from...

- Ivan Pecel
- Gena Shvartsman
- Pavel Evsukevich
- Seefan Sing
- Anthony Gatto

As of the publication date of this eNewsletter, slightly prior to the submission deadline for contest entries, over 20 video tutorial entries have been submitted.

Please go to <http://www.juggle.org/youtubecontest> to check out the entries and get information about how to vote for your favorite.

Voting is open from April 1 to April 4.

First Annual IJA Busking Competition

by Dave Pawson, IJA Fun Fund Volunteer

The IJA is proud to announce the first annual **IJA Busking Competition**, the competition where you, the IJA membership, will be the judges!

Thanks to the generous support of our anonymous donor through the IJA "Fun Fund," we're excited to be able to offer **\$2,000 in prize money** in this competition! How that money will be divided amongst the competitors is up to the IJA spectators, so practice your best routine and be ready to bring your "A" game to the competition.

The competition will be held at this summer's festival in Rochester, Minnesota, on **Friday, July 22nd from 1-3pm**. If you'd like to throw your hat in the ring and participate in the competition, read on.

Aspiring competitors **must submit a demo video** of themselves doing their routine by April 30th. You must send a link to your demo on YouTube or juggling.tv to busking@juggle.org, and demos should be no more than 10 minutes in length. If you'd prefer to deliver your demo video in a different way, you may send an email

to busking@juggle.org and we will try to accommodate your request.

A panel of prelims judges will choose 9 competitors for the competition, with that number subject to change based on the number of submissions. You may use whatever skills or talents you choose, keeping in mind that you'll be performing for a juggling audience, and judged accordingly. All prelims competitors will be notified of the preliminary results by May 30th.

The format of the competition in Rochester will allow for 20-minute performances, with multiple competitors performing simultaneously. Weather permitting, the competition will be held outdoors, with audio equipment provided if desired. In case of inclement weather, the competition will move indoors.

Whether you're an accomplished street performer or a newcomer who has always wanted to give busking a shot, we're looking forward to seeing what you've got, and seeing you in Rochester!

Youth Jugglership Applications Now Being Accepted -- Deadline April 1st.

IJA Youth Jugglerships provide a festival package for each deserving recipient and assistance from experienced fest-goers in selecting workshops to attend as well as advice on how best not to burn out during the week. Now is the time to begin thinking of who YOU might nominate for the 2011 IJA Youth Jugglerships! April 1 is the nomination deadline for this program for the IJA festival in Rochester, MN.

In 2010, the IJA Youth Jugglerships were presented to four deserving young jugglers. They were Aubrey Kolas, Justin Kolas, Spencer Kelly and Mitchell Kelly. Our first IJA Youth Jugglership recipient was none other than Taylor Glenn, who has since become quite the sensation in the juggling world!

Youth Jugglerships are need-based and are intended for young people ages 17 and under who would not otherwise be able to attend the annual IJA Festival without outside assistance. The individual must be 17 or younger during the festival dates. Individuals must be nominated by a sponsor.

For more information on the IJA Youth Jugglership Program and to obtain an application form to nominate a deserving young juggler, go online to: <http://www.juggle.org/programs/youthjugglership>

You can also donate directly to this worthwhile program which brings deserving youth to the IJA each year. Donate a youth fest package and help a youth come to the IJA. Ask about donating at youthjugglerships@juggle.org.

2011 Fun Fund Final Spending Decisions

by Matt Hall

Editor's note: The Fun Fund is a \$20,000 anonymous donation given to make the 2011 IJA festival even more fun. The IJA Fun Fund Committee solicited suggestions about how to spend the money and then came up with its recommendations based on the suggestions received. The committee's recommendations were approved by both the IJA Board and the donor (designated as "iiWii"). See below for what is in store for you at the 2011 IJA fest.

My thanks to the committee members who agreed to meet several times over the last few months and have now committed further to seeing several of these projects to completion. Personally, I think the festival is going to be quite a blast. Want to know where iiWii's generous donation is going? Read on for the details...

Fun Fund Committee Recommendations
2011 IJA Festival
Rochester, Minnesota

First and foremost, the committee would like to thank our donor and benefactor, iiWii, for giving us the opportunity to add to the overall value and quality of the IJA Festival. We have endeavored to spend the money wisely, always keeping an eye toward what would bring the greatest benefit to the greatest number of festival attendees. We received dozens of different ideas from many different jugglers, and we worked hard to ensure that each idea was considered on its merits. The eleven recommendations below represent our consensus decision about how the money may best be spent this year. It is possible that one or more of these events may not succeed or be very popular with the festival goers, but the committee feels that the money should be used to try new things, support new ideas, and think outside the box of what the IJA has traditionally done at its festivals.

The Fun Fund Committee would like to recommend the following events and activities for monetary support. The event, the contact(s) for more details, and the recommended allocation are listed. In all cases the voting was either 7-0 or 6-1.

(Listed below is the event, the lead person or person to contact if you have questions or want to help, the award amount, and my own brief description)

1 XJuggling Jack Kalvan \$500.00 Jack will use the money to pay for awards and to hire a DJ for the event.

2 Jogging Len Ferman \$750.00 Len will use the money to upgrade the awards and possibly rent/purchase a sunshade tent for competitors.

3 Fire Event(s) Jim Maxwell \$500.00 The money will be used to pay for RFD personnel to be present at all fire shows. [1]

4 IJA Collectible Yo-Yo's Jek Kelly \$1,400.00 The money will be spent to provide each festival attendee with a little keepsake, which happens to be a Duncan yo-yo with the IJA logo on it.

5 Publicity Photos/Gym Photographer Mike Sullivan \$2,000.00 The money will be used to hire a photographer who will take professional shots for anyone looking to upgrade or start their juggling career, as well as taking random gym shots on certain days.

7 IJA Trading Cards Jek Kelly \$1,000.00 The money will be used to create a set of Juggling Superstar Trading Cards similar to those distributed to festival goers at the 2007 IJA Festival.

8 Street Busking Competition Dave Pawson \$2,500.00 The money will be used as prize money that would go to the winners of the contest, in addition to covering all copying and equipment costs for the event, and any equipment or miscellaneous costs.

9 Gauntlet Andy Peterson \$2,500.00 The money will be used to buy the materials used to construct an extreme juggling gauntlet that will be set up on site all week for all festival attendees to try out and enjoy.

10 Lounge Warren Hammond \$3,500.00 The money will be used to rent/purchase couches, TVs, video game systems, ping-pong tables, foosball tables, and more to create a lounge area for those not juggling. [2]

11 Gala Show Honorarium Mike Sullivan/Matt Hall \$3,000.00 This money will be split between the Gala Show invited guest as our way of saying thank-you for passing up more lucrative opportunities in order to come and entertain the festival-goers.

12 Surprise Mike Sullivan/Matt Hall \$1,500.00 This last bit will be used at the festival on something I can pretty much guarantee every juggler loves. Don't ask me, 'cause I ain't telling! =)

TOTAL: \$19,150.00

[1] So far, we have received assurances that Rochester municipal code does not require the presence of fire department personnel, but we feel it would be a good choice to have them present for safety and crowd control nevertheless.

[2] Rented equipment will be returned and equipment purchased will possibly be raffled off to defray costs and cover any unanticipated expenses. Similar lounges have been used to great effect at the WJF, Turbo Festival in Quebec, and the EJC.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Hall-Fun Fund Committee Chair
Mike Sullivan-IJA 2011 Festival Director
Warren Hammond
Jek Kelly
Jim Maxwell
Andy Peterson
Dave Pawson

MS TRAM Ride, by Andy Arhelger

The Rochester Juggling Club is thrilled to have the International Jugglers' Association 2011 Festival in our home town! Personally, I can't wait to be a part of the festival this year.

I run the Rochester Juggling Club and also do a lot of bicycle riding. I will be riding the annual MS TRAM bike ride again this year. MS TRAM (The Ride Across Minnesota) is a 300 mile ride fund raiser for the National MS Society and it just happens to start and end in Rochester this year. Approximately 1000 bikers participate in this event.

So, what does this have to do with juggling and the 2011 IJA festival? The MS Society asked me if anybody, that might be attending the IJA festival, would be interested in doing a show for the bikers. You see, MS TRAM starts on Monday July 25. Bikers will be gathering in Rochester on

Sunday the 24th to begin their ride. The MS society is providing entertainment for the riders Sunday July 24th from 7-9pm in Rochester. The IJA festival ends on this same Sunday. I was hoping some jugglers might be able to stick around and do a 1 hour spot for the MS TRAM bikers.

Would somebody be available to help out? Please contact me if you will be around on Sunday and would be willing to help. For more information on MS TRAM you can check out this web site.

http://bikemnm.nationalmssociety.org/site/PageServer?pagename=BIKE_MNM_TRAM_homepage

Please contact me, Andy Arhelger, at:
aarhelger@charter.net

As seen on Usenet's rec.juggling:

"Presuming that people from this forum actually attend this festival(judging by the comments, it seems doubtful), could someone do me a favor and give Stefan [Sing] a high-five from me? I owe him one. Oh, and you should go to his workshop, too. Kudos to the Americans for bringing him out. I remember first meeting him at EJC 2005; an entire gymnasium of hardcore jugglers simply stared, spellbound, for AN HOUR while he practiced with 3 balls. We gave him standing ovations for tricks that he attempted and dropped, simply because it was so ridiculous that he would even think to throw tricks like that. And we all realized, even though many of us had been practicing this stuff for decades, that we had never actually seen real juggling before."

Stefan Sing is conducting a Special Workshop at the 2011 IJA Festival, and you can sign up for his FOUR-DAY, EIGHT-HOUR "Organic Juggling" workshop -- and the whole rest of the amazing week in Rochester this July -- at <http://www.juggle.org/festival>



IJA & AMS
or
“Is this any way to run a juggling association?”

by Mike Sullivan

Have you ever wondered what goes on “behind the curtain” at the IJA? How your Association operates? How it keeps the books? How your membership records are maintained? How the IJA’s website, juggle.org, is updated and maintained? How your IJA festival registration is processed? What system is in place for sending you your issue of JUGGLE magazine or this edition of IJA eNews? How the IJA eStore does what it does?

Most IJA members don’t know and don’t care about such things, nor should they need to. In return for your IJA dues, you expect a competent level of services and amenities such as accurate record-keeping, sound accounting of the Association’s finances, a modern, up-to-date website, and so on.

But for the dozen or so hard-working IJA volunteers who keep the wheels of the Association spinning, the “back-office” operations of the IJA are anything but a smooth-running, integrated, seamless symphony of efficiency. In fact, the way the IJA makes its sausage is a mishmash of various offline, online, manual, automated, modern and antique processes. There’s a fair amount of duplication of effort, quite a few places where things could (and sometimes do!) fall between the cracks, and it all makes for a lot more work than should be necessary to run an association our size.

For example, your membership record is kept in an offline FileMaker Pro database with its roots going back to the mid-1990’s. The IJA’s bookkeeping is done on a PC using QuickBooks Pro, which doesn’t talk to the IJA eStore, which doesn’t talk to the membership database or the festival registration system, or your JUGGLE subscription status. The IJA membership roster is spit out by a home-grown Python script fed by an Excel spreadsheet manually exported from FileMaker Pro and handed off by email between two volunteers in two different countries!

The IJA eStore doesn’t talk to the rest of the IJA’s public website. The website is built using an open source package with lots of tweaks and hacks, with the IJA eStore bolted on afterwards. Your IJA eNews subscription comes to you via a data file exported from FileMaker Pro and sucked into a UNIX server, where it is massaged and then sent out by a mail server that’s not even paid for by the IJA.

Show tickets at IJA festivals are printed by a custom Postscript program whipped up in literally an afternoon during the Buffalo fest by the editor of this newsletter and tweaked each year ever since. And anytime you need to update your membership info for the IJA roster, it’s largely an all-manual system you can’t do yourself online, which adds more work to the plates of our part-time, volunteer staffers.

But this is exactly what you’d expect to find in a volunteer-run Association like ours which has adopted, and then adapted to, various processes and systems over our 64-year history.

Each time a new need arose, an enterprising IJA volunteer jumped in with their expertise to solve the problem, and we are very, very grateful they did—without all of these disparate, unique and unconnected systems, the IJA simply would not function at any level.

Unfortunately, there are many, many different moving parts, none of them designed as an integrated system, and many of them prone to glitches, handoff errors and coordination issues between our volunteers who do their best with what we’ve got. But it is getting unwieldy, it’s causing a lot more work for our volunteers than necessary, and it prevents the IJA from focusing more effort on growth, outreach and service to our members.

Unsurprisingly, the IJA’s operational requirements are not unique. In fact, there are literally tens of thousands of other associations, societies, guilds and amalgamations more or less just like the IJA, and many of them face identical challenges with management, accounting and other logistical and operational needs common to non-profit and for-profit groups.

Because this problem is common to so many groups like ours, an entire industry has sprung up to fill the need for modern, integrated, automated, efficient ways to manage and grow associations and to eliminate many of the risks faced in doing so.

These packages are called Association Management Systems, or AMS, and there are dozens if not hundreds of them to choose from. Nearly every large association in the country uses one, and even smaller associations the size of the IJA or much smaller can benefit from an AMS.

An AMS integrates into one cohesive package all of the functions that an association might need to perform, and most of them do it using a secure Web-based system, meaning the association itself doesn’t have to buy any computer servers or install and maintain any software. The association staff can carry out their work using any computer with an Internet connection.

Better yet, many simple functions can be done by the members themselves, such as renewing a membership or updating an e-mail address. Updates and enhancements to the software roll in automatically, and all of the critical data for the system is backed up in multiple commercial data centers, safe against crashes and accidental data loss.

Most AMS packages include many or all of these functions:

- ★ Online membership database with self-service membership update
- ★ Roster generation,
- ★ Dues renewal reminders and dues billing and payment

continued next page...

- ★Online store to sell merchandise and subscriptions, accept donations, provide tax return records for donors
- ★Online event management system to manage the meetings, festivals and conferences for the group, including attendee registration, ticket sales, merchandise sales, workshop scheduling, RSVPs, name badge printing, and more
- ★Online member communication systems for doing email marketing to members or prospective members, fund-raising campaigns and effectiveness tracking, e-newsletter mailing and tracking, member-to-member online forums, and forums and conferencing systems for the staff, Board and officers
- ★Integrated, audit-able online accounting system that connects to all other functions of the AMS including the eStore, the event management system, A/R and A/P, donation records and credit card processing
- ★Public-facing Web site publishing system with Web-based self-service updating by staff, event calendars, social networking integration, automatic add or delete of Web site content by date, member login system for access to members-only content areas
- ★Private Intranet Web site for staff and Board to use for collaboration, document sharing, messaging, conferencing, document archiving, and project management

Some of these AMS packages are incredibly robust, and can handle the needs of even the largest associations with tens of thousands of members. Pretty much all of them can do all or almost all of what the IJA would most likely want to do, and would bring together for the first time all of the IJA's operational and financial functions onto one platform. Just type "association management software" into your favorite Internet search engine and you will get an idea of how big an industry the business of managing associations really is, and how many packages there are to choose from.

A good AMS package for the IJA would greatly simplify and strengthen the operational backbone of your Association, while helping to prevent burnout of our hard-working volunteers, and eliminating the dreaded "single point of failure" issue we have now with many of our processes.

Many AMS solutions are priced on a "Software-As-A-Service" model, meaning the IJA would pay a flat fee per year for a license to use the system, and then a few dollars per year per member for every member in the IJA. Other AMS solutions are priced at a flat rate per year based on the total membership of the group.

Regardless of the particular pricing model, an AMS for the IJA would be a nominal expense per year once the system is in place, and would definitely deliver a great value to the Association and all the members in many ways. Remember: we're jugglers, not highly-paid association management executives, so we need all the help we can get!

The IJA is now in the process of soliciting help in the requirements definition and system specification phase of moving to an AMS in the next couple of years. Our first step is to find an AMS consultant with experience helping associations like ours specify our requirements and then move on to a qualification and selection process for an AMS suited to our needs. Obviously, we don't want to make a big mistake in choosing an AMS on our own that winds up not being a good fit for the IJA, so getting expert help in the needs analysis and selection phases of the process is well worthwhile.

Right now, we have received responses from a few AMS consultants who are interested in giving us a consulting proposal for the project. We're optimistic that by the time of the IJA's summer festival in Rochester, our Board will be able to choose from among a few good proposals to move ahead and begin the needs analysis phase.

If you have some expertise in this area, or want to give your input on the IJA's AMS project as we start the process, please speak up! Send your comments to us at ams@juggle.org.

With a little luck and a lot of hard work in the months ahead, your Association will soon join the big leagues of efficient, integrated association management!



Circo Hiverno, *Reviewed by Don Lewis*

Just when you thought winter was getting rather tiresome, along comes a delight like this to force a relaxing smile on your face.

Aytahn Ross is the creative mastermind and host of Circo Hiverno, which is presented in the intimate surroundings of Theatre St Catherine in downtown Montreal.

I saw the show on a Saturday night that happened to be the Nuit Blanche event of the Montreal HighLights festival. It is essentially an all night party all over town with free shows and demonstrations in all sorts of places. A bit of circus was an excellent way to get the evening started.

The stage at this small theatre is pretty small. But that does not stop the artists from doing amazing things. The background set is a tenement with Aytahn as the domineering landlord. Mr. Smythe, a world renowned clown, played the hapless janitor in a set of overalls. A bag of trash, tossed out with much to-do, turned out to contain a lot of cigar boxes. Aytahn cleverly performed a nine box balance with them.

www.circohiverno.com
www.sillypeople.com
www.4rines.com
www.smythecomedy.com

Later in the show, he “discovered” a set of brightly glowing clubs and used them in a club swinging number. He also did a crowd pleasing ping pong ball spit-juggling routine.

Mr. Smythe did an oral beat box while trying to capture a flashlight beam. It was whimsical, and the light beam seemed alive and capricious as it eluded him. He also did a masterful marionette routine with his own head on the body. He creates a very engaging little character that has you suspending disbelief.

Catherine Viens was comic on a chinese pole tricked out like a tree as she sought her unreachable laundry dangling on a distant branch. She later played for drama on aerial silks. It is a routine that is forceful seen in a large venue, but sitting six feet away as someone plummets towards the stage is an intense experience.

Add in some jazz singing by Kim Zombik, more clowning by Lise Vigneault, diabolo, yo-yo and juggling around an audience member by SillyPeople, and you have a delightful evening.

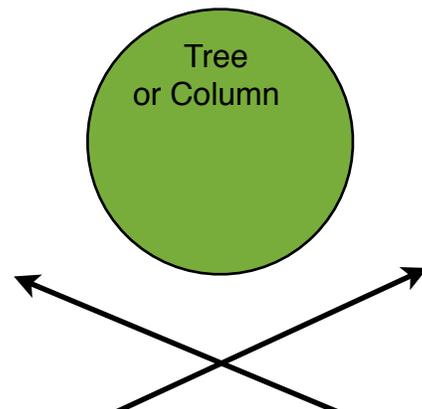
Dendrophilia for Club Jugglers, by *Don Lewis*

Nothing kinky here -- your local tree can become your juggling pattern's new best friend. The more festivals that you attend, the more you realize that a lot of beginning club jugglers have a very narrow, out in front, cascade. If you learned in isolation, you almost certainly developed that style instinctively, the instinct being that you don't want to be hit in the face by your own clubs. I learned that way, and I tend to fall back into that habit even after years of knowing better. The problem is, a tight cascade that is out in front doesn't leave room for club passing or tricks. Something is always in the way. Your passes have to be bent inside your own self throws, and tricks like chops are nearly impossible. Worse still, an errant throw can cause an explosion of clubs right between your eyes.

Fix that problem by throwing your clubs to the side. You'll get the dual benefit of a clear field of vision, and a club that drops into your hand without having to reach forward for it. I've described this before, but perhaps the simple diagram to the right will make the process clearer. Approach a tree, or a column, or the outside corner of a building and juggle your cascade. Get really close, a half meter or less is about right. Do it a lot until it feels natural. You want to banish those out in front throws from your muscle memory and make this the instinctive way to throw.

You will almost certainly discover that the exercise is easier for one hand than the other at first. Just back up a bit from the obstacle and then slowly move closer while juggling a stable cascade. You can also work this very slowly by using just two clubs and really concentrating on the throws. Alternate the starting hand and concentrate on getting enough height to avoid rushed throws.

Your cascade will slow down. Tricks and passing will be easier. And if things do go wrong, you'll have more space to try to correct, and less chance of a club explosion in front of your face.



Cirque Webcast Re-runs in Canada

Canadians who have missed episodes of the Cirque du Soleil's behind the scenes shows can now see them via webcast on TOU.TV. There is even an iPad application (pictured at left) for viewing wherever you happen to be. Tou.tv is an offshoot of the CBC, Canada's national broadcaster. Most of the shows available are only licensed for rebroadcast within Canada. Others will get a message saying that the video document can only be viewed within Canada.

This webcast site features french language shows. However, the Cirque episodes are mostly bilingual or subtitled.

Stagecraft Corner: Weak Choices Jugglers Make, by Brad Weston

There are some things that beginning performers do that makes them stand out as a beginner performer. It's not that these choices are inherently bad, it's just that they are more difficult to pull off well and are a bit overused by amateurs. Avoid some of these habits and you'll look like a seasoned veteran in no time.

The Nervous Performer Act:

This is a stage that many performers go through early in their careers. The concept is that the performer is so nervous that things keep getting messed up. Perhaps their hands and bodies shake a little, or they stutter. The aim of this is usually two-fold. It gives the audience a higher status than the performer, which can theoretically put the audience, especially young children, at ease. It can be used to cover up the performer's nervousness. It is a fine technique for comedy when used well, but it is very difficult to do well. First of all, maintaining control over the audience is our most important job. If we have a lower status than they, it will take a large bag of techniques to maintain order. Secondly, it has to be done so well that the audience doesn't just assume that the performer is actually nervous. Thirdly, if we are good at emoting, the audience may begin to feel nervous, too. This is why they need to see the underlying control and polish, so that they can feel comfortable with our finesse.

The Standard Juggler Costume:

Often this is red high tops, black pants, and suspenders, but it changes a little by region and season. There is nothing wrong with this look. It is just that it is so over done that the average audience already knows it is a juggling act when they look at it. There are times and places when that is advantageous, like at a very crowded event where you need to serve as eye candy. Often, jugglers are hired to look like a juggler at an event. The difficulty that this presents, though, is that if they already think that they know what you do, they might not stop to see if you are any different from any of their past experiences with other jugglers. A Chicago juggler named Circus Boy told me that way back when, after he left the circus, he decided not to dress as a clown any more because people would see the clown and have an expectation that he would be funny, which meant that he had to work extra hard to actually get them to laugh. He found that when he dressed like a regular guy, he could easily exceed their expectations of

what he could do, and the laughs and applause came more easily.

Using Stock Lines:

There are a lot of old, used up, comedy lines out there. And there are some performers whose shows consist entirely of such lines. And there are some clients who don't know the difference. But we do. The problem with borrowing other performers' lines or using the "old standard" ones, isn't as just an issue of morals (although that is worth considering!). The problem is that the words need to seem as though they are coming out of the person on stage, and not from a book, and they need to look like they have just been thought up, in the moment. Just as no two people are alike, no two people say the same things, or make the same jokes. Our whole act needs to be given in the same voice.

Not Taking Charge:

There are clients at every event that will tell you what they want you to do, where, and for how long. You need to listen to them and try to make them happy if you want to keep getting gigs, but you need to communicate that you are the professional, the one with experience. The client needs you to be their consultant. If they want you to start your act just as a main course is served, you need to have the confidence to suggest to them that you won't be able to get focus at that time. If they seat the audience too far away from you, you need to be able to suggest moving them closer. This is also important if you have to deal with a heckler: YOU ARE IN CHARGE!

Not Accepting Applause:

Sometimes it is hard to take a compliment. But if the audience wants to compliment you by clapping, you have to let them do it. If you cut them off too soon, it will create a dynamic where they won't know how to respond anymore. It will serve to diminish all responses in the future and eventually turn them against you. Also, you need to get their focus and attention back before you can move on. Be gracious, let them clap.

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

Spring JUGGLE magazine in the mail, finally

The Spring JUGGLE magazine was mailed on March 28, about a month late. IJA members should receive the issue before the end of April.

Our apologies for the late mailing.

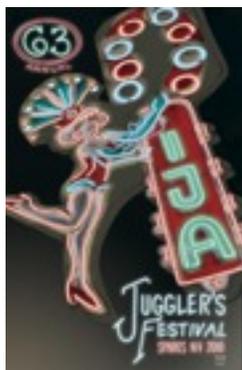
IJA Help Wanted

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.

**Juggle This 2011
New York City, NY**

Check out an upcoming article about the festival in JUGGLE magazine.

Photos by Ross Berenson



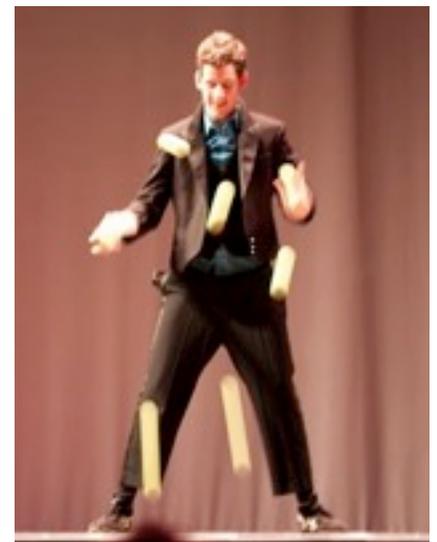
Matt Guzzardo, Bernadette, Myles Kane



Mark Hayward & Scott Spencer



Joëlle Huguenin



Jacob D'Eustachio



Joe Showers



A Different Spin



Doug Sayers



Larry Vee



The International Jugglers' Association is excited to announce The IJA Regional Competitions!

For the first time ever, the IJA is bringing its stage competition to the Barullo Festival in Guadalajara (Jalisco), MEXICO!

WHAT IS THE IRC?

The IJA Regional Competition (IRC) is a program run by the International Jugglers' Association (IJA), focused on bringing new and innovative jugglers to the IJA stage competition, building awareness of the IJA, and helping jugglers connect with one another in the international juggling community.

The IRC is not a replacement for the stage championships event at the main IJA festival, usually held in the USA. This program is designed to supplement the already existing format, in that it offers competition winners abroad the opportunity to perform at the annual IJA festival.

This year, the IJA is excited to be coordinating with the Barullo Circus Festival in Guadalajara (Jalisco), Mexico. This event is the pilot IJA IRC event. Pending success, the IJA plans to expand its IJA Regional Competition to other reaches of the globe.

WHAT IS BARULLO? WHEN is it and WHERE will it be held?

Barullo is an annual five-day long circus arts festival in Jalisco, Guadalajara, Mexico. Created by artists, both from the circus and the street, Barullo is open to all who want to come together for workshops, shows, and friendship. The event will take place on Friday, June 3rd, 2011, at the Barullo Circus Festival in the city of Jalisco in Guadalajara, Mexico. For more information on the Barullo Circus Festival, go to <http://www.barullo.com.mx>

WHO CAN COMPETE IN THE IRC?

The IRC-Mexico is open to solo and team competitors 18 years of age and older. Competitors must have a prepared and polished juggling routine utilizing any props and style of manipulation, no longer than 8 minutes in length. Judges consider the quality of execution, entertainment, difficulty, theatrical framing, creativity, risk, and stage presence, and issue scores for each category.

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPETING

The registration deadline for competitors is May 15th, 2011. For a complete list of rules, registration, and prize information, see: <http://www.juggle.org/programs/irc/ircrules.php>.

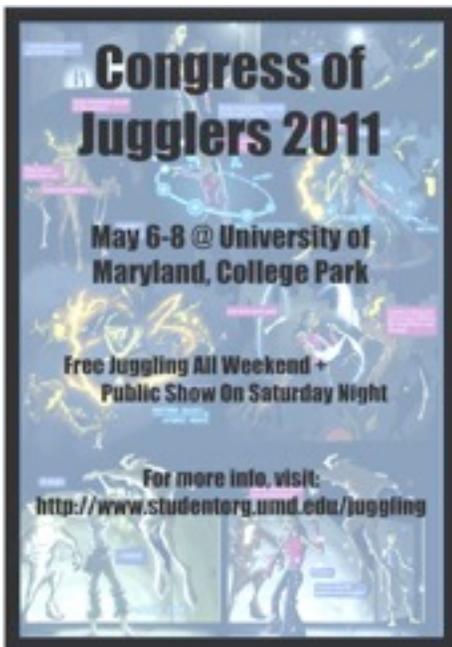
VIP Conference

Ventriloquists
In flight (jugglers)
Prestigitators (magicians)

April 3 2011
Zanger Hall
347 W 34th St. NY 10001
Admission \$80 (\$100 at door)
Professionals, amateurs,
hobbyists welcome

Gala Show Featuring:
John B. Born, Asi Wind
Pete Michaels, Jennifer Slaw,
Tony Duncan & more!

<http://vipextravaganza.com>



Montreal Circus Festival
May 13 - 16, 2011
Special Guest
Eric Longequel

www.festivaldecirquedemontreal.com

Juggling Festivals

34th RIT Spring Juggle-In
April 1 - 3, 2011
Rochester, NY
[website](#)

MONDO JuggleFest XXII
April 1 - 3, 2011
St. Paul, MN
<http://www.mondofest.org/festival>

Tucson Juggling Festival
April 8 - 10, 2011
Tucson, AZ
[website](#)

April Fools Juggling Festival
April 8 - 10, 2011
Tallahassee, FL
<http://tallahassee.tricksters.com/>

Isla Vista Juggling Festival
April 22 - 24, 2011
Santa Barbara, CA
<http://www.sbjuggle.org/>

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

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:

VIP Conference Extravaganza
April 3, 2011
New York City, NY
<http://vipextravaganza.com>

FCM International Convention
July 11-15, 2011
Marion, IN
<http://fcm.org/usa/convention.php>

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.

- :: Pavel Evsukevich shows off some technical moves in '[Practice volume 1](#).'
- :: The Club Motion Juggling Team gets creative with [some late night manipulations](#).
- :: Kyle Johnson unleashes his club collecting skills in what very well might be a [world record](#).
- :: Jugglingstore.com has announced the winners to their [Viral Video Contest](#).
- :: [Five ring backcrosses](#)? Doug Sayers is a machine!
- :: Norb does a variety of balances, multiplexes, and overhead combinations in his [latest video](#).
- :: Luke Burrage has uploaded a [rough cut](#) of some unique club juggling footage from a DVD he was formerly producing.
- :: Video of Team Play Vs. Team Smugheads from Major League Combat 7 at Madfest 2011 is online in [two parts](#).
- :: Gravitas Juggling has chosen the [winner](#) and [runner ups](#) for its Original Video Contest.
- :: Eric Bates unleashes some wicked cigar box tricks in his latest video '[Cigar Boxes 9](#)'.
- :: The World Juggling Federation has posted two new videos: the results to [Competition Blitz 6](#), and the [Body Throw Remake Video](#).
- :: Juggler Nasu does some Sean McKinney inspired [3 ball juggling tricks](#).
- :: Vincent Forestier gets wild with some amazing [body tricks](#).