

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

STARMA CIRCUS GALA and FUN(d)RAISER!!

www.starma.org

Sunday April 19 3-5pm.

At ARTS at THE ARMORY www.artsatthearmory.org

191 Highland Ave. Somerville (Red Line to Davis, parking available in rear)

Suggested Donation: \$15/adults \$5 Children and Somerville teachers

A thrilling afternoon of Somerville's best circus and variety performers to benefit

Circus/theatre arts after school programs in Somerville schools.

Featuring THE SCALLYWAGS-Boston's premiere Pirate Band, EMPEROR

NORTON'S STATIONARY MARCHING BAND, STARMA CIRCUS HOOPERS-with members of BOSTON HOOP TROOP, ALEX THE JESTER, CIRQUE RAZZ, art and performances by LOCAL YOUTH and other special guests!

STARMA is the brainchild of Jenn Bliss and Cathy Diebold, and hosts a circus performance collective and educational program. STARMA began in October of 2008 and currently runs programs in four Somerville Elementary Schools. Affectionately named "CLOWNING AROUND", the school program combines Storytelling, Creative Movement, Circus Arts, Physical Theater and Costume Design to develop trust, self-esteem and performance skills. Clowning Around has been enormously successful with high risk and diverse communities. We seek to expand the program by training new teachers and including the Greater Somerville Circus Community. Due to budget restraints, the program currently operates on a very short shoestring, mostly out of pocket and from the heart. Our goal with the FUN(d)RAISER is to give exposure to Somerville circus performers and teachers, provide a showcase for the children currently involved in Starma, and create a nestegg for future events and classes. In these times of hardship we invite you to laugh, sing, dance and learn together! Please support this fabulous new program. In turn we will bring light to your lives with joyful entertainment!

JENN BLISS has been an active performer and teacher in the Greater Boston area for 12 years. She currently teaches school programs with YOUNG AUDIENCES and STARMA, is a resident festival coordinator for the REVELS SummersDay and RiverSing, and tours original Children's Theater Productions with her company, MOONSHIP PRODUCTIONS www.themoonship.com.

CATHY DIEBOLD left a lofty world of science to pursue a career in the arts. She is currently a wardrobe assistant with CIRQUE DU SOLEIL and is the founder of RUCKUS MUCKUS Originals, www.ruckusmuckus.com where she creates characters, performances and one of a kind wearable designs. She is also the founder of STARMA CIRCUS HOOPERS and can be seen as a Living Statue with 1031 PRODUCTIONS, and painted all in silver as one of the SILVER SWIMMERS.