

Kristi Alyssa

Circus Artist

Instructor



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PERFORMANCE

- Chandelier Circus, 2025, lyra, lollipop and silks
- “Sanctuary”, Aloft 2024, Chicago, IL., “Duo Lyra Flight”
- “Way Home”, Reminiscent Circus, July 2024, full length contemporary show, Chicago, IL., solo lyra, group triple trapeze, group juggling, group dance, acting
- Private Event, Actors’s Gymnasium, Chicago, IL., June 2024
- Showtime’s “The Chi”, background film acting, Four Star Casting, Chicago, IL., 2024
- NYE Casino, Q Productions Las Vegas, Lollipop, MI.
- Private Event, New Moon Chicago, 2023, Lollipop
- Private Event, New Moon Chicago, 2023, Champaign Aerial
- Boys and Girls Met Gala, Actors Gymnasium Entertainment, 2023, Lollipop, Chicago, IL.
- “Communion”, Aloft, 2023, Chicago, IL. “Necromancy Silks”
- NYE Casino, Q Productions Las Vegas, Showgirl Model, 2023, Indiana
- “Sanctuary”, Aloft, 2022, Chicago, IL. “Duo Lyra Holiday”
- “Sanctuary”, Aloft, 2022, Chicago, IL. “Vampire Single Point Trapeze”

- STARZ TV “Project Force: Power Book IV”, featured pole dancer/background film acting, 2022, Four Star Casting, Chicago, IL.
 - AMC’s “Interview with the Vampire”, featured background film acting, 2022, Caballero Casting, New Orleans, LA.
 - Slalom Event, Chandelier Circus, duo lyra, Lake Geneva, WI., 2022
 - Alzheimer’s Foundation, Candlegirl modeling, Chicago, IL., 2022
 - Disney/Apple TV’s “Seven Days at Memorial”, background film acting, 2021, Caballero Casting, New Orleans, LA.
 - Private Vegas Themed Event, ambient silks, lyra and trapeze, Chicago, IL., 2021
 - Private Gatsby Themed Event, ambient lyra, Chicago, IL., 2021
 - Adler Planetarium 1920s Gala, ambient silks, Chicago, IL., 2021
 - “Alice in Circusland”, full length show, 2021, role: Queen of Hearts, Yes Ma’am Circus, Chicago IL., single point trapeze, group acro, acting
 - “Sanctuary”, Aloft 2021, Chicago, IL., solo lyra “Tomorrow”
 - “Imagine”, Chicago, IL., March 2020, solo and duo lyra
 - Yes Ma’am Circus Presents “The Hellidays”, Chicago, IL., solo lyra
 - Twelfth Night, full length show, 2019, role: Olivia, Yes Ma’am Circus, Chicago IL., spanish web, duo acro, solo lyra, trio acro, group acro, acting
 - Baird 100 Event, Chandelier Circus, Milwaukee WI., June 2019, duo lyra
 - “Communion”, Aloft 2019, Chicago, IL., duo lyra/chains
 - Holiday Nutcracker Party, Misfit Circus, Chicago, IL., solo lyra
 - Rick Bayless private event, Chicago, IL., solo lyra
 - “Sanctuary”, Aloft 2018, Chicago, IL., duo lyra, “The Shining”
 - “Sanctuary”, Aloft 2018, Chicago, IL., duo lyra, “Daria”
 - “Communion”, Aloft 2018, Chicago, IL., duo lyra
 - Par-A-Dice Casino’s New Year’s Eve Party, Chandelier Circus, Peoria, IL., 2017, solo handbalancing/acro/flexibility
 - Aloft’s Holiday Market and Party, 2017, duo lyra
 - Mayor’s Holiday Party, Theater on the Lake, Chicago, IL., lyra
 - Statesville Haunted Prison, 2017, 2018, 2019, Lockport, IL., acting, flexibility
 - “Mercy On Our Souls”, Aloft 2017, Chicago, IL., solo lyra
 - “Communion”, Aloft 2017, Chicago, IL., solo handbalancing/acro/flexibility
 - “Sanctuary”, Aloft, 2017, Chicago, IL., solo lyra
 - American Horror Story Freak Show Halloween Party, Iron Horse Hotel, Chandelier Circus, Milwaukee, WI., 2016, handbalancing/acro/flexibility
 - Aloft’s Grand Opening Ice Cream Social Party, Aloft Circus Arts, Chicago. IL., 2016, lyra
 - Chandelier Circus, Lake Geneva, WI., 2016, duo lyra
 - 606 One Year Anniversary, Aloft Circus Arts, Chicago. IL., 2016, lyra, diabolo
 - Navy Pier Winter Wonderfest, Chicago, IL., 2015, lyra
 - Celebrity Cruises Chicago Culture Fest, Aloft Circus Arts, Chicago, IL., 2015, acro
 - “Sol Circus”, Aloft, 2015, Chicago, IL., solo lyra, duo handbalancing
 - “Reanimation”, Aloft Full Time Graduation Show, full length show, 2015, Chicago, IL., solo lyra, duo handbalancing, trio juggling, trio clown, group acro, group dance
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- Aloft Student Show 2014, Chicago, IL., solo lyra, group lyra and group trapeze
- TSNY Staff Show, 2014, Chicago, IL., lyra and handbalancing
- Castle Night Club, A La Carte Entertainment, Chicago, IL. 2012-2014, lyra and flexibility
- Match.com New Year's Eve Singles Night 2014, Chicago, IL., flexibility
- "Overcome", full length show, 2013, Chicago, IL., solo and duo lyra, diabolo, handbalancing, flexibility, dance
- University of Illinois at Chicago youth summer camp, Chicago, IL., contortion, acro, clown
- TSNY Staff Show, 2013, Chicago, IL., lyra
- Toyota, Chicago Auto Show, 2013, Chicago, IL., dance and acro/flexibility
- International Clown Week, 2013, Chicago, IL., handbalancing
- "The Book of Dreams", full length show, New England Center for the Circus Arts, 2012, Brattleboro, VT., lyra, handbalancing, triple trapeze, dance, acro, character
- "The Flying Nut", full length show, New England Center for the Circus Arts, 2011, Brattleboro, VT., group lyra and dance
- Gamma Phi Circus annual shows, 2007-2011, Normal, IL., diabolo (act captain), lyra, multiple trapeze, bike for ten
- Gamma Phi Circus Road Show, 2009, lyra, diabolo
- Gamma Phi Circus Exhibitions, 2007-2011, bike for ten, acro, lyra, diabolo
- Aloft Student Show 2009, Chicago, IL., lyra
- Twelfth Night, 2005, Chicago IL., acting, role: Viola
- Choir, (Lincoln Way high school, All City Choir and Illinois State University Choir) 2001-2009

PERFORMANCE SKILLS

- Full acts: solo lyra, single point trapeze, Lollipop. duo lyra with Chloe Zabicki
 - Additional circus skills: handbalancing, duo partnering, static trapeze, flexibility/solo acrobatics, basic tumbling, juggling, dance pole, diabolo, tightwire, spanish web, single point trapeze, silks, triple/multiple trapeze, in line skating, skating
 - Sports: competitive cheerleading, horseback riding, in line and ice skating, skiing
 - Music: choir
 - Theater: film and theater
 - Photography
 - Haunt Actor
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DIRECTING:

- “From the Ground, Up”, Aloft Youth Ensemble, May 2025, full length contemporary show, director, choreographer, lighting and sound design
- “Way Home”, Reminiscent Circus, July 2024, co-produced by Aloft Circus Arts, full length contemporary circus show, director, producer, performer, writer, lighting, prop, sound design, founder of Reminiscent Circus
- “All in Good Time”, Aloft Youth Ensemble, May 2024, full length contemporary show, director, producer, choreographer, lighting and sound design
- “Somewhere Out There”, Aloft Youth Ensemble, May 2023, full length contemporary circus show, director, producer, choreographer, sound design

LIGHTING DESIGN

- ETC NOMAD/EOS Family Lighting Design, trained under Alex Avery
- “Sanctuary”, Aloft Circus Arts, cabaret show - ongoing
- “I Think It Could Work”, Full Out Formula, full length contemporary show, August 2024
- “Way Home”, Reminiscent Circus, full length contemporary show, July 2024
- “Two Truths and a Lie”, Tanya Burka, full length contemporary show, June 2024
- “All In Good Time”, Aloft Circus Arts, full length contemporary show, May 2024

OTHER TECHNICIAN SKILLS:

- Sound Design - Go Button/Q LAB
- Stage Management

DIRECTORIAL POSITIONS:

- Director of Youth Program/Aloft Youth Ensemble, Aloft Circus Arts 2015-present
- Director of Professional Training Programs. Aloft Circus Arts 2024-present
- Manager of Professional Training Programs, Aloft Circus Arts 2022-2024
- Manager of Aerial Program, Frankfort Circus Center, 2019-2024

PHOTOGRAPHY:

- Live Performance, Portrait and Nature Photography, Canon DSLR - @kristialyssaphotos (photography instagram)
 - Lightroom and Photoshop
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TEACHING AND COACHING

- Cirque Wonderland, Remote ensemble choreography for lyra, sling and trapeze, February 2025, Des Moines, IA.
- Monarca in Flight, Q4 Workshops, Guest Instructor, Summer 2023, DC
- Aloft Circus Arts, Chicago, IL., 2015 - present, Director of Youth Program, Director of Professional Training Programs, Instructor,
- Viva Fest, Las Vegas, NV., April 2020, three student competitors
- Aloft Youth Ensemble, Chicago, IL., 2020 – present, Director and instructor of Advanced Youth Ensemble Troupe
- Frankfort Circus Center, Frankfort IL., 2019-2025, Aerial program director, instructor
- Fempress Fit, Chicago, IL., 2019, teacher training program
- Trapeze School New York in Chicago, Chicago, IL., 2013-2016, instructor, annual summer youth camp lead instructor/coordinator
- Glenbrook North Highschool, Northbrook, IL., 2015-2016, JV cheerleading coach
- 3rd Annual International Collegiate Circus Festival, special guest instructor, 2014, Ludlow, KY., lyra and flexibility workshops
- The Runaway Circus, 2012-2013 youth circus instructor in aerial, ground acrobatics, clown, tightwire, unicycle, juggling, rolla bolla
- Junior Gamma Phi Circus, 2007-2011, Normal, IL., volunteer youth instructor, lyra, triangle trapeze, triple trapeze, diabolo, unicycle
- Gamma Phi Circus, 2007-2011, Normal, IL., act captain/choreographer of diabolo act, mentor to junior members

TRAINING

- Awakenings NOLA, New Orleans, LA., 2022
 - “Managing Anxiety and Fear in Circus Students”, online class, Janelle Peters, 2022
 - Fly Circus Space, New Orleans, LA., 2021
 - American Circus Educators Conference, Decatur GA, 2018, online, 2020
 - Aloft Circus Arts, Teacher Training Program, 2015, certified in CPR and first aid
 - Aloft Circus Arts, Full Time Training Program 2014-2015, major focus: Lyra – act director Shayna Swanson, minor focus: handbalancing – act director Leah Leor, character and clown with Amanda Crockett, acro and handbalancing with Norboul Merriminov, contortion with Oyuna
 - Aloft Circus Arts, 2009-present, lyra with Helena Reynolds and Shayna Swanson
 - Circo Rogelio Rivel, Barcelona, Spain, 2014, handbalancing
 - OnAir Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, 2014, vertical wall dance
 - MSA Circus Arts, Chicago, IL., acro with Norboul Merriminov
 - New England Center for the Circus Arts, intensive training program, 2011-2012, major focus: lyra – act director Jamie Hodgson, minor focus: triple trapeze – act directors Jamie Hodgson and Elsie Smith
 - Swinging Trapeze workshops with Rachel Walker, 2010
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- Dance, DLD Dance Center, 2012-2013
- NICA, Melbourne, Australia, summer study abroad program, 2008, diabolo, lyra, spanish web
- Gamma Phi Circus, 2007-2011, diabolo, lyra, trapeze, spanish web, tightwire, unicycle, bike for ten, acro

AWARDS

- Recipient of the Tuition Waiver Award for Outstanding Demonstration of Leadership, Gamma Phi Circus, 2009 and 2011
- Most Improved Performer of the Year (out of a troupe of 70 members), Gamma Phi Circus, 2011

EDUCATION

- Illinois State University, 2011 B.A., communications marketing, minor in french
 - Lewis University, 2016-2021, M.A, clinical mental health and school counseling
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