

Sample Press Release

JUGGLER AND ACROBAT RHYS THOMAS BRINGS "SCIENCE CIRCUS" TO [Science Center] [Show Dates].

Learn the Physics of Motion and Balance by Watching Juggling Tricks During "Science Circus," a Fast-Paced, One-Man Show That Blends Science with Daredevil Stunts and Comedy

[City, State] (Release Date)-He's charismatic, he's witty, and he juggles knives while spinning a ball and riding a unicycle taller than himself, all in the name of science. Rhys Thomas is bringing his energetic "Science Circus" to [Science Center] for [#] performances on [Dates].

Thomas tosses a bowlingball, spins glass bowls, balances a rose on his nose and otherwise manipulates objects ranging from feathers and spoons to swords and Chinese yoyos while helping audiences appreciate the laws of physics, including gyroscopic stability, gravity, and inertia.

"Most kids who come to my shows have never considered things like centripetal force and rotation around center of mass," says Thomas. "But after they see how I rely on those principals to pull off circus tricks, they walk away with a concrete understanding of physics. My goal is to provide an entertaining show that demonstrates how the basic concepts of Newtonian physics make circus arts possible."

To teach a lesson in gyroscopic stability, which allows a fast-spinning object to remain balanced on a point where a slow-spinning or static object would fall off, Thomas gets nine bowls spinning on tall, thin sticks. He then pulls a tablecloth out from under a setting of glass plates and vases to demonstrate inertia's demand that something at rest tries to stay at rest. To illustrate how gravity pulls at a constant rate of acceleration, Thomas juggles five balls in a variety of patterns, showing that objects thrown high pick up more speed falling than objects thrown low. As Thomas teaches these and other basic science principles, he adds healthy doses of humor to help make his lessons easier to understand.

Thomas is a former middle school teacher who has performed his unusual "Science Circus" show across America from St. Lawrence Island in Siberian Alaska to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. He has appeared on worldwide television, and entertained countless audiences at science centers, schools, and corporate events on three continents.

Performances of "Science Circus" will be offered at [Times & Dates]. "Science Circus" is free with paid admission to [Science Center].

[Science Center contact numbers, open hours, location]