

MY ESC YEAR



MARCH

01

2024

FEBRUARY

28

2025

KARLSRUHE, GERMANY

HELENA BELAMARIC

This experience began with a childhood dream. I had always wondered what it would be like to work in a circus, it seemed like such a magical world.

Thanks to ESC, I got to live that dream for an entire year!



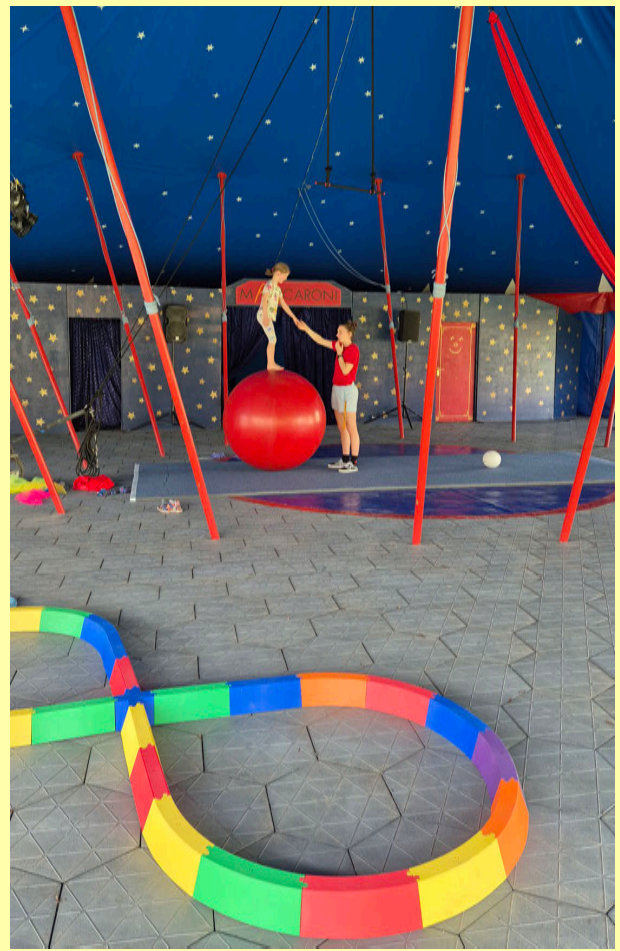
When I came across the application, something just clicked: I knew it was meant to be. Before I knew it, my ticket to the circus was booked.

Aktions- und Zirkusbüro
is located in Karlsruhe,
near the Black Forest, a
region that inspired
countless fairy tales.



Just like those tales, my
days there felt magical.
The environment was
warm, encouraging,
and full of inspiration.
It's a place where
creativity is not just
welcomed but actively
nurtured, and where
ideas come to life.

My main tasks involved teaching children various circus disciplines and helping with the daily rhythm of circus life. From the start, my colleagues welcomed me with open arms, and before long, I began to feel truly at home.



Despite not having previous circus experience, I found that I could contribute meaningfully.





Along the way, I tried my hand at many circus arts - juggling, trapeze, aerial hoop, acrobatics - each one offering something new and thrilling.

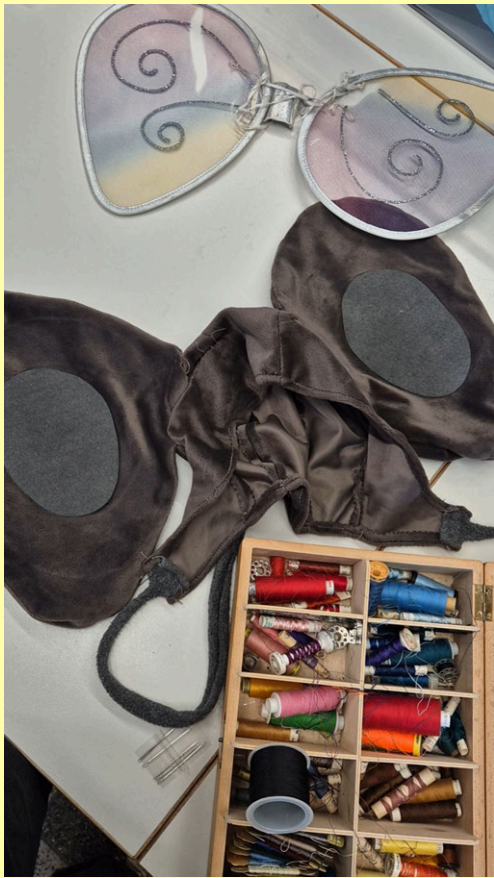


Adjusting to a new language, country, and field of work was difficult at times, but the unfamiliar soon became familiar.



No two days were the same, each brought something dynamic and unexpected.





I got to prepare shows with the kids, to make costumes for them, choreographies...



I learned so many valuable skills and proved to myself that I can adapt to every new scenario.

A friend and I even made our own circus performance on a festival!



I made friends with whom I shared my free moments and went on many trips. At times, it felt like this year would last forever.



It's hard to list all the ways this experience changed me. It made me more confident, more in tune with my abilities, and more convinced than ever that it's never too late to chase your dreams!



A big thank you to all those who made this experience possible, to Ocean znanja, my sending organisation, AWO my receiving organisation and to the whole team in Aktions- und Zirkusbüro.



It was truly an unforgettable year, filled with so many colorful memories that I will cherish forever! During this time, I met dear friends, even found love. The year ended but I still stayed in Germany, chasing my next dream.