

OPEN CALL TRANSITS 2026

RESEARCH AND CREATION SUPPORT PROGRAM FROM LA CENTRAL DEL CIRC

With the support of the 'Beques Barcelona Crea – Fàbriques de Creació'

(Deadline for project submission: **October 5, 2025, 11:59 PM**)

***Online information session: **September 16, 2025, at 11:00 AM** ***

La Central del Circ is a space dedicated to creation, research, training, rehearsal, and ongoing education for professional circus artists. It is part of the Network of Creation Factories of the Barcelona City Council.

Its mission is to provide a framework for the development of circus arts; to strengthen the visibility of the sector and facilitate the exchange of knowledge with other collectives and organizations at the local, national, and international levels; as well as to promote a broad and expanded understanding of circus creation, viewing it as an artistic discipline committed to questioning and reinterpreting various aspects of contemporary reality.

Through the Transits program, La Central del Circ aims not only to support contemporary circus research and creation—conceived as practices and forms capable of contributing perspectives and dialogue to contemporary debates—but also to encourage the intersection of disciplines and viewpoints.

For the second consecutive year, La Central del Circ is offering three 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories' within this call.

The 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories' are an initiative of the Network of Creation Factories, supported by the Institute of Culture of the Barcelona City Council, designed to support the pre-production processes involved in creating artistic proposals: conceptualization, development, research, experimentation, documentation, and rehearsal. These grants aim to contribute to sustaining the cultural and scientific momentum of the city by providing resources to develop processes of artistic research and innovation.

The 3 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories' included in this call fall under the following categories:

- Research Transits: 2 grants
- Community Creation Transit: 1 grant

This call is aimed at:

- Individual artists or collectives.
- Artists from the local, national, or international scene, although special attention will be given to local proposals. La Central del Circ does not provide accommodation for resident companies.
- Since La Central del Circ has specific support programs for emerging artists, this call also seeks to provide space for more established careers. Both applications from emerging artists and those with more experience will be considered.

The support offered includes:

- A residency in a creation studio at La Central del Circ (during the center's opening hours: Monday to Friday, from 10 AM to 8 PM). The duration and dates will be established according to the residency type and the availability of the facility and the company or artists. Community spaces within the facility are also available (training room, dressing rooms, kitchen, coworking areas, and parking).
- Financial support in the form of fees during the residency period. The amount will be calculated based on the residency type, the number of project members, and the number of weeks of residency.
- Support throughout the creative process, both in artistic development and in the professionalization of the company or artists. Guidance will also be provided to help build connections with the community and generate synergies to enrich creative processes and contribute to the local cultural ecosystem.
- Opportunity to share the creative process: a moment of opening is planned for companies or artists to present the work developed during their residency.

The categories of the call are:

- Research Transits – 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories'
- Creation Transits
- T.E.S.T! (Scenic Transit of Technical Sensation)
- Community Creation Transit – 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories'

1. RESEARCH TRANSITS – ‘Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories’

Research Transits are aimed at projects in the investigation phase and seek to highlight the importance of this stage in discovering the essence of creation.

This category offers resources to explore and experiment with circus languages and promotes the exploration of new scenic fields. Challenging the logic of productivity, it provides the necessary space for companies and artists to experiment and work without pressure, deepening their authorship.

➤ Support and conditions of residency:

Two proposals will be selected, and the following support will be offered:

- **Between eight and ten weeks of residency at La Central del Circ** during the year. The dates will be set according to the availability of the center and the company or artist.
- **Financial support: €6,000 (taxes included).**
- **Support program:**
 - Methodological support (from May 18 to 22, 2026): support during the research process for one week by the artist, choreographer, singer, and actress Marlène Rostaing. Methodological tools will be provided for artistic reflection and desk work.
 - Collective experimentation laboratory (from March 23 to 27, 2026): companies and artists participating in this category will be invited to take part in a collective experimentation laboratory together with the other artists in the Transits 2026 program. The laboratory will be led by Morgan Cosquer, a juggling artist, stage director, and educator.

2. CREATION TRANSITS

Creation Transits aim to support the development of original contemporary circus pieces. Companies and artists currently in the creation process—whether in an initial, intermediate, or advanced phase—may apply for this grant. Proposals for shows that are already completed or produced will not be accepted.

This category seeks to offer companies and artists a space of creative freedom to explore new forms and languages within circus. Support will be provided throughout the various stages of creation, along with resources to deepen artistic research.

➤ **Support and conditions of residency:**

Five proposals will be selected, and the following support will be offered:

- **Between eight and ten weeks of residency at La Central del Circ** during the year. The dates will be set according to the availability of the center and the company or artist.
- **Financial support:** Between €2,000 and €6,000 (taxes included) as creation fees during the residency period. This amount will be calculated based on the number of project members and the number of residency weeks: *a fixed base of €400 per project + €200 per artist per week (with a maximum of €6,000 per project).*
- **Support program:**
 - Artistic support (from April 13 to 17, 2026): An intensive support will be offered during one week in the processes of circography, writing, and staging. The approach will be adapted to the specific needs of each project and its stage of development. This artistic immersion will be carried out from a diverse perspective of contemporary circus, led by Maroussia Diaz Verbèke, artistic director, circographer, researcher, and acrobat.
 - Collective experimentation laboratory (from March 23 to 27, 2026): companies and artists participating in this category will be invited to take part in a collective experimentation laboratory together with the other artists in the Trànscits 2026 program. The laboratory will be led by Morgan Cosquer, juggling artist, stage director, and educator.

3. T.E.S.T! (SCENIC TRANSIT OF TECHNICAL SENSATION)

This category offers a technical residency and a first public showing. It is intended for companies and artists who are in the final stages of their creation process and have a premiere scheduled for 2026 or early 2027.

Applicants must include a link to a video of more than 40 minutes in their application. The proposal must be adapted to the technical capabilities of La Central del Circ's performance space.

The company or artist must provide their own technical staff.

➤ **Support and conditions of residency:**

One proposal will be selected, and the following support will be offered:

- **Two weeks of residency at La Central del Circ** prior to the public presentation (from April 27 to 30 and from May 4 to 8, 2026).
- **Use of the exhibition space to hold a public presentation** (May 8, 2026). The hall has a capacity of 100 people.
- **Financial support:** Between €1,600 and €3,000 (taxes included) as creation fees during the residency period. This amount will be calculated based on the number of project members and the number of residency weeks: *€1,200 as production support + €200 per artist per week (with a maximum of €3,000 per project).*
- **Technical support:** Assembly and disassembly of circus equipment (under no circumstances will this replace the technical staff of the company or artist). The company will participate in the assembly and disassembly of the venue, which will take place on Friday night after the performance has ended.
- **Support program:**
 - o Collective experimentation laboratory (from March 23 to 27, 2026): companies and artists participating in this category will be invited to take part in a collective experimentation laboratory together with the other artists in the Transits 2026 program. The laboratory will be led by Morgan Cosquer, a juggling artist, stage director, and educator.

4. COMMUNITY CREATION TRANSIT – ‘Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories’

This category is a research residency applied to the field of community creation, within the local context of La Central del Circ. With this aim and to incorporate networked ways of working, active participation with the Joia Foundation will take place. Projects with a clear initial starting point linked to this community will be given special consideration.

This category is intended for projects investigating creation methodologies to activate community creation processes. The research approach is divided into two parts: a first phase focusing on conceptualization, experimentation, and methodological development to enable knowledge transfer to non-professional groups, and a second phase involving a practical laboratory with the Joia Foundation community.

The community creation residency seeks to foster the creation and consolidation of horizontal, flexible, and lasting relationships based on

dialogue and exchange with those involved in community creation processes. The result will be a scenic creation presented to an audience in the exhibition space at La Central del Circ.

Individuals or legal entities that, at the time of submitting their application, have an active service contract or collaboration agreement with ICUB under the Cultura Viva program are not eligible to apply for this grant.

➤ **Support and conditions of residency:**

One proposal will be selected, and the following support will be offered:

- **Seven weeks of residency at La Central del Circ:**
 - Six weeks in the Rectangular Room:
 - Artist residency:
 - From march 16 to 20, 2026
 - From march 23 to 27, 2026
 - Residency with the community:
 - From april 20 to 24, 2026
 - From april 27 to 30, 2026
 - From may 4 to 8, 2026
 - From may 11 to 15, 2026
 - One week in the exhibition space:
 - Residency with the community: From may 18 to 22, 2026
- **Use of the exhibition space for a public presentation** (may 22, 2026). The room has a capacity of 100 people.
- **Financial support of €6,000** (taxes included).
- **Support program:**
 - Support in community mediation.
 - Collective experimentation laboratory (from March 23 to 27, 2026): companies and artists participating in this category will be invited to take part in a collective experimentation laboratory together with the other artists in the Transits 2026 program. The laboratory will be led by Morgan Cosquer, a juggling artist, stage director, and educator.

❖ EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR APPLICATIONS

- Submission of the application through the online form (found at the end of the guidelines) with all requested documentation and within the established deadlines.
- Both the form responses and attached materials must be in Catalan or Spanish.
- Diversity and complementarity of formats, practices, techniques, and artistic trajectories.
- Own and contemporary authorship.
- Originality, coherence, and relevance of the project.
- Special attention will be given to the artistic references of the submitted project, critical perspectives, and the artistic coherence and relevance.
- The trajectory of the company or artists.
- Availability for various support activities: methodological support, artistic accompaniment, and collective experimentation lab.

For the 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories' the following additional criteria apply:

- Proposal for new creation:
 - That it is in a development phase prior to production (in the stages of ideation, research, prototyping, rehearsal, or pre-production).
 - That it has not been publicly presented before.
- Maintain a connection with the city of Barcelona or its metropolitan area. This must be demonstrated by meeting at least one of the following criteria:
 - That the subject of the proposal is related to the city of Barcelona or its metropolitan area.
 - That the applicant (individual or organization) resides in the city of Barcelona or its metropolitan area.
 - That the applicant (individual or organization) is linked to the cultural fabric of Barcelona or its metropolitan area.
- The 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories' are not compatible with the following cases:
 - Projects that have received subsidies or grants from the Barcelona City Council, or a grant from programs linked to the 'Barcelona Crea Grants' of the Institute of Culture, including the 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories' or other associated facilities, prior to the date of submission of the application to the 'Barcelona Crea Grants'.

- Individuals or legal entities that have been beneficiaries of a grant in the last 2 years' calls for the 'Barcelona Crea Grants' of the Institute of Culture, or the 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories', or other associated facilities.
- Projects that have been publicly presented before, either by the person or entity participating in the call, or by other persons or entities.

❖ CALL SCHEDULE

- From September 8 to October 5, 2025 – Call open
- September 16, 2025, at 11:00 AM – Online information session ([link](#))
- October 27 and 28, 2025 – Selection committee deliberation
- From November 3, 2025 – Announcement of selected projects

❖ SELECTION PROCESS

The application form must be completed online at the following links:

- [RESEARCH TRANSITS](#) – 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories' (only available in Catalan and Spanish)
- [CREATION TRANSITS AND T.E.S.T!](#) (only available in Catalan and Spanish)
- [COMMUNITY CREATION TRANSIT](#) – 'Barcelona Crea Grants – Creation Factories' (only available in Catalan and Spanish)

The new artistic direction and coordination, which will take office at the end of September 2025, will be responsible for creating the artistic council that will carry out the selection for this call.

In the event that any category is declared void, La Central del Circ reserves the right to offer the residency to the project it deems appropriate.

For more information about any of the categories, you can contact Daphné Malherbe, head of the research and creation support area at La Central del Circ: creacio@lacentraldelcerc.cat.

Organitza:



La Central del Circ és una iniciativa de:



Gestionada per:



Amb el suport de:

