



Advanced tickets to 2017 Shrine Circus now available online

Region's favorite family spectacular returns May 2017

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls of all ages, Western Massachusetts' highly anticipated annual circus is back—and "Better than Ever"! From Thursday, May 4, through Sunday, May 7, the Shriners will once again present quality, affordable, wholesome entertainment in a safe environment when the Shrine Circus comes to the Eastern States Coliseum in West Springfield.

The 2017 edition of the Melha Shrine Circus will feature: The Hamid Elephants, The Vincent Von Duke Tigers, Daredevil Johnny Rockett, Human Cannonball Shawn Marren, The Flying Angels trapeze artists, and Neecha Braun and her Amazing Dobermans.

Although the box office doesn't open until Friday, April 21, advanced tickets are now available online at melhashrinecircus.com. Tickets are \$15 for best available regular seats and \$18 for box seats, for the performance of the purchaser's choice. (Children under age 3 seated on an adult's lap do not need a ticket. No additional discounts will apply.)

Schedule of 2017 performances:

- **Thursday, May 4:** 7:00 p.m.
- **Friday, May 5:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Saturday, May 6:** 10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, May 7:** 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Tickets ordered prior to Friday, April 21 will be mailed to the customer's billing address. Tickets ordered on or after April 21 will be available at the box office during regular business hours (24 hours after the order was placed online), or at the will-call booth on the day of performance. Purchaser must present a receipt or photo I.D. when picking up tickets.

Ways to purchase Shrine Circus tickets:

Starting Wednesday, February 1

- Online: melhashrinecircus.com (available until 5 pm on May 3)

Starting Friday, April 21

- By phone: (413) 205.5087
- At the Eastern States Coliseum box office, 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield: Daily from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

- At all Western Massachusetts Big Y locations: Special promotion—buy three reserved seats/get one free!

*Note: When ordering tickets, please indicate if a ticketholder uses a wheelchair or requires special assistance; the Shriners will make every effort to accommodate attendees' needs. In such situations, there will be room for only **one other person** to sit with the ticketholder.*

The Shrine Circus uses all proceeds to support the good work of the Shriners right here in western Massachusetts communities. Last year, thousands of families turned out to enjoy the circus and the quality entertainment that local residents look forward to year after year. Traditional favorite acts and exciting new ones promise to make the 2017 circus "Better than Ever."

The Shriners thank the public for their support, and invite everyone to join them in celebrating this year's "Circus with a Purpose."

About the Melha Shriners

Shriners International is a philanthropic fraternity based on fun, fellowship and the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief and truth. With approximately 325,000 members in 194 temples (chapters) in the United States, Canada, Germany, Mexico, the Philippines, Puerto Rico and the Republic of Panama, our fraternity is open to men of integrity from all walks of life. More information about Shriners International can be found at shrinershq.org. For more information about the local area Shriners call the Melha Shrine Center located at 133 Longhill Street in Springfield, at (413) 736-3647, or visit the web site at melhashriners.com.

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