Young Circus Harmony Performers Get Extended Stay Overseas

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ST. LOUIS (KMOX) – Nine St. Louis kids are getting an extended stay in Israel, thanks to the new flight restrictions between there and here.

Circus Harmony kids, ranging from 10 to 20 years old, have spent much of the month there collaborating with the Jewish-Arab Galilee Circus.

“In two days, in three languages, [they] put together this phenomenal circus show, and have been touring around the country performing, and showing people, ‘Here is what a peace process looks like, folks.’ You focus on what unites you instead of what divides you, and you create something amazing,” says Circus Harmony director Jessica Hentoff, who spoke with KMOX News via Skype.

Their trip was supposed to come to an end this morning, but the prohibition on flights between Israel and the U.S. means an extended experience for the St. Louis circus performers.

Hentoff says most were excited to have the trip inadvertently extended, although one ten-year-old said he misses his mom.

“We’re totally fine—totally safe—the kids are totally happy,” she said. “It’s the grown-ups, myself and the two chaperones, that [are] kind of anxious to get back to work in the states.”

She hopes to return in time to see the “Company McQuiggs” show at the City Museum at noon on Thursday. And she hopes, whether she’s there or not, there’s a big crowd.