

Aerial Ranch Retreat
April 21-26, 2022
Graham, TX

INFORMATION

Thanks for your interest in the April 2022 Aerial Ranch Retreat! I was inspired to host this retreat for the first time back in 2014, because I wanted the opportunity to share with other aerialists the natural beauty of the Aerial Ranch and the creative freedom that it inspires in me! This will be the 8th Aerial Ranch Retreat! The ranch home and adjacent barn are part of the Wildcatter Ranch resort, but this April 21-26, they are ours! You can check out some fun photos from the previous years' retreats by searching the hashtag [#AerialRanch](#).

The barn is cavernous, with +25' beams in the center of the barn, capable of rigging up to 9 apparatuses with plenty of space in between, and a lower ~16' side of the barn, able to rig up to another 6 pieces of equipment. The barn doors open up on 3 sides, so there is lots of natural light and breeze coming through the space! Additionally, there is a guest apartment in the barn, where some of us will stay.

The ranch home is very spacious and luxurious, with 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, a movie room, large kitchen, 20-person dining table, outdoor grill, and pool and hot tub. The back side of the house faces west and looks out above a horseshoe bend in the Brazos River with no buildings in sight, just expansive natural beauty! The view is really spectacular and the sunsets are sure to dazzle before the stars come out! Check out photos of the "Herron Bend" ranch home on the Wildcatter Ranch website [HERE](#).

The Aerial Ranch Retreat is geared towards intermediate/advanced level aerialists who want to explore creativity within their craft and take the tricks that they know to a new level of expression. The vast majority of participants specialize in Silks, Rope and Hammock/Sling, as does Jordann. The tall side of the barn will be reserved for 9 vertical apparatuses (Silks, Rope, possible Rope Braid or Multi-Corde) Other apparatus will be rigged on the shorter side of the barn and, in the past, have included Hammock/Sling, Lyra, Net, Straps, and Aerial Bicycle. The retreat curriculum will center around afternoon Creative Choreography Workshops, meant to help participants think and move in new and unexplored ways on the apparatus of their choice. It feels so good to have the time to play within technique and unlock artistic expression and creative choice!

There will also be optional afternoon technique mini-workshops on Silks and Rope! Technique workshops are based on participant requests from our group: previous offerings have included Windmills/Wheel-Downs Technique & Creativity, Momentum Fundamentals & Combinations, Belay Loop variations and more.

Participants will enjoy plenty of group open training time, with official sessions happening each morning. Open training is where you can take your new toolbox of ideas and run with it, or spend time skill-sharing and collaborating with your peers! We can learn so much from each other. There is afternoon and evening open training availability too, should anyone want a little extra training time.

If you are interested in taking a private or duo technique lesson with me during the retreat, we can arrange a time for your lesson and the fee will be a separate charge. Privates are \$75/hr and shared privates are \$90/hr.

In order to keep the cost of this retreat as low as possible, standard accommodations will be a bed or large-sized air mattress in the ranch house or barn apartment. Depending on the number of registrants, it is possible that you may need to either share a large sized bed with someone on the retreat who you are friends with, or sleep on an air mattress (we have a few).

If you want more privacy and/or if ranch house accommodations get full, you can also upgrade to a room at the Wildcatter Ranch Hotel for \$129-\$189/night + tax, which you can have solo or share with someone. There are also lots of activities available through Wildcatter Ranch, such as horseback riding, skeet shooting, and tomahawk throwing, which may be booked separately, for an additional fee. For more information, please check out WildcatterRanch.com.

In order to provide the healthiest and most affordable food options (in a land where bread is a vegetable and fried is a food group!), we will be preparing lunch and dinner at the Ranch House in a communal way. I will prepare menus for each meal and shop for everything before your arrival. Then, during orientation, we will each sign up for a few work shifts of cooking/cleaning/dishes spread out throughout the retreat. This setup has worked out really well at the previous retreats, and everyone has been very pleased with the quality of food we shared, and the time spent collaborating on preparing meals enabled us to get to know each other better. Vegetarians, non-vegetarians, and gluten-free folk are all welcome!

If you will be flying into the retreat, you are responsible for your own airfare and transportation to and from the ranch. You will not need a car during your stay at the retreat, although I will have one and the folks coming from other parts of TX will too. Graham, TX is about 2 hours from DFW airport. If you would like to rent a car at the airport to come out to Graham, and I will be happy to put participants in touch with each other to coordinate flight times and shared rental cars. There is also an option for a shuttle to/from DFW Airport to the Ranch, which costs \$135 each way for the first person, and \$25 for each additional person, up to 6 total. Again, I will be happy to help folks coordinate the shuttle for a group. For the shuttle, I recommend that participants book flights that ARRIVE between 1-5pm on Thursday, April 21st and DEPART between 1-5pm on Tuesday, April 26th, in order to best coordinate ride-shares and not have anyone have to wait around too long. Please let me double-check your flight itinerary before you book it!

TUITION

\$875 Early Registration (Deposit received by February 28th)

\$925 Regular Registration (Deposit received on March 1st or later)

-A non-refundable deposit of \$400 is required to hold your space.

-Your balance is due by 2 weeks before the retreat, April 7th.

-In the event that you test positive for covid within 72hrs of the start of the retreat, your tuition is refundable, minus the non-refundable deposit. Please take measures to stay healthy as the retreat dates approach!

Included: All Aerial Activities, Food, Lodging, one Dinner at Wildcatter Ranch Steakhouse.

Not Included: Airfare, Transportation to/from Airport/Ranch.

Payment can be made by check to Banyan Aerial, LLC. Mail to:

Jordann Baker Skipper
182 Blossom Valley Stream
Buda, TX 78610

or Venmo to Jordann-Skipper
or PayPal to Circus.Jordann@gmail.com

Please let me know if you have any questions! I can be reached by email or by phone at 347-860-2323. If you are registering for the retreat, please fill out and return the Participant Information form and return to me with your deposit. If you need to set up a payment plan with me, different from what is specified above, please reach out and I'll be happy to work something out with you :)

Thank you for your interest in the Aerial Ranch Retreat and I hope to fly with you this April!!

Jordann

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Thursday, April 21st:

Please arrive at the Ranch House (Adjacent to Wildcatter Ranch) between 5:30-7:30pm.
7:30pm Group Dinner at Ranch House
8:30pm Orientation & Rigging in Barn

Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon April 22-25th:

Breakfast on your own - many grocery items are stocked and available.
10:00am-12:30 Open Training
1:00-2:00pm Lunch
2:00-4:00pm Free time
4:00-4:30pm Guided Group Warm-up
4:30-6:00pm Creative Choreography Workshop
6:00-6:30pm Vertical Technique Workshop (optional)
~8:00pm Sunset!
7:30-8:30pm Dinner (One night will be dinner out at the **Steakhouse at Wildcatter Ranch!**)

Friday morning we will load in mats before Open Training and Monday evening we will de-rig in the early evening before dinner.

Tuesday, April 26th:

Breakfast on your own, participants depart.

What to Bring?

- Aerial Training Clothes (TX weather can fluctuate a lot! Bring layers/options)
- Lounge clothes
- One casual-cute outfit for Steakhouse group dinner.
- Swimsuit
- Sunblock/Hat
- Notebook
- Inspirational Music
- Body tools (foam roller, massage balls, thera-bands)
- Aerial Apparatus* (This is detailed on the Registration Form. I will have many of you bring equipment and accompanying hardware to share, so that we can have a full complement of equipment for the group to use and share.)