

The Whip Artistry Studio

PO BOX 104 Jamestown, OH 45335 Ph: 937-902-4857
WWW.THEWHIPSTUDIO.COM

Gery L. Deer is an award winning, professional, *whip master and performer*. Gery has been handling whips professionally since the late 1980s and holds multiple titles in whip speed and accuracy competitions, international and regional.

He regularly serves as a technical advisor to film studios and theatrical productions around the country and his custom whip holstering and accessory equipment has been used in practical work and theatrical productions, worldwide. In 2003 he provided whip equipment and consulting for the Universal Studios film, *The Rundown*.

Gery's work has been featured in film and television production companies like NBC/Universal television, Warner Brothers, Tribune Entertainment and television programs like "*America's Got Talent*," "*The Bonnie Hunt Show*" and "*Steve Harvey's Big Time*."

In 2009, Gery served as co-producer and stunt coordinator for "*Cliffhanger*," the Experimental Microfilm of the Year at the World Stunt Association's "Indie Gathering Film Festival." In 2007, he was named **Wild West Performer of the Year** and the only whip artist to date to be inducted into the International Knife Throwers Hall of Fame.

The Whip Artistry Studio opened in 1998 and it remains the only permanent facility in the United States dedicated to whip arts. There are plenty of people to learn from out there, but few, like Gery, are whip specialists and professional instructors.

In addition to private and group lessons and specialty workshops, the studio also provides entertainment services. Since 2002, The Whip Artistry Studio has also sponsored one of the largest and longest running whip artistry competition conventions in the United States every summer during the Annie Oakley Festival in Greenville, Ohio.

Offering specialized, *non-combative* whip training for the hobbyist and the professional using proven methods specifically developed for whip artistry in the following areas:

- **Basic through Advanced Whip Handling**
- **Whip Types & Selection / Safety**
- **Care & Maintenance / Repairs**
- **Performance & Competition**
- **Style & Showmanship**
- **Whip Stunt Choreographic Training**
- **Whip Artistry for Theatre and Film**
- **Sport / Fitness Whip Handling**

Sessions are offered throughout the year on a regular schedule at the studio or brought to your location. Call for reservation.

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GUIDELINES

Whip Cracking vs. Whip Artistry.

Everything you need to know to crack a whip and just make a noise can be learned in less than 5 minutes. But whip 'cracking' and whip 'artistry' are not the same things. Anyone can 'crack' a whip, but if someone wants to learn the skill of whip handling, the finesse of precision whip artistry, and the fun of sport whip cracking and wants to become proficient at it, even as a hobbyist, we recommend at least a 6-week lesson plan.

On-site or "at your location" classes.

To schedule a class for your location, we will need the specs of your facility (must be indoors) including ceiling height and complete dimensions, not just square footage, the number of students and their ages. Any travel expenses will be in addition to the listed class fee and will be determined in advance. A contract and deposit are required. If you want us to supply whips for the class each student will need to buy one. We have a standard 'starter' whip that costs about \$140 – cowhide with a wooden handle and modified with an Australian fall and popper. We will need a minimum 3-weeks advance notice to order the whips and they must be pre-paid. PayPal, checks or money orders are accepted.

Safety Equipment: Long-sleeved shirt and pants, closed-toed shoes, a wide-brimmed hat or hooded sweatshirt and safety glasses / goggles.

Whips for your classes:

If you own a whip already it must be approved by the instructor before use in any studio class.

If you do NOT own a whip, you will have the opportunity to try many different types at your first individual lesson and the instructor will help you choose a whip that is right for you. Starter whip costs range from \$140 through \$700, depending on the type, materials, and style. A continuing student is required to have his or her own equipment by the third lesson.

Be prepared to take video and photos.

If you'd like to record your session for study during your practices, bring your smart phone, camera-equipped tablet, or video camera. This can help you go over something you're having trouble with between lessons and make your paid lesson time more productive. *Note: The video cannot be used commercially, posted online in part or in its entirety, and may not be distributed in any fashion without express written permission. Signing the registration form is an acknowledgment and agreement of video usage restrictions here.*

Reservations & Payment: All sessions at The Whip Artistry Studio require reservations so call or email if you're interested. A deposit may be required for your session with any balance due at the time of the lesson. Classes of more than two hours or scheduled at an off-site location require a 50% deposit. Cash / Checks. Credit cards are accepted on purchases over \$50 with a 5% convenience fee.

Photo ID required:

Unlike freebie workshops and public whip meetups, The Whip Artistry Studio is a professionally operated and insured training center. All students must present state-issued photo identification and no one under the age of 18 is admitted without a legal guardian. A background check may also be required, depending on the activity.

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Class Listing

Individual Lessons (Course Number WC1)

This is a one-on-one lesson with senior instructor Gery L. Deer. The first session is used to estimate your potential and determine what type of whip suits you the best. Each lesson is 1 hour and is planned according to the progress and goals of the student. Everyone proceeds differently, as in music or sports lessons, so your progress will depend on your enthusiasm, commitment, and practice, practice, practice! Individual lessons can be scheduled weekdays and Saturday. Closed on Sunday and reservations and deposits are required.

In-Studio: Hourly: \$50, 5-Lesson Package: \$200, 10-Lesson Package: \$400.

Off-site available at an additional fee and travel costs.

One-Day Whip Artistry Course (Course Number W1D)

This session is a 6-hour condensed version of the weekend whip session. Scheduled to suit instructor and student calendar 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The course covers a historical overview of whip arts, 5 basic whip cracks, safety, whip selection, a look inside a professional bullwhip's construction, care and maintenance, and basic targeting techniques.

In-Studio: \$475 per person, Off-Site: \$625 + travel costs. Off-site available at an additional fee and travel costs.

Two-Day Whip Artistry Course (Course Number W2D)

The weekend whip session is a two-day comprehensive whip artistry course that runs from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on two consecutive days. The course covers a historical overview of whip arts, all major whip cracks, safety, whip selection, a look inside a professional bullwhip's construction, care and maintenance, and basic targeting techniques. Watch website for schedule. Refreshments and lunch are provided both days.

In-Studio: \$475 per person, Off-Site: \$625 + travel costs. Off-site available at an additional fee and travel costs.

Whips for Purchase

While we do offer limited sales of accessory items such as holsters and belts, The Whip Artistry Studio is not a retail business. Whips are not available for purchase at our studio but we can help you determine what to buy and direct you to the appropriate supplier.

Deposits are required to reserve whip lesson time for all course descriptions. Whips are NOT supplied for any session unless arranged in advance and pre-paid. Course information subject to change without notice. Call for up-to-date information.

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Whip Course Registration Form

*Student Name: _____ Parent/Guardian _____

Address: _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Birth Date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Course Number Requested: _____ Date(s): _____ Listed Price:\$ _____

Whip & Safety Equipment: *Student will not be permitted to participate without safety equipment. Student-owned equipment is subject to instructor approval. Student may be charged for the use of safety equipment if they bring unapproved items to class. After the 2nd lesson, student is required to purchase an approved whip to continue lessons. All fees are non-refundable.*

Have my own whip. I need a whip (Notify Instructor - \$20 per day charge)

I have eye protection. I need eye protection

Disclaimers / Waivers – Student or Guardian please initial each line and sign at the bottom.

1. _____ **Non-combative whip artistry.** I, the student, understand that my lessons are for entertainment purposes only and are not to be interpreted as training for neither martial arts, or offensive or defensive fighting in any manner.
2. _____ **Assumption of risk and liability.** I understand that I assume the risk of my actions regarding whip artistry practice and application. I hereby free Gery L. Deer, GLD Enterprises Communications, Ltd., The Whip Artistry Studio, the family of Gery L. Deer, and all agents and associates, personal and professional associates, from any all liability for injuries or property damage sustained as a result of training session, in or outside the studio, from the time of arrival to departure from the property, or subsequent practicing, or for the injury of myself or others by my hand. (Long sleeves, jeans, and a wide-brimmed hat are recommended.)
3. _____ **Statement of Purpose.** My desire to learn the art of the whip is in no way undertaken for the purpose of threatening or doing harm to other people or animals.
4. _____ **Understanding of Instructor's Discretion.** Gery L. Deer will determine the course and progression of the lessons as instructor / workshop leader.

Student/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

* Legal name is required and ID may be requested. Minor students must have form filled out and signed by parent or legal guardian. Legal guardian **MUST BE PRESENT** at all activities.