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## Improv group brings art to area

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Gina Trimarco, founder and executive producer of entertaining training for the Carolina Improv Company, hopes to bring something different to the Grand Strand's cultural scene with a variety of improv classes and shows.

Theater buffs and first-timers alike are welcome to join the company and learn all about the art.

Kimberly Miles, public relations manager for the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, is one of several actors in the company. Although Miles had experience in theater and acting, she hadn't done any improv acting.

"I was very supportive of her [Trimarco] starting improv classes because I thought it was lacking in the Myrtle Beach [area]," said Miles. "It's great when new arts or culture pops up here."

Marilou Cook, a retired teacher, is another member of Carolina Improv. Cook majored in theater, is a former drama teacher and directed community theater. Even though Cook has a strong theater background, she believes improv is great for everyone.

"It truly is for everybody and anybody, and it doesn't matter how old you are," Cook said. "I think it helps you stay involved in what's going on in the world. You have to have a general knowledge of current events; it's a wonderful art form."

Karen Bland is involved in several theater companies in the area, including the play readers who perform unstaged readings of plays or one-act shows.

"The one thing that's great about scripted plays and improv is that once you're in the zone, you aren't nervous," Bland said. "When it's flowing, it's so much fun. Half the time you're not even trying, but what you're doing turns out to be funny."

The company performs every Sunday at 4:30 p.m. at Docksiders in Barefoot Landing in North Myrtle Beach. All of the shows are free.

The company will perform at The Market Common's Art Walk on Aug. 8. Trimarco is in the process of finding a permanent location so the company can perform on a regular basis. Classes for adults and children are available.

**Carolina Improv Company**  
**597-6393 or [www.carolinaimprov.com](http://www.carolinaimprov.com)**