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**IMPROV CLASSES CONTINUE AT THEATRE OF THE REPUBLIC
DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND**

Registration for the next Improv 101 class now open – the six week class begins March 30

February 24, 2009, Myrtle Beach, S.C. — Improvisational comedy classes for adults continue at Theatre of the Republic starting March 30 for six consecutive Mondays from 7pm – 9pm and culminating in “graduation” performance show. The current Improv 101 class that started on February 2 filled up quickly and sold out. Space is limited for the class and participants must be 18 years or older. Theatrical experience is not required and is open to anyone interested in improving in a variety of life skills. Gina Trimarco of Carolina Improv Company (CIC) is teaching the class. To register, call the theatre directly at 488-0821 or CIC at 1.843.597.6393. For more information about improv or to register online, visit www.carolinaimprov.com.

For those unfamiliar with the art of improv, the quickest way to explain it is to equate to the television show “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” in which actors instantly invent unrehearsed skits, games or songs, relying only on their quick wit and improvisational skills. Improv classes are not just for actors because they provide the tools for anyone interested in learning how to think quick on their feet, be spontaneous, be more creative, become more flexible and much more.

Carolina Improv Company (CIC) instructor Gina Trimarco, a Chicago native, studied improv at Second City, where many actors got their start, such as Tina Fey, Mike Myers, Stephen Colbert, George Wendt, Chris Farley, Bill Murray, Bonnie Hunt and John and Jim Belushi. What started out as a hobby for Gina, turned into a foundation for every day life. “The primary tool of improv is re-learning how to say ‘yes’ to whatever presents itself to you in life. When you say ‘yes’ life becomes more interesting and less restrictive. Just watch how children behave. Anything is possible to a child. We forget that as adults,” says Trimarco. “This concept can be applied to anything in life,” she continues. Improv training during Trimarco’s college years helped her land a career in television and film production and ultimately as a marketing director for entertainment companies.

Improv 101 explores the basics of comedy improvisation: team building, trust, speed, status, active listening and agreement (saying “yes and ...”). Students learn to be fearless and have fun on stage and in life using what they learn in class. Classes are approximately two hours per week on Monday nights for six weeks starting March 30 and ending May 4. A graduation show for friends and family will follow. This class is for anyone willing to learn new skills in a safe, non-judgemental and team-oriented environment. It’s not about being funny, but funny often happens. The six-week class costs \$150 for approximately 12 hours of training.

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Page 2/Improv classes continue at TOR

CIC also offers corporate workshops to help organizations improve their abilities to connect with others, solve unexpected problems in the moment, and create better ways of working. Improvisational skills are vital in business, especially in the age of virtual teams and lightning fast change. Improvisers can create something out of nothing, which is important for creating new ideas, fostering relationships and adjusting to change. These skills can apply to all industries and job categories and is especially perfect for anyone in customer service or leadership positions.

About Carolina Improv Company

In need for a refresher improv class to re-energize her, Gina Trimarco searched and searched for a place to take classes. When she discovered that improv did not exist in Myrtle Beach, someone suggested that she teach classes instead and Carolina Improv Company was born in September 2008. Originally from Chicago, Gina studied improv at the famed Second City while her career in entertainment marketing blossomed. Carolina Improv Company offers improv classes to adults and teambuilding and public speaking training to groups and organizations. In the future Carolina Improv Company will offer improv comedy shows to locals and tourists. For more information, visit www.carolinaimprov.com or call 1.843.597.6393.

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