



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CAROLINA IMPROV COMPANY ANNOUNCES A FREE, ONE-NIGHT IMPROV WORKSHOP  
FOR ADULTS WHO WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT IMPROVISATION BEFORE  
REGISTERING FOR UPCOMING CLASSES**

*New classes for adults beginning in May, along with a new class for children*

**April 14, 2009, Myrtle Beach, S.C.** — Carolina Improv Company is offering a free one-night improv workshop for anyone who is interested in taking improv classes but want to “test drive” them first. The workshop will take place on Wednesday, May 6 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm at Southern Portraits & Accents at 3901 N. Kings Highway in Myrtle Beach. Enrollment is limited and advanced registration is required at [www.carolinaimprov.com](http://www.carolinaimprov.com). Registration is also available for the six-week Improv 101 class taking place at two different locations, in addition to a new class for children ages nine to 12. Adult Improv 101 classes start on May 11 at Theatre of the Republic and on May 13 at Southern Portraits & Accents. Both classes meet weekly for six weeks from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. Kids Intro to Acting & Improv begins on May 13 for six consecutive Wednesdays at Southern Portraits & Accents from 4:00-5:00pm. 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. For more information about improv or to register online, visit [www.carolinaimprov.com](http://www.carolinaimprov.com) or call 1-843-597-6393.

“There’s been many requests for classes for children as well as a Myrtle Beach location, so we’ve partnered with Southern Portraits & Accents to offer additional classes at their studio while continuing to offer classes at Theatre of the Republic,” says Gina Trimarco, founder of Carolina Improv Company. Southern Portraits & Accents also will offer a discount for photography services for CIC students. “We’re looking forward to this collaboration with Carolina Improv Company for the opportunity to offer photography to both children and adults who may need photography services for their future performance aspirations,” says Cynthia Chilton, owner of Southern Portraits & Accents.

Improv 101 explores the basics of comedy improvisation: team building, trust, speed, status, active listening and agreement. 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 May 11 and ending June 22 at Theatre of the Republic. An additional Improv 101 class on Wednesday nights starts May 13 at Southern Portraits & Accents, ending on June 17. A graduation show for friends and family will follow. Improv 101 is for anyone willing to learn new skills in a safe, non-judgmental and team-oriented environment while having fun. “It’s not about being funny, but funny often happens,” says Trimarco. The six-week class costs \$150 for approximately 12 hours of training. Kids Intro to Acting & Improv is a new six-week class for children ages nine to 12, costs \$90 and will cover the fundamentals of acting and improvisation. For full details on kids classes or to register for classes people should go to [www.carolinaimprov.com](http://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.

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Several Grand Strand residents have taken improv classes at CIC. Students who enroll come from all walks of life; from stay-at-home moms to doctors. Kim Hecker, veterinary technician, and graduate of Improv 101 says, "I most enjoyed meeting new people and learning to think on my feet. I learned that improv is not impossible, even if you've not done it before, as long as you keep an open mind and be accepting." Barbara Belyski, sales consultant for Tastefully Simple and also a recent improv student says, "If I could pin point one thing that really helped me get through the first class it was the fact of knowing that everyone was in the same boat. We were not there to judge or be judged. Gina provided a very trusting atmosphere. I appreciated that. It's not very often that you can walk into a room filled with 12 strangers and be able to express yourself freely. What happened in improv stayed in improv, at least for me."

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 everyday 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.

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](http://www.carolinaimprov.com) or call 1.843.597.6393.

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