

Meet Carey's Improv All-Stars

Kathy Kinney

As Mimi on *The Drew Carey Show*, she created a comic character that will live forever in reruns. She's a good actress without the clown make-up; check her out in the 1993 Leonardo DiCaprio film *This Boy's Life*.



Greg Proops
Talented comic appeared on the British and American versions of *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* On the big screen, he did voice work for *Star Wars: Episode 1 — The Phantom Menace*.



Chip Esten
Another veteran of both *Whose Line* shows. Lots of TV guest work, including a running bit on *Party of Five*.

Jeff Davis

Another familiar TV face, known from guest-starring roles on *The Drew Carey Show* and *The Norm Show*. As a kid, he starred in a revival of *The King and I* on Broadway.



Sean Masterson
An alumnus of the Second City troupe, he recently wrote a screenplay, *Live Bait*. His co-writer is Ryan Stiles, Lewis from *The Drew Carey Show*.



Jonathan Mangum
He spent two seasons on *The Drew Carey Show* and was a regular on *The Wayne Brady Show*.



MORE CHOICES

Improv troupes in the Valley

If you can't see Drew Carey and the Improv All-Stars this weekend, here's another option: Attend an upcoming show by the local improv troupe Galapagos. Members offer performances that are inspired, original and a lot more thoughtful than what you get on a typical *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* Here is a rundown on local Improv groups:



DAVID KADLUBOWSKI/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

They are Galapagos (from left): Bill Binder, Jose Gonzalez, Shane Shannon, the head of Jon Jahrmarkt and Mark Jordan.

GALAPAGOS

Founded: 2003.

Fast fact: Devoted to long-form improvisation based on ensemble work.

Contact: www.galapagosimprov.com.

See them:

Nov. 5. Trunk Space, 1506 N.W. Grand Ave., Phoenix. \$5. (602) 697-8246.

APOLLO 12

Founded: 1998.

Fast fact: Yes, the name is based on the vessel that made man's second journey to the moon. It seems the astronauts had a sense of humor.

Contact: www.apollo-12.com.

See them: Second and fourth Wednesdays of every month at Trunk Space, 1506 N.W. Grand Ave., Phoenix. \$5.

BARREN MIND

Founded: 1994.

Fast fact: ASU students comprise this troupe.

Contact: www.asucomey.com.

See them: 12:15-1:30 p.m. Thursdays at ASU Memorial Union stage, Tempe. Free.

THE JESTER'Z

Founded: 1991.

Fast fact: The troupe also offers weekly classes in improvisation.

Contact: www.theater168.com.

See them: 8 p.m. Thursdays, 8 and 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Theater 168, 7117 E. McDowell Road, Scottsdale. \$8 and \$10. (480) 423-0120.

THE ORIGINALS

Founded: March 2005.

Fast fact: From the troupe Web site: "While just doing 'blue' humor for the sake of doing 'blue' humor is sad and not funny, we do not censor ourselves."

Contact: www.theoriginalsimprov.com.

See them: 8 p.m. Sundays, Mardi Gras Comedy Club, 8040 E. McDowell Road, Scottsdale. \$8. (480) 948-4030. 8 p.m. Oct. 28 and 8 p.m. Nov. 18 and 19, Four White Walls, 1023 N.W. Grand Ave., Phoenix. \$8. (602) 705-4936.

For more information on improv in the Valley: phoeniximprov.com.

Improv on the radio

Improv usually involves comedy, and there are places to keep the laughs coming if you're in the car:

KPHX-AM (1480)

The Valley's all-comedy radio station. Funny disc jockeys, funny shows and bits by national comedians.

Sirius (satellite radio)

Raw Dog Comedy: Uncensored comedy and shows by Jim Breuer and Vincent Pastore from *The Sopranos*.

Laugh Break Comedy: Humor clean enough for everyone, with bits by Ray Romano, Jerry Seinfeld and others.

XM (satellite radio)

XM Comedy: Uncensored comedy, from current favorites Lewis Black and David Cross to Cheech and Chong and *National Lampoon*.

Laugh USA: The PG-13 side of XM humor. Bill Cosby, Steve Martin and Jeff Foxworthy are among the mirthmakers in rotation.