COMEDY ARTS CONCENTRATION GUIDE

VIRTUAL SUMMER 2020

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

We're going digital and we're excited! Why would we want to do comedy on the internet? Because never before have aspiring comedians had the same technical resources as the folks at SNL and The Second City! Here at DePaul's Summer Program in Comedy Arts, we're running with this opportunity and taking it straight online to push ourselves to create in new and innovative ways!

The Comedy Arts concentration will prepare students to be highly adaptable multidisciplinary comedy creators. Students will build the knowledge and skills to perform, write, direct, and produce their own original comedy as individuals and an ensemble in a fun, fast-paced environment. Comedy always responds to the moment it exists in, so students will primarily focus on relevant practices and platforms in creating and producing digital comedy, equipping students with the ability to create and produce their own original content and share it across a broad array of platforms. We're seizing the moment we're in with a typical Chicago "Yes, And" attitude to see the unique opportunity at hand! Courses in improvisation, sketch comedy, and standup will anchor the program with additional workshops and masterclasses in special topics (and special instructors!).

COMEDY ARTS SAMPLE SCHEDULE

The Theatre School at DePaul's Summer High School Training Program

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
11am-1pm	Improv	Improv	Improv	Improv	Stand Up
1pm-2pm	Break	Break	Break	Break	Specials
2pm-4pm	Sketch	Sketch	Sketch	Playwriting	Specials
4pm-5pm	Tech Lab	Sketch	Tech Lab	Playwriting	Specials

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SAMPLE SCHEDULE
(CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME)
Includes daily writing/digital content assignments, viewing & reading assignments.

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MONDAY

11:00-1:00pm	Improv
1:00-2:00pm	Lunch w/ optional Zoom hangouts
2:00-4:00pm	Sketch Comedy
4:00-5:00pm	Tech Lab

TUESDAY

11:00-1:00pm	Improv
1:00-2:00pm	Lunch w/ optional Zoom hangouts
2:00-5:00pm	Sketch Comedy
Evening:	Improv show & post-show Zoom hangout

WEDNESDAY

11:00-1:00pm	Improv
1:00-2:00pm	Lunch w/ optional Zoom hangouts
2:00-4:00pm	Sketch Comedy
4:00-5:00pm	Tech Lab

THURSDAY

11:00-1:00pm	Improv
1:00-2:00pm	Lunch w/ optional Zoom hangouts
2:00-5:00pm	Playwriting
Evening:	Sketch show & post-show Zoom hangout

FRIDAY

11:00-1:00pm	Stand up
2:00-5:00pm	Specials (online writing, musical improv, live lit/storytelling, clown)

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Improv: Students will learn to practice and perform an improvisational mindset rooted in the philosophy of "yes, and". Short and long form improvisation, character work, styles and genre, and scenic improvisation will all be explored. Students will participate in a weekly live online improv show that friends and family are invited to watch.

Sketch Comedy: Students will explore the theory and technique of crafting original sketch comedy for digital media. Structure, joke writing, satire, point of view, writers room best practices, and writing to spec will all be covered in this course. Students will create and present original sketches daily for feedback and development and will work both individually and collaboratively. Students will create two live digital sketch comedy shows consisting of both live and pre-recorded work that friends and family are invited to watch.

Stand Up: Students will learn how to craft and deliver original standup comedy. Topics like joke construction, persona, crowd work, styles, storytelling, and sourcing material will be covered. Students will perform in a weekly online open mic to test their material.

Tech Lab: Students will work with a digital stage manager to build skills in areas like editing, technical tools, and production tricks, while learning to troubleshoot tech and production needs necessary for their digital content creation.

Special Topics: Topics might include, online writing, storytelling, playwriting, musical improv, clown, drag comedy, marketing and branding, tiktok content creation, screenwriting, live lit creation and performance, comedic songwriting, podcasting, animation, voiceover, satire, comedy history, and others.

SHOWCASE

Showcase will be a combination of recorded and live pieces.

SUPPLIES

As a Comedy Arts student you will be receiving in the mail the necessary supplies to succeed in your program. Please make sure that your mailing address is up to date on your portal page!