



# AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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# CONTINUING EDUCATION

## Improvisation I For The Actor

Teacher: Luke Wallens, RDT  
Contact: luke.wallens@austincc.edu

### Course Description:

Improv is an indispensable asset for the actor, a great tool for development and self-discovery, and — maybe most important — FUN. In this class, we will explore the fundamental improv skills of paying close attention and reacting honestly, the essential ingredients of compelling scene work. It's not about thinking fast or being funny! This class is open to everyone, from actors who want to upgrade their technical toolkit to people with no performance experience who want to try something a little challenging (but FUN!) in a super-supportive environment.

### Course Objectives:

- To learn the essential principles of improvised theatrical performance
- To understand the importance of unconditional support and put it into practice
- To create characters both from the inside out (motivation creating behavior) and from the outside in (behavior implying motivation)
- To learn how to recognize and develop patterns in scenework
- To strengthen the skills of listening, observing, and paying close attention to our scene partners

### Rationale:

To introduce performers and non-performers to both the practical techniques and philosophical underpinnings of modern improv

### Required Materials:

Yourself!

### Course Outline:

Week 1: Basic principles of improv with a focus on unconditional support (the “yes” in “yes-and”)

Week 2: Building a scene (the “and” in “yes-and”)

Week 3: Creating a reality: environment, endowments, and specificity

Week 4: Developing characters

Week 5: Finding character story arcs

Week 6: Cumulative application of techniques; addressing specific questions