Improvising Our Education

A Capstone Project
By Nic Chase

At the 2015 PCC Honors Symposium
Performing Arts Lobby, Sylvania
May 8 at 10:00 a.m.

"Authentic thinking, thinking that is concerned about reality does not take place in ivory tower isolation, but only in communication.”
-Paulo Freire

Unfortunately, the college educational system is oftentimes a “teacher-focused” affair. The ivory tower is solidified by lesson plans, scripted lectures, and power points. Like an overbearing theater director, the instructor controls the entire production, safe in isolation.

The general philosophy that creates the most entertaining, enlightening, and exhilarating improv scenes as well as the practical techniques, tools, and games the improv pro’s use to hone their craft create a blueprint for a more equitable, enriching education. The learners are also teachers, the teacher also a learner. Improv connects us; through this connection, we can create a healthier learning environment.