

TESTIMONIALS FOR TIM DAVIS

"Tim Davis teaches the single most difficult thing in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, which is riffing new comedy in front of a live audience."

Dr. Steven Phillipson, Director

Center for Cognitive Behavioral Psychotherapy, New York City

EDUCATION:::

"Tim Davis consistently receives rave reviews from teachers participating in his class *Transforming from Teacher to Learning Coach*. His workshops provide useful knowledge for teachers to use with students in their classrooms, as well as techniques and tools for their professional and personal growth.

His *Stand-Up Comedy Class for Beginners* has also been very successful at PVCC. Students of all ages, including seniors, learn techniques to help them overcome the fear of failure, alleviate negative thought patterns, and eliminate state anxiety. Tim's students now host a popular 'Comedy Stop' Showcase on campus where they perform using the techniques they have learned.

Tim's insight into the art of negotiation and his riffing techniques have helped countless professional improve the way they conduct business. Tim is not only a fun person to know, but he is a dedicated professional and passionate enough about his work to really make a difference in our community."

Judi Anderson, Director of Continuing Education

Center for Business and Workforce Development
Paradise Valley Community College, Phoenix, Arizona

"Tim Davis was not only extraordinarily cooperative and generous with his help and advice, he is also enormously knowledgeable about and sensitive to the needs of the performers, directors and the technicians who put on shows. He always made me and my Juilliard colleagues feel that we were in totally professional, responsible and caring hands."

Harold Stone, Administrative Director

The Juilliard School, New York City

"Tim Davis really inspired the high school and college teachers who took his class on our campus. His evaluations were outstanding! I'm glad he'll be back next semester."

Suzanne Higgins, Coordinator

Center for Community Education - Glendale Community College
Glendale, Arizona

"If you have a fear of talking in front of people because you fear rejection, Tim Davis can help you. In November, 2002, Tim Davis visited Junior High students in Mrs. Rich's art class at Cordova Middle School. His main objective was to get students to realize that labeling other people actually limits personal growth. When you attach labels, judgments are being made that increase personal fears about what other people think about you. This can cause an insurmountable fear that makes being noticed and heard by others a nightmare. To combat this fear, Mr. Davis introduces a way for students to create something in the moment, a way to problem solve while talking in front of a crowd.

The process he utilizes is called riffing. It is the same technique stand-up comedians like Robin Williams use. Students that volunteered were given a topic to talk about while standing in front of their peers. As they start talking their mind creates choices, and they learn to trust that something will happen: words will come, connections will be made, and they will make sense. The intense feeling created by working through the fear of being judged by others creates confidence and the knowledge that rejection isn't as big of a worry anymore. Mr. Davis emphasized by facing fear of rejection situations like talking in front of your peers, job interviews, and college interviews become easier to handle.

Once that fear of being judged and rejected is addressed, students can learn that there is an art of negotiation. Sales people use negotiation to sell their products. Students were told they could actually persuade people to think the way they do. By learning what the other person wants in return for what you want, you can negotiate a deal. This positive approach would be more successful than trying to take what you want or tricking someone into doing something. Mr. Davis shared some valuable life lessons: labeling others causes you to fear judgments from others, the feeling of rejection can change into confidence, and there is an art of negotiation that is a positive way to get what you want."

Patti Rich, Art Teacher

Cordova Middle School, Phoenix, Arizona

"The course (So, What's So Funny About New York?) will not be the same without Tim Davis. The students love him. Not only do they find his analysis and theories of stand up informative and helpful as they prepare their material, they find his lessons relevant to life in general. This is Tim's greatest strength; he understands that the tools required to perform stand up are the same tools required to live life. And he is able to make the students really understand this. In short, Tim is outstanding. He is a great person and a great teacher."

Cornelia F. Cody, Adjunct Faculty

New York University Department of Undergraduate Drama, New York City

"Tim Davis is extremely personable and can relate his own life to ours. I needed this class. Tim Davis did more for my self-esteem than therapy has for me!"

Mary Ann Hintz, Teacher

Tolleson Union High School, Tolleson, AZ