

Class Descriptions for ATC Convention
March 2, 3, 2012

Taught by Leon “Oz” McBryde

Performance

There is more to the Art of clowning than just clowning around. We are performers and entertainers that use the Art of clowning to bring laughter. You won't want to miss this master class as Leon helps us all to improve our performance skills.

Character Development

Join Leon as he shares from his years of clowning and training clowns, how you can fully develop your clown character.

Makeup Techniques

Breaking bad habits and getting with the 21st century – what is new that we can use today to help us be better prepared for the future in makeup. These techniques can be used with any brand of makeup. I will teach you how to make a makeup survival kit to take with you on the job. When we're green we grow; when we're ripe, we rot. (You do not need to bring any makeup to class with you) This is not a hands-on class.

Recipe for Successful Clowning

This lecture is a look back over years of clowning and some of the things that I have found necessary to be a successful clown – it is based on experience, not theory or books. It will inspire and motivate you to excel in the art of Clowning. A must for new and not-so-new clowns alike.

Memories and Friends and 8 x 10's

Sit back, listen and enjoy a glimpse of clown and circus history as Leon shares memories, photos and memorabilia from his experiences over his 40+ years of clowning. You don't want to miss this one.

Taught by Brenda “Flower” Marshall

Clown Ministry: Balloons to Songs

Silly songs, puppets and balloons! We will learn some fun songs to sing with kids (even if you can't sing!) and some balloon sculptures that help present the message. We will also look at basic puppetry and how to use puppets in your clown ministry programs.

Hospital Clowning

The basics of hospital clowning can be learned through improvisation. In this class we will explore entering a hospital room, how to play with the patient, family members and hospital staff and general ideas on how clowns can be therapeutic.

Teaching a Clown Class

Who is teaching the teachers? Learn how to cover the basics of clowning for a beginning clown class.

Props for Your Hospital Bag

Some days your success in the hospital can be measured by what you brought in your bag. We'll explore a multitude of inexpensive prop ideas and give you some tools to come up with some of your own.

Gospel Magic Lab

Your favorite magic tricks can be used in gospel presentations. Learn how to choose your magic to illustrate the message. We'll explore the possibilities with a few tried and true illusions.

Taught by Buddy "Mr. Bud" Lamb

So you want to be a Christian Clown? Let's start at the very beginning....

This class is for beginners and those new to clowning and clown ministry. We will cover the basics and provide lots of information to help you get started on the right foot.

The Serious Side of Humor

Proverb 17: 22 A merry heart does good like a medicine: but a broken spirit dries the bones. The value of humor has been heavily researched and documented. The class looks at some of this research and applies it to Christian clowning.

HeartForm Clowning

"Clowning is more than an Art form, It is a Heart Form." This class will discuss *Foundational* principles for Christian clowning. Also answer: How do we justify clowning Biblically? Why do we clown as Christian? Is it OK for a clown to "represent" Christ?

Rope magic

You will leave this class knowing rope tricks. This will be a "hands on" experience. Ropes pack small and play big. Add some rope tricks to your act.

Sponge ball magic

Sponge balls work in almost every situation. Learn how to do "real" magic with sponge balls. Bring your own sponge balls if you have them or borrow some of mine.

Taught by DJ Ehlert

Twisting 101

This is a basic twisting workshop designed to educate new twisters with the basics of inflation and twisting. Once the basics are covered we go into a hands on session where together we have a lot of fun twisting some really nice 260 creations.

Extraordinary Birthday Parties

This workshop starts out as an actual birthday party performance where those attending become the birthday party attendees ;o) Then we switch gears and break down the process of setting up and performing these outrageously fun shows as well as covering some of the important business aspects of birthday performing.

Closeup magic (walk-around, restaurant, etc)

As performers we are often asked to perform "on the spot". If you do perform something impromptu it should appear "off the cuff" but in reality be a solid effect... Discover the power of close up magic and how you can perform great routines right away. You will also find out the three things that you should always be ready with!

Stage magic

Do you enjoy some of the "Classics" of stage magic? They say classics are classics for a reason. Come and experience for yourself a few classic magical stage effects and then discover for yourself how to start adding these classics to your repertoire!

Marketing and web design

This workshop will enable you to avoid common pitfalls and get your website up and running quickly. Many people avoid this very important tool for promoting as it was very technical in years past. Discover for yourself how the process of creating your own website is easier than ever before.

Taught by Steve Kissell

Making Paper Magic

This class has 20 easy to perform and make that are entertaining routines that will wow the audience of one to 100. Learn how to make your own paper hat tear and even create a cut and restored newspaper.

50 Performance Tips for Entertainers

Everything from Audience involvement to Zany introductions will be discussed in this session. Learn to be a better performer with attention to details. You will leave this workshop a better performer!

Creative Skit Writing & Improv

Experience an audience involved session by discovering fresh idea to enhance your performances. Dress in loose clothing for this one!

Family fun shows

Do you like games, contests and lots of audience participation? This playshop is for you! These time-tested routines are great for young children and seniors as well. Learn how to set up and structure a fun performance involving comedy magic, MC work, puppets, clowning, music and LOTS of hilarious audience participation. EVERYONE has a great time!

Magic and Storytelling

Share in the surprising delight of learning over a dozen magical stories that will enlighten your magical performance. This is one of the most requested playshops. Learn the skills you need to combine this art form with others. Great for working with libraries, daycare's, schools and birthday parties. This presentation is very audience involved, so get ready to have fun!

Taught by Sam "Uncle Button" T

Twist with Sam: Gospel Ballooning

Learn how to twist and talk at the same time! Discover how to use the simplest twists of the balloon to convey the gospel message. Both beginning and advanced balloon twisters will benefit from this class.

Intermediate Ballooning

We will get into some more advanced stuff. Like pinch twists, multiple balloon sculptures, etc. Sam will also demonstrate several creations that you can twist without tying knots! You need to know basic balloon twisting to enjoy this class. (bring your ballooning stuff if you have it)

Cross Cultural Clowning / Stories from the Mission Field

A better understanding of different people or groups with their unique culture and practices. Exploration on how culture impacts clown performances also differences and similarities between clowning in Asia and of North America. Discover the joy of our stepping out from comfort zone to where the Lord leads. We are the extended hands of Christ.

Taught by Dean Cotton

Technical stuff – sound, microphones, music, backdrops, etc

We will start with amplified voice and music, the basics of how that works. What equipment is available and where to get it. How to plug it in, and make it work, and what to do when it does not work. And what you might want to have in your just in case bag.

Bells and how to use them

Learn about 8 note handbell sets and ways to use them with volunteers in nursing homes, with children and even adults. You don't need to be "musically inclined" to make beautiful music with these bells. We will discuss the "Kristal Bell Method" bell playing system and show how it works. And other ways to use the bells. A great way to add music and audience participation to your show.

Balloon hats

The title pretty much says it all. We will be focusing on twisting balloons into fun and interesting hats.

Taught by Tony "Jr" Jones

Airbrush and Glitter tats

Feel like you can't do facepainting? Tony will demonstrate these two alternatives to traditional facepainting that you can offer at your gigs. Kids love them and they are easy to do. A set of stencils, some glue and glitter and a little practice, and you are good to go with glitter tattoos. The airbrush takes a bit more investment but it will return to you in no time.

Taught by Nikki "LaLa" Jones

Costuming In The Real World

What is right and wrong in clown costuming? Nikki will explain the ease of accessorizing your existing costume to improve your clown look and give you insight on how to put together your costume on a limited budget. Finally we will discuss how all of this comes together for clowning in the real world.

Taught by Cody “Chexs” Byrns

Intro to Juggling

Cody will be demonstrating and teaching how to juggle the three ball cascade pattern. At the end of the class you will know the fundamentals of juggling. And for those that already know the three ball cascade, Cody can show you variations and tricks to add to your skills. This will be a hands-on class.

Intermediate Juggling and Skills Lab

This class is what is next after the three ball cascade. Cody will demonstrate and help you to tryout moves that will improve and spice up your juggling. There will be time for you to get some one on one coaching.

Creating a Children’s ministry program

Join Cody as he discusses creating and performing ministry programs for children. He has presented programs for camps, Upward programs, children’s crusades, church services, schools, on the mission field, etc, etc. so he shares real world experience.

Taught by Margaret “Dandi” Austin & Debbie “Tanzi” Blythe

Getting started with *face painting* – the foundation

Margaret and Debbie will cover steps to beginning face painting. Walk with them and talk about ideas for your table set up and different brands of face painting supplies. After the beginnings are covered, adding to your face painting kit and hands on learning with brush strokes and simple face designs will finish out the class/lab. Their hope is to help you to get a strong start, whether your face painting is to be for fun or for profit. It is a hands on class, so if you have supplies, bring them with you. (Some supplies will be available to be used and shared.)

Taught by

Brenda “Cassi” Pace, Margaret “Dandi” Austin and Debbie “Tanzi” Blythe

Face Painting – (the next step) and hands on lab

This class and lab will build on the “Getting Started” class, demonstrating more face painting designs and different ways to ‘add’ to simple designs that will surprise and delight. This class will go over sponge painting designs, dry powder face designs and half to full face designs. Brenda will share how she loves to tell stories while she face paints. Bring your facepainting supplies and try out what you learn.