

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Local stand-up comedians do crack-up job

Story by [FREDA FREEMAN](#)

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MISSION VIEJO – The room was full of laughter during Friday's graduation ceremony for local stand-up comedians.

The city's first Students of Stand-Up Comedy Graduation Showcase was held at the Mission Viejo Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center where visitors and guests cheered on the local performers who on their "day job" are college students, school teachers, and restaurant managers.

The students, who worked on their acts for the past six weeks, learned basic joke-writing, stage techniques and ways to overcome stage fright and hecklers.

The 10 comedic graduates are Tammy Descoteaux; Margot Ferron; D. Carole Goodman; Michael Hess; Torey Mang; Robby Millsap; Allan Pilger; Alex Poff; Jordan Sandfer; and Dennis St. Pierre.

The beginning comedy class was taught by veteran stand-up comedian [Tom Riehl](#) of Mission Viejo. [Riehl](#) has worked with well-known comedians [Bob Saget](#), [Paula Poundstone](#) and [Shawn Wayans](#). He was also a winner on ABC's "America's Funniest People" and host of the cooking show "[Food Rules.](#)"

Registration is now being accepted for the next two comedy workshops. A beginner's class will be held from Sept. 8 to Oct. 13 and a more advanced class, Taking Your Stand-Up Comedy Series, will be held from Sept. 7 to Oct. 12; both run 7-9 p.m. To register or for more information, call 949-470-3062.

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