

Learning through laughter

ImprovBoston helped Doherty students learn through comedy sketches

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Normally, learning at school is no joke. But for Doherty Middle School students, learning was all about laughing last week during a school-wide improv performance.

Four ImprovBoston comedians took the stage at Doherty Middle School on Monday, Feb. 22 to present the "4 C's: Lessons of Improv" to Doherty students. The four C's, communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking, were all explored through hands-on

entertainment between the ImprovBoston comedians and students.

"The ImprovBoston cast facilitated the process in such a way, it made the experience very entertaining and educational all at the same time," said Pamela Kline, a member of the Doherty Middle School Cultural Enrichment Committee.

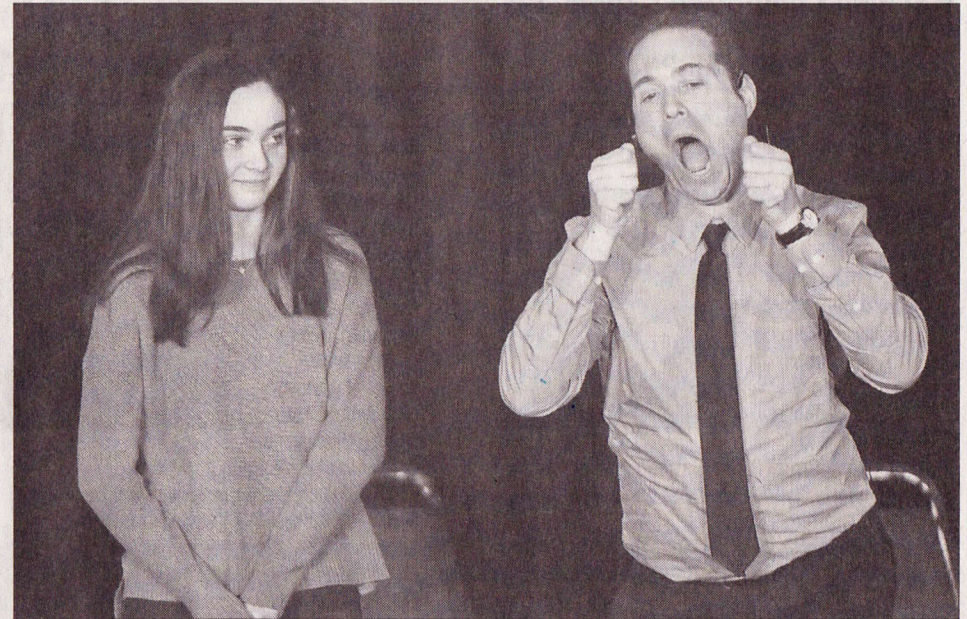
Kelly McFarlan, Ben Scurry, Gregory Scott and Marc Hirsh led the hour-long performance, during which students were invited to volunteer to join the group onstage to participate in various sketches.

Ideas came straight from the students in the audience, and the comedians incorporated those ideas into sketches related to the four C's.

"Because students are so actively engaged in the process," Kline said, "they are invested in the outcome. This was a key consideration when (we) recommended ImprovBoston for the all-school performance at Doherty for this year."

Students also praised the ImprovBoston comedians not only for their humor, but also for their ability to make learning fun.

"I really enjoyed watching



PAUL BILODEAU/Staff photo

Emma Accardi, an 8th-grader, reacts to comedian Marc Hirsh during ImprovBoston's "4 C's Lessons of Improv" at Doherty Middle School.

ImprovBoston, I like how 6th grader Justin Hsu.

it's educational entertain-
ment, it teaches the 4 C's
and its really funny!" said

together," added 6th grader
Tatum Nelson. "They did
a great job getting us
involved and excited!"

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