

THE SWEATHOGS

What are The Sweathogs?

The Sweathogs is an intensive sketch comedy writing and performing lab. It is for those who want to both write and perform. Participants must apply to be accepted. Up to 12 individuals will be chosen. It will be facilitated/directed by Shelley McLendon (Owner of The Siren Theater and Bad Reputation Productions). The Sweathogs will work their asses off, and they will also have a lot of fun while doing so.

What are the dates?

The Sweathogs will meet weekly for 8 weeks both as a group and individually with Shelley beginning in mid-July, culminating in 2 performances of a fully produced show at The Siren Theater in September, 2016. The specific dates will be determined after everyone's availability is considered.

Do I need to have experience?

Shelley is looking for writing that is promising, smart and fresh from people who love comedy and who are great to work with- this type of writing can come from those who have writing/performing experience or those who don't.

How much will it cost?

\$300 for 8 weeks of class, individual meetings with Shelley, and participation in a fully produced and directed show at The Siren Theater. Any props/costumes needed for the show will be at your own expense (but we can often borrow much of what a show needs)

How do I apply?

Deadline to apply is Saturday, July 2nd at midnight

To apply, send an email to badreputationprods@gmail.com and include:

- Your name
- 2-3 original sketches (please send PDFs, does not have to be written with Final Draft or other script writing software)
- a brief description of your writing/performing experience (include everything! Doesn't have to be "professional" work- did you perform skits at summer camp? Do you write just for yourself? Do you teach tap dancing to kids? Mention it!)
- Days/times that work for you to meet for class (class will be 2-3 hours long. Include ANY days/times that work)

What are you looking for?

The Sweathogs will be comprised of individuals:

- **Who are ready to WORK HARD**
This is an intensive lab. It takes a lot of work and commitment to make a great sketch show.
- **Who follow through**
You will be required to complete all assignments and be prepared for each meeting. Applying to be a Sweathog means you are committing to writing/developing a show with a group of people who have made the same commitment.
- **Who work well individually and collaboratively**
The Sweathogs will get things done and work well together! They are honest, direct and encouraging! They are averse to drama, egos and bullshit!
- **Who want to be pushed creatively, and who take criticism well**
The Sweathogs will be fun and encouraging, but the goal is to grow creatively and to write and perform a show that is smart, fresh and tight. If you get offended when your work is scrutinized and don't enjoy receiving feedback, The Sweathogs is not for you.

- **Who are familiar with comedy and how it evolves and who exhibit writing that is smart, fresh and promising**
Comedy has changed over the years, and continues to change. It will be assumed that The Sweathogs are familiar with what is happening currently in the world of comedy. Good sketch comedy can look differently for each person presenting it. As a general rule, however: if you like to write sketches about poop and dicks and vaginas and farts, you need not apply. Unless you write the most inventive and smartest sketches imaginable about poop and dicks and vaginas and farts, then by all means apply.

What experience does Shelley McLendon bring to the table?

"Shelley McLendon (is the) ace in the hole...she has a Jennifer Saunders-like mutability, serving up knowing performances..."
(Chicago Tribune)

"One of the prime movers we have to thank for Portland's incendiary comedy scene is Shelley McLendon." (OPB's State of Wonder)

- **Creator/Producer of Bad Reputation Productions, LLC (est. 2010)**
"The cast Bad Reputation has put together makes you wonder why Lorne Michaels still has a job" (Portland Men's Journal)
- **Owner/operator of The Siren Theater (est. 2015)**
"A game changer for Portland Comedy." (Portland Mercury)
- **In addition to performing in Portland since 2001, she has also performed in:**
The San Francisco Sketch Fest 2015, 2011
The Chicago Sketch Fest 2015, 2012, 2011
The Seattle Sketch Fest 2012
The Seattle Festival of Improv 2008
Mortified Los Angeles, San Francisco
- **Member of critically acclaimed sketch comedy duo The Aces (est. 2010)**
- **Member of improv troupe The Liberators (est. 2006)**
- **Creator/ Co- writer/Producer of ROAD HOUSE: The Play! and The Lost Boys-Live!**
- **Creator/ Writer/Producer of Rudolph-On Stage!**
- **Creator/writer/director of sketch comedy shows Lone Wolves and Sisters of Mercy**
- **Member of sketch comedy troupe SWEAT (2010-2012)**
- **Creator/Producer of Slingshot comedy series at Portland Center Stage**
- **And she delivered ONE LINE on an episode of Portlandia in the first season.**

Have fun and good luck! Applicants will be informed if they have been accepted or not.