

GEORGETOWN LITTLE IMPROV CLUB CELEBRATING ITS 10TH YEAR

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Georgetown Little Improv Club founder Sam Hancock says he never gets nervous before an improv show.

But a scripted show is a whole different story, he added, laughing about the last time he entered a scene far too early, then walked right offstage.

With improvisation, Hancock says there is so much opportunity to play with any situation that surfaces during a performance.

"I love doing improv

because it's so freeing," he said. "I like the fact that it's a group where everyone says yes to every idea you have. It's just such a positive way to spend time with people."

Improvisation is the art of spontaneous performance without the use of a script. It is not however without its rules, Hancock said.

The first rule is called "yes ... and," which means performers must never turn down a fellow actor's idea on stage. But aside from saying yes to anything and everything being thrown at them, im-



GLIC members performing a show in Kitchener on June 28. Back row (left to right): Matthew Jay, Sam Hancock, Kajer Boadway. Front row (left to right): Rob Pearce, Ro Palumbo-Coates.

prov actors must also contribute to the conversation being created.

The other most imperative rule, according to Hancock, is that actors

must listen carefully, react to one another and have an emotional connection to each situation brewing on stage.

"I've always said you

don't have to invent anything as long as you react to what the other person is doing," he added.

Hancock has been involved in the improv

world since 1987. He performed throughout high school and university and then went on to further pursue improv for his own interest, in various groups around the GTA.

This summer, Georgetown Little Theatre is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its improv club. To celebrate, the theatre is in the midst of a four-week tournament, that sees improv teams from across the GTA competing for improv gold.

The Georgetown Little Improv Club's annual end of summer show will take place on Aug. 24 and 25, presenting audiences with a family-friendly culmination of all the work done by the club over the summer.

"This year is something I'm calling 10 Scenes," Hancock says. "But I can't reveal much else about it right now."

For further information about GLIC and how to get involved, visit <http://www.georgetown-littletheatre.ca>.

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