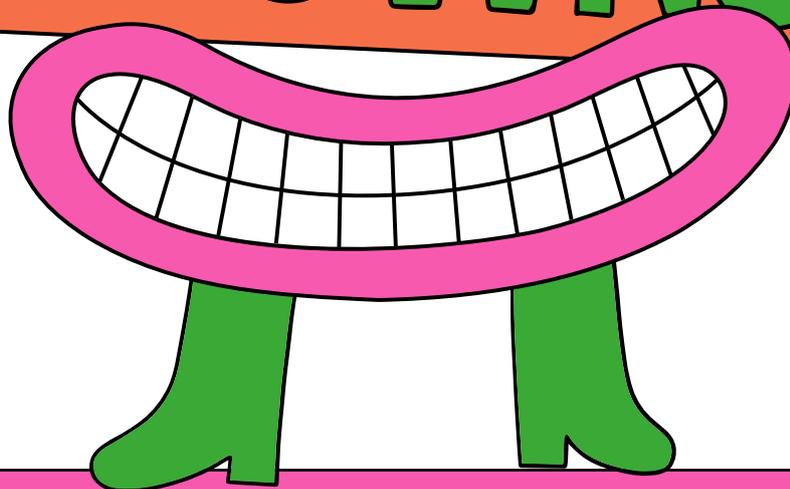


MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL PROUDLY PRESENTS

CLASS

2026

CLOWNS



**NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL COMEDY
COMPETITION AND WORKSHOP PROGRAM**

SUPPORTING

young people to build
self-esteem, confidence
and resilience

INTRODUCING

teens to comedy through
artistic activities that hone
comedic talent and writing skills

“ Class Clowns
is about brand new
talent and ideas, building
confidence in young
people and watching them
experience the pure joy
of being on stage.

ANNE EDMONDS,
COMEDIAN ”

CLASSCLOWNS.COM.AU

COMPETITION

WHAT IS THE CLASS CLOWNS COMPETITION?

A national comedy competition to uncover Australia's funniest teens.

WHEN IS IT?

Heats are held across the country in Term 1.

HOW CAN WE GET INVOLVED?

Teachers, parents or guardians can register students online to attend a FREE heat.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN HEATS?

Heats involve a 2-hour workshop/rehearsal with a professional comedian to help teens polish, refine, and rehearse their act. Entrants then have the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience in a comedy show hosted by a professional comedian.

Judges select the winners, with state finalists from across Australia travelling to perform at the **Class Clowns National Grand Final at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival** (travel costs covered by the Festival).

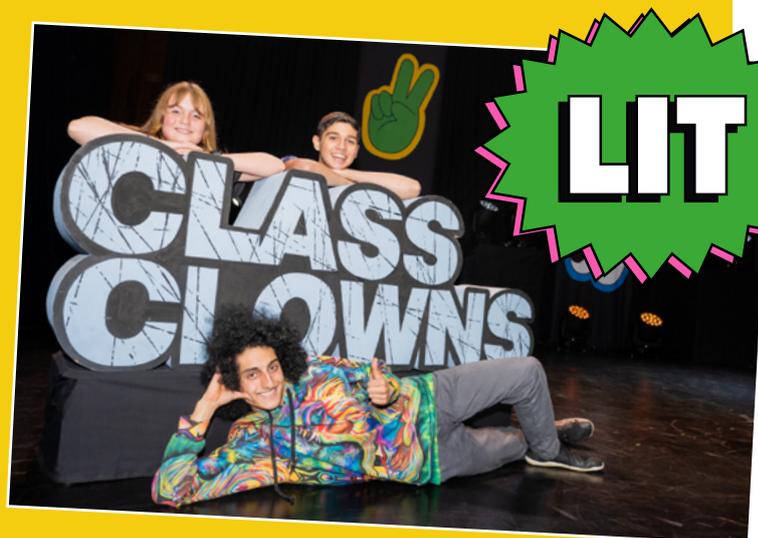
WHAT ARE THE RULES?

- Students must be in Years 9–12 or aged 14–18 years.
- Students develop a 3–5 minute comedy routine. Material must be original, the student's own.

- Up to 3 people in an act.
- Schools can enter more than one act.
- Routines must be original (and funny!).
- Acts can be stand-up, sketch, physical, musical, or anything in between!

WHAT IS THE PRIZE?

The National Class Clowns winner will receive a \$1,500 cash prize plus a workshop package for their school!



WHAT IS THE CLASS CLOWNS NATIONAL GRAND FINAL?

The **Class Clowns National Grand Final** is a 100-minute performance featuring Class Clowns state finalists from across the country on the big stage at Melbourne International Comedy Festival. It's hosted by a superstar MC and features special comedic guest artists.

BOOK YOUR SEATS FOR THE CLASS CLOWNS NATIONAL GRAND FINAL TODAY!

The Class Clowns National Grand Final is a perfect end of Term 1 excursion! It's a chance for young people to see their peers perform, providing inspiration for their own written or performance work back in the classroom.

It's also an opportunity to attend the largest comedy festival in the world!

Tickets are available at classclowns.com.au. Group discounts apply and teachers go for free.

EDUCATION

WHAT ARE CRASH COURSE COMEDY WORKSHOPS?

Our Crash Course program is a 2-hour workshop presented by a professional comedian, delivered at your school.



WHEN ARE THEY HELD?

Workshops can be held year-round, whenever suits you!

WHO ARE THE FACILITATORS?

A professional comedian facilitator takes the students through a range of activities in a fun workshop environment, allowing students to develop their own ideas for written or performance work.

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Class Clowns Crash Course workshops offer year-round creative development options for students and teachers to explore comedy as an art form. Workshops help students develop confidence, collaborative and problem-solving skills, and introduces them to the world of comedy writing and performance.

HOW DO THE WORKSHOPS SUPPORT OUR CURRICULUM?

Workshops complement existing Drama, English and public speaking initiatives. The content and activities in the workshop program are linked to and support the Australian curriculum.

Workshops can also be tailored to individual course needs – contact us to discuss your educational goals.

DO YOU SUPPLY TEACHER RESOURCES?

The free **Digital Education Resource: Bringing Comedy into the Classroom** is available for all Class Clowns participants and is chock-full of info, research, activities, teacher notes, curriculum links/notes and performance tasks – fun for all the class!



How grateful we are to have had our students share in this fantastic and unique opportunity! They loved the experience of workshopping and performing in front of industry professionals, stepping out of their comfort zone and above all else, making people laugh.

ERIN HULL, TEACHER, PALM BEACH CURRUMBIN STATE HIGH SCHOOL, QUEENSLAND



BOOK YOUR CRASH COURSE COMEDY WORKSHOP TODAY!

COST: \$550 + GST (plus travel costs, if outside a capital city)

GROUP SIZE: Up to 25 students per workshop

TO BOOK: Contact classclowns@comedyfestival.com.au or call **(03) 9245 3700** for more info

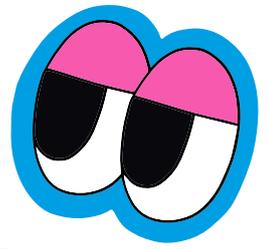
LOL





I really enjoyed the opportunity to be around similar people to me. Whether you wanna be a comedian or do other stuff, still have a go. The whole thing is just so fun, as soon as you tell your first joke, there's no going back, you love it!

PARTICIPANT



We love Class Clowns. So much. We get to hang with the next generation of Aussie comics and help them take their talent to the next level."

AUNTY DONNA,
COMEDY GROUP



Melbourne International Comedy Festival

is one of the world's most loved comedy festivals and comedy brands. Annual attendance exceeds 700,000, with live audiences boosted by millions more for nationally broadcast TV and online content.

More than a festival, the organisation delivers year-round touring, educational and artistic development programs – and Class Clowns is the flagship education program.

Over the past three decades, Class Clowns has supported young people to think and write creatively, to amplify and uplift their voices, and to have a good laugh while doing so!

Comprising a workshop and competition program, Class Clowns has seen some of Australia's most successful comedians participate over the years, including Joel Creasey, Rhys Nicholson, Annie Louey, Aaron Chen, William McKenna and Josh Thomas.