

Andy Offutt Irwin – BIO for Educational Institutions

Andy Offutt Irwin is an arts educator, theatre director, songwriter, comedian, keynote speaker, and traveling writer & storyteller.

As a one-person showman, Andy has been a perennial favorite of the **Teller-in-Residence Program** at the **International Storytelling Center** in Jonesborough, Tennessee, (twelve seasons, now) and he has been a Featured Teller at **the National Storytelling Festival** seven times as of 2017.

From 1991 to 2007 he was *Artist in Residence* at **Oxford College of Emory University** where in 2001 he was the recipient of the *Sammy Clark Award for Exemplary Teaching and Service*. He continues providing theatre and service projects for Emory's Oxford Campus (where he is now known officially as *Artist in Just Passing Through*).

Since 1993 Andy has worked in conjunction with Oxford's Counseling and Career Services, designing original theatrical orientation programming aimed at empowering student **Peer Assistant Leaders (PALs)** with tools to guide incoming freshman into a greater awareness of social and health issues.

From 1993 – 2015 Andy was a teaching artist with **Young Audiences , Woodruff Arts Center** in Atlanta. He continues to receive fee support from the **Georgia Council for the Arts**, as a member of the *Touring Artists Roster*.

Other Trophies: He is a recipient of seven *Storytelling World* Awards; Two *Just Plain Folks* Awards, and in 2013 he received the *Oracle Circle of Excellence* Award from the **National Storytelling Network**, and a *Parents' Choice* Honor for his kids' album, "Andy's Wild Amphibian Show!" In 2017 Andy received a **Special Congressional Recognition** – *For outstanding and invaluable service to the community*.

From **Rep. John Lewis**.

Other Notable Arts Education Engagements Include...

- *LaGuardia School of Art, Music, and Performing Arts* (the *FAME!* School)
New York, NY: Visiting Lecturer and Performer
- *Library of Congress-Virburnum Foundation Conference on Family Literacy*:
Keynote Speaker/Performer
- *Georgia College*: Playwright in Residence
- *Georgia Tech*: Visiting Performer, Songwriter with the Georgia Tech Glee Club
- *Amherst College*, Men's Double Quartet: Visiting Songwriter

- *University of Alabama: Resident Facility Speaker Series*
- *Conference on Children's Literature, Ft Lauderdale, Florida, 2012: Keynote Speaker*
- *On Stage Atlanta Youth Theatre Camp: Director, 2004 – 2011*
- *The University of Nebraska at Kearney: Guest Lecturer – 2012, 2017*
- *East Tennessee State University, Storytelling Institute: Guest Instructor – 2017*

Everybody is impressed to know that from 1984 to 1989 Andy began his career selling out to a mouse at *Walt Disney's EPCOT Center* where, under the auspices of **SAK Theatre** he performed, wrote, and directed live comedy shows.

Andy lives in Covington, Georgia. He thinks he is funny.

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