

Consulting made extraordinary

Looking for a way to take your client relationship skills to the next level? Want to create a sense of community in your company—at lightning speed? Ready for a change of pace to unwind from the daily grind?

How about this: perform improvisational comedy with us at your workplace.

Improvisational Comedy?

Yes, you read correctly: improvisational comedy.

Not only is improv a blast, it's a bona fide business tool—especially if you are in professional services. In fact, you improvise every single day. And probably don't know it.

Look at any client relationship, for example. Plan all you want, but you really have no idea what's going to happen in the next moment. How your client will react. Or what the key stakeholders will do next. And yet...

you have to be ready for the unexpected. That's what you're paid for. So, naturally, you improvise. Except, in most cases, you're usually under the gun with the clock ticking and it's not all that much fun.

Improv gives you a way to do what you already do, but with more humor and levity. Using improv techniques, you create connections within and across clients and teams that simply don't happen under the usual business circumstances.

The Team that Laughs Together, Lasts Together

Being an extraordinary improv-er and an extraordinary service provider are one in the same. In either role, you have to:

- Deal with the unexpected
- Remove barriers between people—teammates, divisions, work groups
- Listen, listen, listen
- Collaborate (for real)
- Trust your clients and colleagues
- Check your ego at the door
- Make your clients look good

"We held an annual dinner for the top-level people from all our locations and this year BossaNova's improv workshop was the first part of the evening. **I don't think I've ever laughed so much at a work function in my 20-year career.** But more than that, everyone participated. It was teamwork in action, and teamwork is the cornerstone of our business. At dinner afterwards, there was no awkward small talk; we all had a way to connect with each other like never before" – **Peggy W., Director**

Which ones are most relevant for your business right now? BossaNova will construct an improv workshop to meet your specific needs.

Bring in the Talent!

Our hidden gem in the improv department is Shawn Westfall, the sole teacher of

improvisational comedy at the DC Improv and

BossaNova's own Improv Guru. We've teamed with Shawn to deliver a variety of workshops for our clients. Everyone loves him—not only for Shawn's mastery of improv, but for his uncanny ability to make everyone feel completely comfortable doing something outside their comfort zone.

All that said, the real talent is *you* (sorry, Shawn). Under Shawn's skilled guidance, you are the creators of your improv experience. And that's when (and why) the magic happens.

Improvise with Us!

Tell us your goals: Thinking on your feet. More meaningful client relationships. Listening. Or just blowing off steam. No matter what they are, we'll tailor a program to meet them. Because we're business people first, and improv-ers second, we know that you can't have the fun without the substance, and the substance won't sink in without the fun. We guarantee you an event where your people are fully engaged, laughing—and learning—simultaneously.

BossaNova offers two flagship programs:

Work Can Be Fun(ny).

A two-hour improv comedy workshop with an emphasis on fun. That's right, sometimes in order to work better, you just gotta kick back and laugh. Don't worry, though: we'll take time out to help you connect what you're experiencing to your day-to-day work. Your staff will talk about it this experience for months, years even. The deliverable? Fun. Lots of it.

Improv-ing Business.

A half to full day business workshop. Improv is more fully integrated into your business agenda. In consultant speak—there's a specific deliverable in it: your business problems and opportunities are creatively addressed using improv. You'll be laughing while advancing your business goals.

Want to make improv a truly extraordinary experience for your company? Invite your clients to join in on the fun.

FAC (Frequently Articulated Concerns)

“Wait! My team isn't all that funny!” They won't need to be. In fact, as the instruction makes clear, the last you thing you should ever try to be when doing improv is “funny.” Whatever's funny will naturally arise from the situation. Your team won't even have to try, and you'll get laughs.

“Our consultants are still raving about the improv comedy workshops we hosted with BossaNova - many, many months later. Amidst all the laughter, our consultants really learned how to think on their feet, which is a critical skill in our business” - Jane S., Director of Training and Development

“The last thing we need is another fluffy team building event.” You might be thinking, “Sure, improv games are fine for having fun amongst ourselves. But there's no way I could use them in a real business setting.” Think again. The techniques of improv teach you how to deal with the unexpected, think on your feet, listen to your clients, and provide creative solutions to problems. What's more real than that?

“Is improv really a learnable skill?” Absolutely. Just as successful businesses are built on structures, ground rules, and individuals' strengths, the same is true of improv. You'll have a whole new appreciation for the “magic” behind shows like *Whose Line Is It, Anyway?* once you've experienced improv with us. And you'll tap into ways you can recreate that magic for the benefit of your company and your clients.

“We need everyone to sign up for this!” No problem. We work with 10 to 100 people at a time. And our *Comedy Showcase* offers a riotous two-hour “all hands” experience to show off the talents of all improv graduates.

Ready to Have Fun at Work Again?

Contact BossaNova to get your team up on its feet. Discover ways of thinking about business that you'd never imagined before ... and have lots of fun in the process.

For more information, please contact improv@bossanovaconsulting.com.