



Description of Event:

Tommy the Clown: Battle Zone Performance

Tommy the Clown is one of the world's most famous performers of the dance styles that he created: Clowning & Krumping. The message that Tommy has brought to young people, especially inner-city youth in the LA area since 1992 is one of respect, education, and channeling one's energy in a positive manner.

Tommy the Clown was featured in the documentary RIZE, and he has performed across the world. He has changed the lives of young people, especially in Los Angeles, and has countless references in both the media and education areas, including the LAUSD School Board, Compton City Commissioner Willie O. Jones, MTV, and Julie Pilat of Clearchannel.

The performance will feature Tommy and his crew of dancers, who will perform together. Then the students have the rare opportunity to get involved by judging the battles and even participating themselves on stage with Tommy at the helm! Students compete against each other in a "dance off" or "battle" that the entire audience gets to judge. It is a wonderful event for youth and of all ages. Tommy's performances promote teamwork, support for one another, the value of education and leave the participants and audience inspired and ready to face the challenges of school, peer pressure, and negative influences in our society.

In Tommy's 16 year history of performances across the world, from New Zealand to the former LA Forum, there has never been an incident of any sort. Tommy's message is one that is positive, inspiring and life-changing.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Tommy the Clown Foundation, a 501c3 Nonprofit.

Optional Clowning/Krumping Workshop:

This is your students' chance to experience the pure essence of Clowning and Krumping with the creator of the form, Tommy the Clown, and members of his crew. A course that transcends any dance course ever created, students will take away something much more important, meaningful and exciting than just steps, moves or choreography...

In this three-day course like no other, students will not only learn movements, steps, technique and form from Tommy and his crew, but also get the rare opportunity to re-create a dance battle in the classroom, building confidence, teamwork skills and performance practice.

The final day of the workshop offers a once in a lifetime, absolutely unforgettable experience for the class: the students and Tommy bring Clowning and Krumping directly to the streets! The dancers will truly experience what it feels like to be a Hip Hop Clown, dancing in the school yard, parking lot, gymnasium or other location selected by the school. This will help to prepare the dancers for the Battle Zone!

Students also have the opportunity to partake in future workshops, working toward Certification by Tommy as a "Hip Hop Clown." The Certified Hip Hop Clowns participate in parties, performances and the representation of Tommy the Clown across the world. This opportunity gives students personal and professional goals. On a personal level, the dancers are required to stay in school, maintain a high level of attendance, and good grades. On a professional level, the Hip Hop Clowns become part of Tommy's crew, where they have the opportunity to earn income for their work and follow the path of one of the dance world's most innovative and inspiring performers, Tommy the Clown.

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