

## Who is this David guy, anyway?

After those words of "encouragement" delivered by a high school teacher after grading a paper I wrote on wanting to perform comedy in front of a packed arena, he decided to give up on comedy and go to college for political science. After coasting through school without much passion, I was inspired to move to New York City by a friend who decided that acting in front of hundreds of people every night on a Broadway stage was a realistic goal. My perspective changed: "If *he* can do that, why can't I do comedy in packed arenas?"

In August of 2012, I moved from Akron, Ohio to New York City with the dream of one day being a writer and performer on Saturday Night Live. Enrolling in sketch comedy writing classes at the Upright Citizen's Brigade (UCB), I went on to write, co-produce, and star in two web series, wrote and co-starred in a video featured on the front page of humor website Funny or Die, and performed my unique brand of character comedy at clubs around the city. In June of 2014, I was presented with the opportunity to produce a sketch comedy show at Carolines on Broadway. Jumping on the opportunity to be featured at one of the world's most storied comedy clubs, I created "Laundry Day," along with some of UCB's funniest performers, and served as the show's producer. After only two performances, the show went on to be selected as part of the 2014 New York Comedy Festival in November of that year.

Our passion is located at the intersection of our interests and talents, it fills a need, and is centered around giving to others. This revelation inspired me to return to the Northeast Ohio area in the fall of 2014. As an avid researcher of the practical impact of human behavior, self-development, leadership, management, and positive psychology, I saw an opportunity to use what I had learned to deliver a more meaningful message than just comedy. Seeing a need for perspective in the world, I now travel the country performing a blend of character comedy and motivational speaking designed to inspire audiences to take a step back, and view themselves and the world around them in a way that brings them joy, laughter, and success.