

Center Academy shows off its talent

February 15, 2011

Special to Clay Today

ORANGE PARK - When Jessie Shternshus's The Improv Effect contacted the administration of Center Academy on Kingsley Ave. it was a new consideration.

Although The Improv Effect workshops are often presented at corporate seminars and conferences, when the school was approached with the promise of building teamwork, helping students to think fast, developing leadership skills, and building confidence, it seemed like a good fit.

Several students signed up and the classes began. Instructor Keith Marks made it fun and helped students overcome shyness, increase patience and support one another.

A culmination of their class was a Center Academy's Got Talent performance, merging individual students' gifts with the improve classes' exercises. The combination proved to be a recipe for a winning display. Parents and friends joined together for the show. Students sang, played instruments, and karate-kicked boards in two. Even one of the teacher's aides got in the act with a modern dance routine. Ninth grader Linh Vu kept the show moving along as a masterful mistress of ceremonies. The improv class performed intermittently throughout the program, keeping everyone laughing and impressed by the clever retorts offered by even the shyest of participants.

Center Academy will offer The Improv Effect classes next year. With such a great show, Center Academy's Got Talent will be an annual event. For more information about The Improv Effect, visit www.improveffect.com. For more information about Center Academy visit www.centeracademy.com.



Josh White and Jordon Anderson performed a song learned in music class.