

Mike Young
Founder
Young American Comedy Tour

Yes, you guessed it, writer and comedian Mike Young was the class clown all through school, including his days at Southfield-Lathrup High in metro Detroit. He's the first to admit, "I loved making people laugh in class and I wasn't a great student."

But all that time he spent time watching *Saturday Night Live* and idolizing Eddie Murphy paid off. It provided the building blocks to a successful start in comedy.

Young attended the University of Arizona, where he said he earned "a degree in nothing" and decided to give funny business a shot. He wasn't a stranger to the stage. While living in metro Detroit, Young performed with a hip-hop group TKO and he wrote and performed songs for the Detroit Red Wings and other sports teams. "The entire time, I knew this is what I was meant to do, said Young. So he set his sights on comedy.

Young performed with Second City in Chicago, Groundlings in Los Angeles and soon found "improv wasn't my thing." He worked his way from the ground up performing standup comedy at LA's Comedy Store. Twelve years later, Young resides in Los Angeles and splits his time between comedy and writing and producing for television and film. The two skills go hand-in-hand, he said.

Young has performed with comedians from Bob Saget to Wanda Sykes, Dave Chappelle to Dave Attel. Along the way he developed a style he described as Richard Pryor-meets-Seinfeld, inspired by real life. He has both television and film projects in development, including a movie titled *Right Angle* for Camelot Pictures that is based upon a tragic real-life accident that left his friend paralyzed. ABC purchased a half-hour sitcom, *Forever Young*, co-produced by Tobey Maguire.

In 2007, Young established the Young American Comedy Tour with the intent to bring some of the hottest rising comedy stars out on tour, gaining exposure and thrilling audiences across the country. With a rotating cast of comedians, The Young American Comedy Tour will soon make monthly stops in Detroit, a city devastated by the current economic climate. As Young brings his comedy home with this effort, he intends to "save the city through laughter."

###