

DEVIN HENDERSON

Magician and Entertainer

Henderson has been a professional magician since he graduated from college. He started out working at restaurants, birthday parties, schools and churches, but now mainly does corporate events where he can showcase his magic and comedy acts. He credits his success today to his perseverance in hunting for those first restaurant gigs.

"I went to 40 restaurants and asked to talk to the general manager. I ended up getting gigs at two: the Jazz in Olathe and Copeland's of New Orleans in Overland Park. These people gave me a chance, and I handed out my business card at every table," he says.

"People are surprised when they hear it's all I do," he says. "But there's actually a very high demand for entertainment, if you can offer a quality product."

Henderson says he thrives off being in front of large groups of people and even presented his shows before audiences of 1,000 people.

"Those shows are my favorite, because there's a lot of audience interaction," he says. "It's always funny when the entire audience knows what's going on, but the person I've brought on stage doesn't."

A devoted Christian, Henderson's shows are never marked by innuendo or cursing. "It's a completely clean show," he says.

▶ HOW HE GOT INTO THE GIG:

A magician named L.C. Collier came to our school at Broken Arrow when I was 11, and I thought it was the coolest thing ever. I went to the library, checked out a big stack of books and taught myself magic. It was a hobby from that point on.

▶ HIS ADVICE TO WOULD-BE MAGICIANS:

Be as original and creative as possible. Also, remember that when you are performing, it's not about you; it's about your audience and the gift of mystery and excitement you are giving to them.



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