

= Drew Carey =

Drew Allison Carey ( born May 23 , 1958 ) is an American actor , comedian , sports executive , and game show host . After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps and making a name for himself in stand @-@ up comedy , Carey eventually gained popularity starring in his own sitcom , The Drew Carey Show , and serving as host of the U.S. version of the improv comedy show Whose Line Is It Anyway ? , both of which aired on ABC .

Carey has appeared in several films , television series , music videos , a made @-@ for @-@ television film , and a computer game . He has hosted the game show The Price Is Right since 2007 on CBS . He is interested in a variety of sports , has worked as a photographer at U.S. National Team soccer games , is a minority owner of the Major League Soccer team Seattle Sounders FC . Carey has written an autobiography , Dirty Jokes and Beer : Stories of the Unrefined , detailing his early life and television career .

= = Early life = =

Carey is the youngest of Lewis and Beulah Carey 's three sons and raised in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood of Cleveland , Ohio . When Drew was eight years old , his father died from a brain tumor . He played the cornet and trumpet in the marching band of James Ford Rhodes High School , from which he graduated in 1975 .

He continued on to college at Kent State University ( KSU ) and was expelled twice for poor academic performance . He left KSU after three years . After leaving the university , Carey enlisted into the United States Marine Corps Reserve in 1980 and served for six years . He moved to Las Vegas for a few months in 1982 , and for a short time worked as a bank teller and a waiter at Denny 's .

= = Stand @-@ up career = =

In 1985 , he began his comedy career by following up on a suggestion by David Lawrence ( a disc jockey friend who had been paying Drew to write jokes for David 's radio show in Cleveland ) to go to the library and borrow books on how to write jokes . The following year , after winning an open @-@ microphone contest , he became Master of Ceremonies at the Cleveland Comedy Club . He performed at comedy clubs over the next few years in Cleveland and Los Angeles . He first came to the national eye as a comedian when he competed in the 1988 Star Search . Carey was working as a stand @-@ up comedian when he appeared on The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson in November 1991 . His performance that night impressed Carson , who invited Carey to the couch next to his desk ; this was considered a rare honor for any comedian . In that same year , Carey joined the 14th Annual Young Comedians Special on HBO and made his first appearance on Late Night with David Letterman . In 1994 , Carey wrote his own stand @-@ up comedy special , Drew Carey : Human Cartoon , which aired on Showtime and won a CableACE Award for Best Writing .

= = Acting career = =

= = = Early roles = = =

His early stand @-@ up career led to supporting roles on television shows , during which he developed the character of a hapless middle @-@ class bachelor . In 1993 , Carey had a small role in the film Coneheads as a taxi passenger . In 1994 , Carey co @-@ starred with John Caponera in The Good Life , a short @-@ lived sitcom on NBC . After the show was cancelled , Bruce Helford , a writer on the show , hired Carey as a consultant for the television show Someone Like Me .

= = = The Drew Carey Show = = =

After their stint on Someone Like Me , Carey and Helford developed and produced the storyline for The Drew Carey Show . The sitcom revolved around a fictionalized version of Carey , as he took on the stresses of life and work with his group of childhood friends . The show premiered on September 13 , 1995 on ABC . In his autobiography , Carey revealed his frustration with having to deal with censors and being unable to employ the off @-@ color humor common in his stand @-@ up routines . Carey initially earned \$ 60 @,@ 000 per episode in the first seasons , then renegotiated for \$ 300 @,@ 000 . By the final season , he was earning \$ 750 @,@ 000 per episode . The show had high ratings for its first few seasons , but declining ratings and increasing production costs ( around \$ 3 million per episode ) precipitated its cancellation . The program had a total of 233 episodes over its nine @-@ year run and Carey was one of four actors to appear in every episode . The show starred ( in order of episode appearances ) Carey , Diedrich Bader , Kathy Kinney , Ryan Stiles ( all in every episode ) ; Craig Ferguson ( starring role in seasons 2 ? 8 and guest appearances in 9 ) ; Christa Miller ( seasons 1 ? 7 ) ; and Ian Gomez ( semi @-@ regular from seasons 1 ? 9 ) and John Carroll Lynch ( semi @-@ regular from seasons 3 / 4 ? 9 ) .

= = = Improv television = = =

While still starring in The Drew Carey Show , in 1998 Carey began hosting the American version of the improvisational comedy show Whose Line Is It Anyway ? . He would announce the improv guests , direct the games , and then would usually involve himself in the final game of the episode . The show ran for a total of 220 episodes until the show 's cancellation in 2006 . In 1998 , the New York Friars ' Club made Carey the newest inductee of the group 's Comedy Central Roast . His friend Ryan Stiles ( who costarred in The Drew Carey Show and Whose Line Is It Anyway ? ) served as the roastmaster . Carey 's income from Whose Line Is It Anyway ? and The Drew Carey Show led to his inclusion on the Forbes list of highest @-@ paid entertainers of 1998 , at 24th with \$ 45 @.@ 5 million .

For the WB 's 2004 ? 2005 prime time schedule , Carey co @-@ produced and starred in Drew Carey 's Green Screen Show , a spin @-@ off of Whose Line Is It Anyway ? . It was canceled by the WB , but picked up shortly afterward by Comedy Central . The show 's premise relied on the use of a green screen for all of the actors ' improv interactions . Animation on the screen was inserted during post @-@ production .

In April 2011 , Carey began hosting a new primetime improv show , called Drew Carey 's Improv @-@ A @-@ Ganza . It was filmed at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas , Nevada and first aired on April 11 . The show takes on the premise of Whose Line ? and Drew Carey 's Green Screen Show in that it features many of the same performers from both shows and they do improv based on audience @-@ provided suggestions .

= = = Improv All @-@ Stars = = =

Carey was one of the founders of the Improv All @-@ Stars , a group of eleven actors who perform in unscripted skits . The group joined Carey in all three of his improv shows , Whose Line Is It Anyway ? , Drew Carey 's Green Screen Show , and Drew Carey 's Improv @-@ a @-@ ganza and some members had major roles or guest starred on The Drew Carey Show . The Improv All @-@ Stars travel on comedy tours , performing at comedy clubs throughout the United States .

= = Game show host = =

= = = Power of 10 = = =

Beginning in 2007 , Carey began hosting game shows , beginning with his April selection as host of the CBS game show pilot Power of 10 . The show ran from August 7 , 2007 to April 7 , 2008 and

aired twice weekly during the late summer and early fall . Each game featured contestants predicting how a cross @-@ section of Americans responded to questions covering a wide variety of topics in polls conducted by CBS .

= = = The Price Is Right = = =

After taping the pilot episode for Power of 10 , Carey was contacted by CBS about replacing Bob Barker ? who had earlier announced his own retirement ? as host of The Price Is Right . After initially turning down the offer , Carey announced on Late Show with David Letterman that he would succeed Barker as host of the program beginning in the fall of 2007 . His first episode of The Price Is Right was taped on August 15 , and his shows began airing on October 15 . In response to replacing Barker as host of the game show , Carey stated " You can 't replace Bob Barker . I don 't compare myself to anybody ... It 's only about what you 're doing and supposed to do , and I feel like I 'm supposed to be doing this . " When Carey began hosting , the set , theme music , and show logo were updated . However , Carey kept the old closing line about spaying and neutering the pets that originated with Barker , although his version uses slightly different wording . During Carey 's second year as host , he began to write some of the sketches used during the Showcase , which sometimes features guest appearances by stars of other CBS programs . In the April Fools ' Day 2013 episode , Carey and announcer George Gray switched places with the models , letting the two men be the models for the episode .

= = Other roles and appearances = =

Carey began appearing in commercials for restaurants in the late 1990s in Canada with The Great Root Bear , but his two @-@ year contract with A & W Food Services of Canada was cut short in November 1998 after an episode of The Drew Carey Show featured McDonald 's . As a result of his dismissal , Carey sued A & W for compensation .

Disney 's Hollywood Studios ( then " Disney @-@ MGM Studios " ) , part of Walt Disney World Resort in Florida , debuted a 12 @-@ minute attraction in 1999 titled Sounds Dangerous ! . In the show , a camera follows Carey through a day as an undercover detective . When his video camera fails , the audience is left in complete darkness wearing earphones , following his adventure through sound cues . The attraction is now closed .

In 2000 , Carey was given a cameo appearance in the House Party expansion pack of the computer game The Sims . To make him appear , the characters in the game must throw a successful party , which causes Carey to arrive in a limo and join the festivities . Carey is a fan of The Sims series and during one April Fool 's episode of The Drew Carey Show , a scene takes place completely within The Sims . Carey made several other cameo appearances in music videos , including " Weird Al " Yankovic 's " It 's All About the Pentiums " and Fountains of Wayne 's 2004 video for " Mexican Wine " , giving an introduction to the video as if it were on a stage .

On January 21 , 2001 , Drew entered as Vince McMahon 's guest entrant in the Royal Rumble match .

Although primarily known for his television work , Carey has done limited film work , with his first appearance in 1993 's Coneheads . His next film was the 2000 television film , Geppetto that debuted on The Wonderful World of Disney . The film , an adaptation of Pinocchio , included actor Wayne Brady who had joined Carey on his improv shows . Carey took singing lessons to prepare for the role . In 2005 , Carey appeared in three films : the animated film Robots , where he provided a voice @-@ over for the character Crank ; The Aristocrats where he retold a dirty joke along with other celebrities ; and the documentary , Fuck , where he was interviewed .

Carey provided the entertainment for the 2002 Annual White House correspondents ' dinner . Once Carey completed his standup routine for the 1 @,@ 800 guests , President George W. Bush , noting Carey 's improv work , made a joke of his own : " Drew ? Got any interest in the Middle East ? " In 2003 , he joined Jamie Kennedy to host the WB 's live special Play for a Billion . In September 2003 , Carey led a group of comedians , including Blake Clark and The Drew Carey Show 's Kathy Kinney

, on a comedy tour of Iraq .

On June 8 , 2006 , Drew Carey 's Sporting Adventures debuted on the Travel Channel . In this series , Carey traveled throughout Germany to photograph multiple FIFA World Cup soccer games while he immerses himself in the culture of the towns and states he visits . In early 2008 , Carey appeared in Matt Groening 's The Simpsons as part of the episode " All About Lisa " as a guest on the Krusty the Clown Show . He also surfaced in the second season of Community , playing a well liked former boss to Jeff Winger .

On March 4 , 2014 , it was announced on Good Morning America that Carey would compete on the season 18 of Dancing with the Stars . He was partnered with professional dancer Cheryl Burke . The couple was eliminated on the sixth week of competition , finishing in 8th place .

= = Writing = =

Carey has routinely written throughout his career , including developing his stand @-@ up comedy routines in his early stand @-@ up career , and then moving on to assist in writing sitcoms . In 1997 , Carey published his autobiography , Dirty Jokes and Beer : Stories of the Unrefined wherein he shared memories of his early childhood and of his father 's death when he was eight . He also revealed that he was once molested , had suffered bouts of depression , and had made two suicide attempts by swallowing a large amount of sleeping pills . The book discusses his college fraternity years while attending Kent State University , and his professional career up to that time . The book featured large amounts of profanity and , as the title suggests , includes multiple dirty jokes ( there is one at the start of each chapter ) and references to beer . The book was featured on The New York Times bestseller list for three months .

= = Personal life = =

He adopted his crew cut hair style while serving in the United States Marine Corps . Carey has had refractive surgery to correct his vision and therefore did not really require glasses ( any glasses he wore in public were merely props to help the audience recognize him ) . However , while this was true for several years , on the May 17 , 2006 episode of Jimmy Kimmel Live ! he revealed that when he turned 40 , he actually developed a need for bifocals . As of 2007 , Carey resides in Los Angeles and New York City .

Carey is a father figure to Nicole Jaracz 's son , Connor , from a previous relationship . They have no children together . Nicole and Connor have appeared alongside Carey on The Price Is Right several times . Although he proposed to Jaracz in 2007 , the pair never wed as the engagement was called off in January 2012 .

After suffering chest pains while filming The Drew Carey Show in August 2001 , Carey went to the hospital where he underwent a coronary angioplasty . Although his weight was a comedic topic throughout his sitcom and improv shows , in 2010 he began a diet and exercise plan , resulting in an extensive weight loss ( similar to former TPIR announcer Rod Roddy ) . He also claimed that he cured his Type 2 diabetes .

= = = Political views = = =

Carey is an outspoken libertarian . He has expressed his political philosophy in the following terms , " I believe the answers to all the problems we face as a society won 't come from Washington , it will come from us . So the way we decide to live our lives and our decisions about what we buy or don 't buy are much more important than who we vote for . "

Carey expressed his distaste for the Bush administration 's management of the Iraq War , specifically on the September 15 , 2007 , episode of Real Time with Bill Maher . He made donations to Ron Paul 's presidential campaign for the 2008 election . On the September 26 , 2008 , episode of The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson , Carey defined " libertarian " to host Craig Ferguson as " a conservative who still gets high . " In 2016 , he supported Libertarian Party presidential candidate

Gary Johnson in his run for office .

Carey has spoken about his various political beliefs in several interviews , and in 1998 he led a " smoke @-@ in " in defiance of California 's newly passed no @-@ smoking ordinance inside bars and restaurants . Carey has hosted a series of mini @-@ documentaries called The Drew Carey Project on Reason.tv , an online project of Reason Foundation , a libertarian @-@ oriented nonprofit think tank ( for which Carey sits as a member of the board of trustees ) . The first episode , " Gridlock " , addresses private highway ownership and was released on October 15 , 2007 . Other episodes discuss topics such as eminent domain , urban traffic congestion , and medical marijuana .

= = = Sports involvement = = =

Carey is a devoted fan of the U.S. National Soccer Team , Cleveland Browns , Cleveland Cavaliers , Cleveland Indians and the Columbus Blue Jackets . In 1999 , Carey was part of the pregame ceremonies at the first game of the return of the Cleveland Browns , televised on ESPN . Carey attended the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany and the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa . Carey is a minority owner of the Seattle Sounders FC , who began play in Major League Soccer on March 19 , 2009 . Carey is a fan of FC Barcelona and of the Scottish team Rangers . In 2006 he was a season ticket holder for the Los Angeles Galaxy .

Carey has shown his support for the Indians by throwing the first pitch at an August 12 , 2006 , game against the Kansas City Royals . He was rewarded by the Cleveland Indians for being " the greatest Indians fan alive " with a personal bobblehead doll made in his likeness that was given to fans . Carey responded to his bobblehead likeness by saying " Bobblehead Day , for me , is as big as getting a star in the Hollywood Walk of Fame . "

In 2001 , Carey was the first television actor to enter World Wrestling Federation 's 30 @-@ man " Royal Rumble " match , which he did to promote an improv comedy pay @-@ per @-@ view at the time . He appeared in a few backstage segments before his brief participation in the match . Upon entering the ring , Carey stood unopposed for more than half a minute , but after the next entrant Kane refused a monetary bribe , Carey eliminated himself from the match by jumping over the top rope and retreated from ringside . On April 2 , 2011 , Carey was inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame by Kane .

Carey competed against five other celebrities in the first celebrity edition of the 2003 World Poker Tour . He placed fifth , only beating out actor Jack Black . Carey won \$ 2 @,@ 000 for his charity .

On May 15 , 2011 , Carey completed the " Marine Corps Historic Half Marathon " in 1 : 57 : 02 , then on September 4 , 2011 , he improved to complete the Disneyland Half Marathon in 1 : 50 : 46 . And on October 30 , 2011 , he finished the Marine Corps Marathon with a chip time of 4 : 37 : 11 , placing 10149th out of 20940 .

= = = Philanthropy = = =

Carey is a supporter of libraries , crediting them for beginning his successful comedy career . On May 2 , 2000 , in a celebrity edition of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire , he selected the Ohio Library Foundation to receive his \$ 500 @,@ 000 winnings . He later went on to win an additional \$ 32 @,@ 000 on the second celebrity Millionaire , making him one of the biggest winning contestants on Millionaire who did not win the top prize . Carey also has played on the World Poker Tour in the Hollywood Home games for the Cleveland Public Library charity . In June 2007 , Carey offered to donate up to \$ 100 @,@ 000 ( in \$ 10 @,@ 000 increments ) to the Mooch Myernick Memorial Fund if anybody could beat him at the video game FIFA Soccer 07 for the Xbox 360 . He dared five players from both the U.S. Men 's and Women 's National Teams to compete against him . Carey ended up donating \$ 100 @,@ 000 plus \$ 60 @,@ 000 for losing two games out of the six games he played .

In October 2009 , Carey made a bid of \$ 25 @,@ 000 in a charity auction for the @ drew Twitter account . He later increased his offer to \$ 100 @,@ 000 if the number of followers of his account @

DrewFromTV reached 100 @, @ 000 by the end of the auction . In an interview with CBS News , he said he would instead donate \$ 1 million to the charity Livestrong Foundation if his follower count reached one million by December 31 , 2009 .

#### = = Photography = =

Carey can sometimes be seen on the sidelines of U.S. National Team soccer games as a press photographer . His images are sold via wire services under the pseudonym Brooks Parkenridge . He was at the 2006 FIFA World Cup in the summer of 2006 , for his television show Drew Carey 's Sporting Adventures .

#### = = Filmography = =

Carey has starred in only a few television shows and films , but also has numerous guest star appearances in a variety of sitcoms and comedy shows .

#### = = = Television = = =

#### = = = Film = = =

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#### = = Awards and honors = =

#### = = = Individual = = =

1994 : Cable Ace Award for Best Writing ? Drew Carey : Human Cartoon  
1995 : TV Guide " 10 Hottest New Faces of 1995 "  
1998 : Satellite Award for Best Actor ? Musical / Comedy Series  
2000 : Honorary DHL from Cleveland State University  
2000 : People 's Choice Award for Favorite Male Television Performer  
2003 : Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame  
2004 : Comedy Central 's 100 Greatest Stand @-@ Ups of All Time ( # 84 )  
2011 : WWE Hall of Fame inductee  
2011 : Southern California Journalism " Best Advocacy Journalism " Award winner

#### = = = Collective = = =

2013 : Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Game / Audience Participation Show ( as host of The Price Is Right )  
2014 : Supporters ' Shield winner ( as part owner of the Seattle Sounders )  
Four @-@ time Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup winner ( as part owner of the Seattle Sounders - 2009 , 2010 , 2011 , 2014 )