



## **Georgia School Keynote Speaker**

### **Tom Arnold**

**Actor, Comedian, and Writer**

As one of Hollywood's most entertaining funny men, you would think Tom Arnold has a lot to laugh about. But life has never been easy for this writer, producer and actor. He has struggled with addiction and multiple health scares for decades. And yet, he continues to not only get back up when life knocks him down but also thrives. Sober for nearly 20 years, Tom relapsed after a motorcycle wreck led to an addiction to painkillers in 2007. He relapsed again several years ago and sought treatment once again. This summer, he celebrated five years of sobriety and the loss of 75 pounds after a mini-stroke. Tom began his career in comedy at the University of Iowa before moving to Minneapolis, where he won the Minneapolis Comedy Competition in 1988. He then moved to Los Angeles to write for and star in the highly successful television series, *Roseanne*, before eventually serving as executive producer for the sitcom. Tom's film credits include James Cameron's *True Lies* with Arnold Schwarzenegger; *Nine Months* with Hugh Grant, Julianne Moore and Robin Williams; *Hero* with Dustin Hoffman; *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery* with Mike Myers; and *Madea's Witness Protection* with Tyler Perry. He is currently starring with Arnold Schwarzenegger in the Netflix series *FUBAR*. Born in Iowa, he has established a writing scholarship and runs an acting workshop for students at the Indian Hills Community College in Iowa. He is also very active with the San Diego Center for Children, which cares for abused and neglected children, as well as The Race to Erase MS, The Kayne-Eras Center and Hollygrove children's home.