



In February of DATE, Steve Taubman brought his Hypnosis Extravaganza to Waterville, Maine to perform for the students of Colby College. In truth, I had my doubts about the success of this event; past experience had taught me that attendance at "novelty" events and shows varied based on the small student population and the cold Maine weather, among other things.

Steve assured me that he was known for drawing a large crowd, and had in fact drawn the "best ever" crowd at several other schools. I smiled politely, had the contract signed, and kept my fingers crossed.

To say that I was pleasantly surprised would be an understatement. Steve arrived at Colby in time to do a few magic tricks for the students who were eating dinner in the dining hall (where we had a video of his greatest hits playing) and several of those students followed him across campus to his show.

When I arrived 20 minutes before the show began, the room was packed! I couldn't believe it. By the end of the night, the space was overflowing with students-people were sitting on the stairs, hanging on the railings, peeking over each others' shoulders and generally creating a bit of a fire hazard! It was outstanding!

The crowd was rolling on the floor with laughter as fellow students lost their belly buttons and performed air guitar routines. Several students stayed after the show to talk with Steve, who was more than willing to discuss the show and hypnosis with them.

The show took place on a Friday night, and on Monday I had a number of students in my office asking when we could have the "awesome hypnotist" back on campus. I'm currently working on fall programming, and I already have at least one date in mind for Steve- in a bigger space, of course!

Steve was right when he said he was capable of drawing our "best ever" crowd for a hypnosis show, and I am more than willing to admit that I was wrong when I didn't believe him.

Steve put on an amazing, hilariously funny show. He was great to work with and wonderful with the students. I would definitely recommend bringing Steve Taubman to your school, regardless of its size - you won't regret it!

- Leanne Yeaton Burnham
Colby College