University of Cincinnati College of Law’s Center for Practice is Proud to Present:

**ACTOR’S DIRECTIONS FOR AWARD WINNING TRIAL PERFORMANCE**

A Four Evening CLE Series
At the University of Cincinnati College of Law

**“Starring”**
Rocco Dal Vera
Professor of Drama at UC’s College Conservatory of Music
Acclaimed Actor, Voice and Speech Coach, and Author

**Opening on the Trial Stage:**
First Moments, Monologues, Movements, & Material Matters

First Evening: September 15, 2014
6:00 – 9:30 p.m. - Room 204
(Including sandwich supper)

**Agenda**

6:00 – 6:15
Introduction: Soliloquies and Sandwiches

6:15 – 7:45
Opening Moments and First Impressions
• Voice, stance and movement right from the start
• Opening with narrative: the essential compelling story

Faculty presentations & demos, participant exercises & feedback

7:45 – 8:00
Break

8:00 – 9:30
Carrying and Commanding Your Audience
• Anchoring for clarity, congruence, and comprehension
• Techniques for establishing emotional connection
• Strategies for conveying ‘text’ and ‘subtext’

Faculty presentations & demos, participant exercises & feedback

Professor Rocco Dal Vera will present and demonstrate acting, movement and vocal techniques and provide feedback. Professor Marjorie Aaron will facilitate discussion of attorneys’ perspectives.

Note: for the 90 minutes, Professor Dal Vera will present and work interactively on actors’ techniques relevant at this stage of trial. After break, participants will be invited to deliver very brief performances. Professor Dal Vera will provide private feedback (via audio feed on recording). These will be accessible only to class members, not to the public. Participants are welcome to observe only (also beneficial) and NOT perform or receive feedback. Observers will still receive full CLE credit.
Direction On Direct: Plotting Story, Character Development & Jury Judgment

Second Evening: September 22, 2014
6:00 – 9:30 p.m.
Room 204
(Including sandwich supper)

Agenda

6:00 – 6:15 pm  Introduction: Soliloquies and Sandwiches

6:15 – 7:45 pm  Of Witnesses, Plots, Subplots, Scripts, and Style
• Generating judgments of character and credibility
• Driving rational or rationalized decisions with emotional subplot
• Scripting and selling your story though someone else

Faculty presentations & demos, participant exercises & feedback

7:45 – 8:00 pm  Break

8:00 – 9:30 pm  In the Moment, In Tune, and In Command
• On with the show though interruption or surprise
• Balancing confidence & passion, coolness & caring
• Working with feelings: yours and theirs

Faculty presentations & demos, participant exercises & feedback

Professor Rocco Dal Vera will present and demonstrate acting, movement and vocal techniques and provide feedback, Professor Marjorie Corman Aaron will facilitate discussion of attorneys’ perspectives.

Note: for the 90 minutes, Professor Dal Vera will present and work interactively on actors’ techniques relevant at this stage of trial. After break, participants will be invited to deliver very brief performances. Professor Dal Vera will provide private feedback (via audio feed on recording). These will be accessible only to class members, not to the public. Participants are welcome to observe only (also beneficial) and NOT perform or receive feedback. Observers will still receive full CLE credit.
On Cross Examination: Control, Command, and Convey
The Lawyer-As-Actor’s Ethical Limits

Third Evening: September 29, 2014
5:00 –6:00 p.m. Ethics Hour
6:00 – 9:30 p.m. Room 204
(Including sandwich supper)

Agenda

5:00 – 6:00  The Lawyer-As-Actor’s Ethical Limits
Examination of potential witness and jury manipulation through choices in movement, vocal, emotional and narrative strategies.

Faculty presentation and class discussion of relevant ABA Model Rules and consequent limits on the lawyer-as-actor.

6:00 – 6:15 Soliloquies and Sandwiches

6:15–7:45 Controlling, Extracting & Illuminating Cross Examination Gold
• Controlling mining through frame and focus to convey your story
• Pinning down a difficult witness
• Extracting gold without alienating the audience
• Illuminating the golden thread of logic and narrative

Faculty presentations & demos, participant exercises & feedback

7:45 – 8:00  Break

8:00 – 9:30 Keeping Character and Command
• Preparing your witness for eluding control & keeping character
• Winning points under scrutiny—building credibility and trust
• Commanding presence: Controlling timing and pace

Faculty presentations & demos, participant exercises & feedback

Professor Rocco Dal Vera will present and demonstrate acting and vocal techniques and provide feedback. Professor Aaron will facilitate discussion of attorneys’ perspectives, and lead the ethics portion.

Note: for the 90 minutes, Professor Dal Vera will present and work interactively on actors’ techniques relevant at this stage of trial. After break, participants will be invited to deliver very brief performances. Professor Dal Vera will provide private feedback (via audio feed on recording). These will be accessible only to class members, not to the public. Participants are welcome to observe only (also beneficial) and NOT perform or receive feedback. Observers will still receive full CLE credit.
The Closing Drama:
Final Plot, Presence, and Persuasion

Fourth Evening: Oct. 6, 2014
6:00 – 9:30 p.m.
Room 204
(Including sandwich supper)

Agenda

6:00 – 6:15 pm  Introduction: Soliloquies and Sandwiches

6:15 – 6:45 pm  The Drama and Power of Plot Shifts
• Recasting jury as protagonist
• Building anticipation; Creating an “aha” moment
• Thematic threads that bind

Faculty presentations & demos, participant exercises & feedback

6:45 – 7:45 pm  Essential Style: Presence, Movement, Voice, Tension & Timing
Faculty presentations & performance

7:45 – 8:00 pm  Break

8:00 – 9:30 pm  Last Chance at Dramatic Persuasion
Participant exercises & feedback

Professor Rocco Dal Vera will present and demonstrate acting, movement and vocal techniques and provide feedback. Professor Marjorie Corman Aaron will facilitate discussion of attorneys’ perspectives.

Note: for the 90 minutes, Professor Dal Vera will present and work interactively on actors’ techniques relevant at this stage of trial. After break, participants will be invited to deliver very brief performances. Professor Dal Vera will provide private feedback (via audio feed on recording). These will be accessible only to class members, not to the public. Participants are welcome to observe only (also beneficial) and NOT perform or receive feedback. Observers will still receive full CLE credit.