

Acting for Lawyers™ INTRODUCTION to PERFORMANCE STRATEGIES

The **Acting for Lawyers™**: “Introduction to Performance Strategies” course focuses on the needs of every lawyer who must deliver a polished, expert, compelling and yet natural performance under pressure. Whether your audience is a jury, a judge, or a client you will learn techniques for dealing with stage fright, sure-fire strategies for winning over your audience, and the skills you need to make your case clear.

Our instructors will work with you to strengthen your performance skills on three levels. First, we will work with text, applying our unique process to a work-related speech of your choosing. Second, we will use acting exercises to master the techniques and stumbling blocks of performance. Finally, we will teach you the basics of voice, body awareness, and movement so that you can apply their communicative powers to your own presentations. By the end of the course, you will have a new understanding of how to maximize your personal style, share your message, and motivate your audience.

Course Outline

- Session 1:** Individual presentation, evaluations, and goal setting.
- Session 2:** Lecture/demonstration laying out the fundamentals of acting and how they apply to personal presentation skills; also, an introduction to the basics of physical and vocal awareness.
- Session 3:** Creating fresh beginnings and powerful endings through setting an active agenda and creating a relationship with an audience.
- Session 4:** “Storytelling” or discovering the story in the facts.
- Session 5:** Connection and Credibility: finding a way to own the story; dealing with your own personal “audience from hell” (i.e. a variable audience).
- Session 6:** Creating a performance outline (reworking presentations from an audience perspective).
- Session 7:** Dress rehearsal; final performances of “Shakespearean playlets”.
- Session 8:** Final performances.

To Enroll

Email gillian@ontrialassociates.com. Please include your name, firm or association, and contact information.

DATES: Monday Evenings, April 28 through June 23 (8 sessions excluding Memorial Day)

TIME: 6:45pm – 9:30pm

FEE: \$760

LOCATION: Universalist National Memorial Church, 1810 16th Street, NW

INSTRUCTORS: Gillian Drake w/ Robert Bowen Smith