CRF OC

MOCK TRIAL • PEER COURT • LAW DAY • CAREER FORUM • CONSTITUTION DAY • MOOT COURT

40th Annual
Orange County Career Forum

March 14, 2025

Orange Coast College
Costa Mesa, California

Special Thanks to CRF-OC's Annual Benefactor

CHARITABLE FUND

CRF-OC President's Council

MINYARD | MORRIS

Hon. Nancy Zeltzer (Ret.)

CRF-OC Leadership Circle

AITKEN • AITKEN • COHN
TRIAL LAWYERS

JUDICATE WEST — CELEBRATING 30
Alternative Dispute Resolution

RUTAN
RUTAN & TUCKER, LLP

Event Sponsor

PACIFIC LIFE FOUNDATION

Community Partners

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

vital link

CRF OC

Officers
PRESIDENT
Cathy Moses , Esq.

VICE PRESIDENT
Hans Van Ligten, Esq.

SECRETARY
Nicole L. Surratt

TREASURER
Brian Neach, Esq.

PAST PRESIDENT
Matthew S. Buttacavoli, Esq.

OCCF Committee
Co-Chairs:
Jeffrey M. Blank, Esq.
Karishma Tejwani, Esq.

Darren O. Aitken, Esq.
Neda Arab
Tiffanny Brosnan, Esq.
Audrey L. Cheng, Esq.
Alejandra Diaz
Mark E. Earnest, Esq.
Deirdre M. Kelly, Esq.
Philip K. Lem, Esq.
Geoffrey M. Moore, Esq.
Eric S. Pezold, Esq.
Negeen Sadeghi-Movahed, Esq.
Felipe Salazar
Christina Trinh, Esq.
Yusra Yousef

Board of Directors
Darren O. Aitken, Esq.
John E. Altstadt
Jeffrey A. Barker, Esq.
Jeffrey M. Blank, Esq.
Travis P. Brennan, Esq.
Frances Brower, Esq.
Anthony J. Carucci, Esq.
Jason Moberly Caruso, Esq.
Audrey L. Cheng, Esq.
Shannon Cheng, Esq.

Board of Directors cont.
Alan J. Crivaro, Esq.
Justin Cruz, Esq.
Gordon Dunn, Esq.
Douglas Davidson, Esq.
Mark E. Earnest, Esq.
C. Ryan Fisher, Esq.
Var Fox
Andrew Gahan, Esq.
Jeffrey M. Garcia
Justin J. Gillett, Esq.
Daniel M. Glassman, Esq,
Amanda Henninger, Esq.
Deirdre M. Kelly, Esq.
Eoin L. Kreditor, Esq.
Philip K. Lem, Esq.
Allison Libeu, Esq.
Marika Manos, Ed.D.
John McCoy, Esq.
Casey J. McCracken, Esq.
Marcus McCutcheon, Esq.
Geoffrey M. Moore, Esq.
Brent J. North, Esq.
David E. Outwater, Esq.
Alan Slater
Karishma Tejwani, Esq.
Eric V. Traut, Esq.
Cdr. Brad Valentine
Peter N. Villar, Esq.
Kate Wagner, Esq.
Jeffrey I. Wertheimer, Esq.
Todd R. Wulffson, Esq.

Judicial Advisory Board
Hon. Craig E. Arthur
Hon. H. Shaina Colover
Hon. Scott Cooper
Hon. Andre De La Cruz
Hon. Thomas A. Delaney
Comm. Aaron Heisler
Hon. Shashi H. Kewalramani
Hon. Richard Y. Lee
Hon. Katherine Lewis
Hon. Douglas F. McCormick
Hon. Linda L. Miller, Ret. (Emeritus)
Hon. Cheri Pham
Hon. Jamoa A. Moberly, Ret. (Emeritus)
Hon. Karen E. Scott

Judicial Advisory Board, Cont.
Hon. Randall J. Sherman
Hon. Fred W. Slaughter
Hon. Nathan Vu

Presidents Emeriti
Julianne Sartain Bancroft, Esq.
Tiffanny Brosnan, Esq.
Randall Clement, Esq.
Richard J. Grabowski, Esq.
Paul Marx, Esq.
Hon. Melissa R. McCormick
Robert E. Palmer, Esq.
Eric Pezold, Esq.
(1956-2014)
Jeffrey H. Reeves, Esq.
William N. Scarff, Jr., Esq.
(1958-2014)
Scott M. Stebick, Esq.
Adina Stowell, Esq.
Barbara C. Tingley
Michael Yoder, Esq.
Dean J. Zipser, Esq.

Associate Board
Lauren Assaf-Holmes, Esq. , Chair
Brandon Amash, Esq.
Neil Anderson, Esq.
Katie Beaudin, Esq.
Jessica Brostek-Maciel, Esq.
Ashley Duell, Esq.
Allison Greenberg, Esq.
Golsa Honarfar, Esq.
Leah Kaufman, Esq.
Katie Rosoff, Esq.
Negeen Sadeghi-Movahed, Esq.
Scott Savage, Esq.
Nicholas Schuchert, Esq.
Lauren Shelby, Esq.
Greg Sonnenberg, Esq.
Christina Trinh, Esq.
Rachel Zarrabi, Esq.

Staff
Shara Beral Witkin, Esq.
Executive Director

Marcy Garrett, Esq.
Program Director

Michelle Antenesse
Program Manager

Tips for Finding a Job: What Employers Want

Your GPA, along with other achievements, are only part of the picture. When it comes to hiring, here's what ***every*** employer is looking for:

- A smile and a sincere, friendly attitude
- Humility (takes direction without attitude or back-talk, no big ego)
- Easy to work with (doesn't show frustration/stress, works well in a team)
- Trustworthy (you attend to your job duties, treat customers with respect, etc.)
- Honest (no fear that you will steal, cheat the time-clock, etc.)
- Responsible and reliable (you show up on time, flag problems, no improper conduct, etc.)
- Interest in the job/company (employers want people who are excited to work for them)

When you interview for a job, your style of dress/grooming, body language, and tone of voice all convey a lot about who you are. No one wants to hire a person who they fear will be lazy, difficult to work with, disparage the company, or be unprofessional. Employers want people with a strong work ethic and positive attitude. Show them that it would be a pleasure to work with you!

CRF OC

INSPIRING ORANGE COUNTY STUDENTS THROUGH CIVICS AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Conference Schedule

Registration	9:00 am - 9:45 am
Session 1	9:55 am - 10:55 am
Session 2	11:05 am - 12:05 pm
Lunch	12:05 pm - 12:35 pm

Students must complete and return the enclosed evaluation form in order to receive lunch.

Workshop Registration

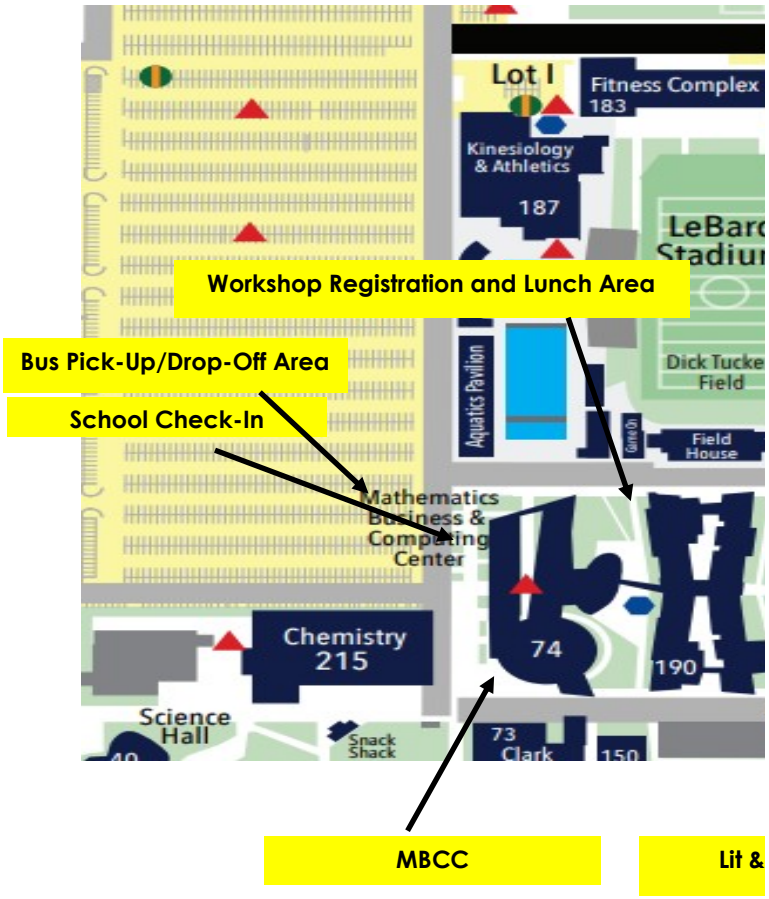
The workshops listed on the following pages are identified by a number. Each session is represented by a different color (red for session 1, blue for session 2). Students *must* attend the workshop they registered for during the appropriate session. Students may not attend the same workshop twice.

Follow Us on Instagram

crf_oc

Tag your photos from today with #crfoc

2025 Orange County Career Forum
Orange Coast College Map



Workshop 21: Legal Pathways: Careers in Law - Lit & Lang Room 239
Interested in the legal field? It's not only for lawyers. Hear from professionals in the legal industry regarding job opportunities beyond practicing law. Get the inside scoop on the many career paths available, what they entail, and how to get started. Whether you're drawn to courtroom drama or prefer supporting roles, this session will open your eyes to all the ways you can make an impact in the legal world!
Presented By: Ernest M. Montoya, Orange County Superior Court, Staffing, Classification & Compensation Officer, Alma Guzman, Orange County Superior Court, Court Interpreter Manager, and Research Attorney - TBA

Workshop 22: Education: Create, Inspire, Educate - Lit & Lang Room 240
We need great educators more than ever! Education is an exciting and rewarding field to pursue - not just for teachers and administrators, but also for specialized roles. Find out how you can become part of this impactful career path.
Presented By: Katherine Crawford, Program Specialist, Orange County Department of Education

Workshop 23: Get the Job You Want: Career Readiness - Lit & Lang Room 241
Figuring out which career to pursue is one thing, but once you have made up your mind, how do you get the job you want? Attend this workshop to learn about the skills employers look for and how to nail your interview.
Presented By: Kyle Slocum, K-16 Programs Project Coordinator, Orange Coast College

Workshop 24: Auto Tech: Gear Up for Success - Lit & Lang Room 250
Interested in becoming a mechanic? This session will guide you through the essential steps to build a successful career in the automotive repair industry. You'll learn about the skills and qualifications needed, the tools of the trade, and the different career paths available. You will learn about the importance of hands-on experience, the role of certifications, and how to stay up-to-date with industry innovations. This session will equip you with the knowledge to start and thrive in your mechanic career.
Presented By: Jacob Hamrick and Mike Russell, Automotive Technology, Golden West College

Workshop 16: Residential Real Estate - Lit & Lang Room 224
You see for sale signs in your neighborhood, but have you considered what goes into buying and selling homes for a living? Come find out about the process of becoming a real estate agent and how they help people find their dream homes.
Presented by Daniel Finder, Real Estate Agent, The Finder Group

Workshop 17: A Prescription for Success: Pharmacy - Lit & Lang Room 235
Pharmacists are the most accessible health care professional in every community. Come learn about what it takes to become a Doctor of Pharmacy, the diverse careers within pharmacy, and how to begin your path towards earning a high income, taking care of patients, and living a fulfilling life. You can start your journey now! Join us to learn more!
Presented By: Eric K. Gupta, PharmD, Assistant Dean of Student Recruitment/ Public Relations, Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy

Workshop 18: Off the Rink: The Business of Sports - Lit & Lang Room 236
Ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes with your favorite pro athletes? Get ready to dive into the action and hear from an insider who works in sports marketing and community outreach for the Anaheim Ducks. Find out how they shape the game and make an impact off the ice!
Presented By: Greg Hughes, Assistant Manager, Fan Development Marketing

Workshop 19: Soar into a Career in Aviation - Lit & Lang Room 237
You love the thrill of watching planes take off, but have you ever wondered what it takes to make it all happen? Learn about the path to become a pilot: how to get there, the types of jobs available in aviation, and the future of the industry. Hear from a pilot who has flown for an airline, private, and charter flights.
Presented By: Chris Whitaker, Captain, NetJets

Workshop 20: Financial Advising: Plan for Success - Lit & Lang Room 238
Want to help people use their money to create financial freedom, peace of mind and a lasting legacy? Do you have passion, integrity and empathy? Listen to what motivates this financial advisor to get up each day and help people with their money. Learn how you can be happy and do well by doing good for others.
Presented By: Patrick Stoll, Private Wealth Advisor, Northwestern Mutual and Danielle Shaver, Associate Director of Intern Development, Northwestern Mutual

Workshop #s 1-7: MBCC (1st & 2nd Floor)

Workshop #s 8-24: Lit & Lang (2nd Floor)



Workshops #s 1-7: MBCC (1st and 2nd Floor)

Workshop 1: Careers in Beauty - MBCC 162
Passionate about beauty? A career in cosmetology may be for you! This workshop will go over the education needed to start working in the industry and what job opportunities are available.
Presented By: Anne Davidson, Adjunct Professor, Fullerton College

Workshop 2: FBI - MBCC 163
This is a rare opportunity to hear from one of the FBI's finest agents! Agents work on everything from undercover operations to cyber-crimes. How does one become an FBI agent? What are the necessary academic and personal qualifications? What are the dangers?
Presented By: David Staab, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Workshop 3: Nursing: Make a Difference, Every Day - MBCC 164
There is something for everyone in nursing. Attend this workshop for an informative discussion and learn how nursing provides career opportunities at the bedside, in the community, teaching, and across the business world. If you love caring for others, nursing may be the career for you!
Presented By: Lindsay Holt, PhD, RN, CPAN, CCRN, HS Assistant Professor, Assistant Director Pre-Licensure Program, Sue and Bill Gross School of Nursing UC Irvine

Workshop 4: Therapy: Empowering People, Enriching Lives - MBCC 201
Do your career goals include making a meaningful impact on others? Therapists help children, teens, and families navigate life's challenges and unlock their potential. Gain insight into careers in therapy, explore opportunities to make a difference, and participate in an activity designed to help discover your unique strengths as you consider your future. Whether you are interested in becoming a therapist, working in nonprofits, or simply figuring out your next steps, this session is for you!
Presented By: Daniel Ramos, Program Manager Youth Services, Community Action Partnership – Orange County

Workshop 12: Architecture: Designing the Future– Lit & Lang 205
Architects create our built environment! Step into the world of a decorated architect to hear the secrets to a successful career and explore alternate career paths within the architecture profession. This hands-on workshop will provide you an opportunity to create something unique, giving you a glimpse into how you can influence the experiences of communities you live and play in every day.
Presented By: Rita S. Carter, AIA, Assoc. DBIA, Client Leader/ Principal, DLR Group

Workshop 13: Performing Arts—Lit & Lang 220
Launching a theater company, ensemble, or improv group takes vision, resilience, and a strong network of collaborators. In this session, two artists share their firsthand experiences in building and sustaining successful artistic ventures. Hear their stories, lessons learned, and the challenges they overcame along the way. The session will conclude with a Q&A, giving you the chance to ask your own questions and get advice on starting and growing your own artistic community.
Presented By: Oánh Nguyễn, Founding Executive Artistic Director of Chance Theater, Shinshin Tsai, creator of OC's only Asian sketch comedy team: No MSG Added, Marketing Associate at Chance Theater

Workshop 14: Music - Lit & Lang 221
Music is LIFE! But how do you make music into a career? Come check out this diverse and experienced panel to explore the different career paths in music! You will discover how to break into this dynamic world and build a career that resonates with your dreams.
Presented By: Larry Boodman (co-owner/General Manager, School of Rock), Jeff Nunes (co-owner School of Rock), April Malina (Vocal coach/ music director/actress)

Workshop 15: Food Styling - Lit & Lang Room 223
Step behind-the-scenes into the world of food styling with a presentation led by master food stylist & culinary producer, Peilin Breller. Explore the old adage: we eat with our eyes. Experience firsthand how the disciplines of film and photography intersect with art and science. Discover the artistry and techniques behind crafting mouthwatering visuals that tantalize the senses and captivate audiences. Gain insight into the diverse career opportunities available in this dynamic field, where creativity knows no bounds and food becomes art.
Presented By: Peilin Chen Breller, Freelance Food Stylist

Workshop #s 8-24: Lit & Lang (2nd Floor)

Workshop 8: The World of Artificial Intelligence - Lit & Lang 201
Dive into the fascinating world of artificial intelligence and explore exciting career opportunities shaping industries and transforming the future. From personalized tech to groundbreaking innovations in medicine, learn how AI is revolutionizing how we live and work. Discover how you can harness AI tools to build, create, and drive change in your own career path!
Presented By: Wes Kriesel and Kunal Dalal, Administrators of Artificial Intelligence and Innovation, Orange County Department of Education

Workshop 9: Engineering: Build. Create. Innovate - Lit & Lang Room 202
Engineers build things that work in the world! Learn the path to an engineering career, including education, starting out in the job, and ultimately working in teams including the hands-on skills needed, how to thrive in collaborative team environments, and the endless opportunities to innovate and solve real-world problems. Get ready to unlock the secrets to becoming an engineer and making a lasting impact on the future!
Presented By: Quoc-Viet "QV" Dang, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, UC Irvine

Workshop 10: Cybersecurity: Be the Shield in a Digital World - Lit & Lang 203
Businesses, both large and small, government agencies, nonprofits and consumers face constant threats from cyber criminals, both foreign and domestic. Explore the growing demand and career options for skilled professionals in the IT and cybersecurity fields needed to protect our digital infrastructure. The ever-changing threat landscape enables continuous learning while providing great financial opportunity. Hear from an IT engineer turned entrepreneur about some of the rewarding career options.
Presented By: Matthew Kaufman, MBA, CEO, Kaufman IT

Workshop 11: Biotechnology: Fueling Breakthroughs, Changing Lives - Lit & Lang 204
Scientists create medications and therapies to cure human diseases. Hear from Molecular and Cellular Biologists who have developed cell-based therapeutics to join the fight in curing cancer. Learn the path to a Biotechnology career, including education, starting out in the job, and ultimately working in a lab!
Presented By: Samantha Renusch, Director of Education, University Lab Partners

Workshop 5: Public Safety: Careers That Make a Difference - MBCC 203
Looking to make a difference in your community? Hear from police and fire fighters who work to keep our communities safe. You will hear about the responsibilities of the job and the ups and downs of their jobs. You will also learn about the process of getting hired with a local police/fire department.
Presented By: Captain Steve Airey, Training, Safety and Professional Standards, Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue, Assistant Fire Marshall Nikki Johnson, Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue, Officer Crystal Cordero, Police Officer, Costa Mesa Police Department

Workshop 6: Social Media Marketing - MBCC 204
Ready to turn your social media into a business powerhouse? In this interactive workshop, we'll dive into the key strategies for marketing your business online. You will analyze real posts to understand what makes them successful (or not) on different platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and more. Whether you're starting a side hustle or just curious about how businesses make an impact on social media, this workshop will give you the tools to create posts that sell and build your brand.
Presented By: Elie Ayrouth, Co-Founder & Publisher, Food Beast

Workshop 7: Become a Founder: Starting Your Own Business - MBCC 206
Starting a new business, running it, AND marketing it to the world is not as easy as it sounds. (And it doesn't actually sound that easy!) But, there are some things that can help you along the way. In this session, entrepreneur Matt Barnes (aka- @mattfromrogue) will give you some simple strategies to keep you focused, on track, and successful.
Presented By: Matt Barnes, Supreme Commander, Rogue United