

## Legal thriller 'Hate Crime' coming to CSM

Posted by [Alan Van Wormer](#) On 03/10/2019

*This scene from "Hate Crime," depicts the escalation of broken trust between characters Kleiss, played by Josh Michaud, and Malcolm, played by Evan Simon.  
Tickets for the legal thriller are on sale now*

**LA PLATA, Md.** - The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) presents the legal thriller "Hate Crime" by Vincent L. Scarsella at its Cause Theater March 14-16. This suspenseful play, directed by CSM alumna and Adjunct Theater Faculty member Simone Hanna, explores the relationship between a client and lawyer when a hate crime is committed in a small town.

Timely and provocative, "Hate Crime" is a hard-hitting drama examining race relations in the context of a courtroom and legal thriller. It tells the story of Malcolm McLeod, an ambitious black criminal defense attorney, who is assigned to represent a white supremacist, Hunter Kleiss, charged with stabbing to death a black activist pastor, Reverend Clay, during Kleiss' protest of the renaming of a city park after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Due to the subject matter, including adult language, this show is not suitable for all ages.

Performances are Thursday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, March 15 at 8 p.m.; and Saturday, March 16 at 8 p.m. at the La Plata Campus, Fine Arts (FA) Building, Theater located at 8730 Mitchell Road. Immediately following each performance, the audience is invited to participate in a discussion with the director and CSM Student Services staff.

All seats are \$5. For more information email [bxoffc@csmd.edu](mailto:bxoffc@csmd.edu), call 301-934-7828, or visit online <https://www.csmd.edu/community/the-arts/theatre-and-dance/cause/index>.

CSM's Cause Theater is about more than the performance: It is about provoking thought and discussion on topics that are crucial to everyone in society today, whether young or old. These productions challenge the audience to consider different perspectives, highlighting how attitudes and behaviors can affect experiences and actions. They also provide an opportunity for the actors to be actively engaged in the process of creating and performing social issues theater.

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