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EDITED BY BOB RAIMONTO / STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Actor Tony Lo Bianco to conduct master class at Wagner College

Public is invited to attend the workshop for students on April 22 in the Stage One studio theater

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GRYMES HILL — Veteran actor Tony Lo Bianco will lead a master class April 22 in the Stage One studio theater at Wagner College.

Although intended primarily for Wagner College Theater students, the public is invited to sit in on this free workshop at 2:40 p.m. in the intimate performance space (next to the football stadium) on the campus at 630 Howard Ave. in Grymes Hill.

In the runup to the master class, the Wagner College Theater will also present a screening of William Friedkin's acclaimed "The French Connection, in which Lo Bianco played heroin wholesaler Sal Boca. The screening will be held on April 11 at 6:30 p.m. in Spiro 28.

LO BIANCO FILE

Over the course of his four-decade career, veteran actor Lo Bianco is not only known for his skills as a performer, but has extended his talents into directing, writing and producing as well. The New York born-and-bred tough guy and former Golden Gloves boxer has distinguished himself over the years with a variety of blue-

collar roles, initially on stage and then on film and TV.

Adept at playing both sides of the law — the determined, streetwise cop and the corrupt politico or syndicate boss — the Brooklyn native embodies them with a dark, brooding, edgy intensity.

In 1963, Lo Bianco founded the Triangle Theatre, serving as its artistic director for 6 years and collaborating with lighting designer Jules Fisher, playwright Jason Miller and actor Roy Scheider.

Lo Bianco was a regular in Joseph Wambaugh's TV series, "Police Story," in the mid-1970s, opposite actors Don Meredith and Chuck Connors.



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Tony Lo Bianco is seen rehearsing at Snug Harbor Cultural Center for the show "Fiorello," based on the life of Fiorello LaGuardia.

Lo Bianco won an off-Broadway Obie award as a waning baseball icon in "Yanks-3, Detroit-0, Top of the Seventh." He also won an Outer Critics Circle Award and a Tony nomination for his role in Arthur Miller's "A

View from the Bridge."

Lo Bianco received critical kudos for his 1984 one-man show, "Hizzoner!," based on the life of Fiorello LaGuardia. He revived the show in 2004 at Staten Island's Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden; as well as in 2008 under the title, "LaGuardia," and again recently as "The Little Flower."

Lo Bianco's film career started off promisingly with the cult classic, "The Honey-moon Killers" (1969), in which he portrayed a cold-blooded ladies' man who, paired with a heavyset nurse, sought out wealthy, lonely women to swindle and murder. Over the years, he has given added weight and dimension to such films as "The French Connection" (1971), "The Seven-Ups" (1973), "Bloodbrothers" (1978), "City of Hope" (1991), "Nixon" (1995) and "The Juror" (1996).