# BLAKELY ADVOCACY INSTITUTE

## *HELP US TRAIN YOUR NEXT SUPERSTAR ADVOCATE.*

***Real-World Training. Practice-Ready Lawyers.***

The University of Houston Law Center's Blakely Advocacy Institute is a national leader in teaching the art and science of legal advocacy. Connecting foundational education with real-world practice, Blakely Advocacy Institute draws on the incredible depth of legal talent across Houston and Texas to assemble world-class faculty. These leading judges and attorneys teach, coach and mentor students in every aspect of legal advocacy, equipping the next generation of attorneys to lead, advocate and excel.

## WHY IT MATTERS

Advocacy skills are essential to every legal career. Whether students become trial litigators, corporate negotiators or public advocates, Blakely Advocacy Institute provides the hands-on training needed to zealously represent clients in any venue. Delivered by 78 distinguished local judges and veteran practitioners across 12 specialized courses, Blakely Advocacy Institute equips nearly 400 law students each year with practice-ready skills and confidence. This immersive training powered an astounding 48% advanced-round competition record and elevated University of Houston Law Center this year to No. 16 nationally in Trial Advocacy by U.S. News & World Report.

## ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE PROFILE:

*CAILLEY VAUGHAN (J.D. '26)*

*"The mock trial team, our director Judge Weems and our alumni have all supported me greatly. Every time I competed, I wanted to represent University of Houston Law Center well and make the people who invested in me proud." — **Cailley Vaughan** (J.D. '26)*

As a student, Cailley immersed herself in the institute's simulation courses and elite competition teams. Competing in eight interscholastic tournaments from 2024 to 2026, Cailley led her team to a national championship at the Trials and Tribulations competition and earned Overall Outstanding Advocate at the Amicus Cup. A four-time finalist across major national and regional contests, her exceptional skill earned her induction into the Order of the Barristers and selection as a National Association of Legal Advocacy Educators Academic All-American Trial Advocate.




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# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



### *INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION TEAMS*

In 2025–2026, 86 students represented the University of Houston Law Center across 60 competitions in 14 states and Paris, France, through three nationally recognized competition teams:

- **Mock Trial:** Rose to No. 11 in the national GAVEL Rankings and No. 1 in Texas, marking UH Law's highest placement since 2019.
- **Moot Court:** Advanced in 64% of its competitions, winning a regional championship at the Giles Sutherland Rich Memorial Moot Court competition and advancing to the national championship.
- **Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR):** Advanced in six competitions, taking home Best Teamwork and Top American Team honors in Paris, France, alongside finals appearances at the InterNational Academy of Dispute Resolution and the William & Mary competitions.

### *NATIONAL SIGNATURE COMPETITIONS*

Beyond competing, Blakely Advocacy Institute serves as a major national hub for advocacy by hosting two premier tournaments:

- **Hicks Thomas LLP Moot Court National Championship:** Hosted every January, this preeminent invitational competition brings the top 16 moot court teams from across the country to Houston.
- **National Mediator Competition:** Hosted every October, this unique national dispute resolution contest challenges students to act directly as mediators addressing a complex legal and practical skills dispute scenario.

# INVEST IN EXCELLENCE

The extraordinary accomplishments of our students, coaches and instructors are made possible through the visionary support of our community. Your support provides critical funding for student travel, competition entry fees, top-tier coaching and program resources. We invite you to invest in the future of legal advocacy by supporting the Blakely Advocacy Institute today.

## MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY

1. Scan the **QR code** or visit **giving.uh.edu**.
2. Select **Blakely Advocacy Institute** from the designation dropdown.

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# FOR MORE INFORMATION

**MILES JOHNSON**
Development Officer, Major Gifts
mejohns9@central.uh.edu
713-743-5234

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