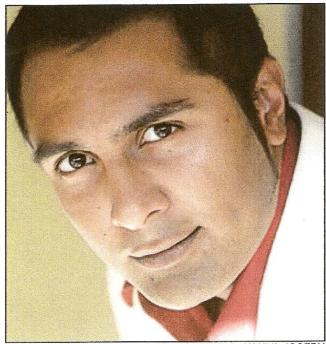
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Days of our alumni

UCLA alumnus Kahlil Joseph shines as guest on NBC's well-known daytime soap opera



COURTESY OF KAHLIL JOSEPH

Kahlil Joseph left a successful acting career in India to make the shift from Bollywood to Hollywood, receiving his MFA in acting from UCLA's School of Theater, Film and Television last spring. Now, just out of school, he has begun forging a successful career with jobs such as guest starring on the popular soap opera "Days of our

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From New Delhi to Los Angeles. From prime time to daytime. From Bollywood to Hollywood.

On set, it may be his characters that take center stage, but behind the scenes UCLA alumnus Kahlil Joseph has found himself in the spotlight with a flurry of acting work - including his current guest stint as Dr. Myers on legendary soap opera "Days of Our Lives."

After completing his master of fine arts degree in acting from the School of Theater, Film and Television this past spring, Joseph is currently in the midst of a 12-episode arc as Dr. Myers, helping famed characters Steve and Kayla fight off a deadly toxin in their systems.

Although he was able to receive steady acting and voice work throughout his time at UCLA, "Days of Our Lives" is still a new high point for the India-born actor.

"Days' was one of my favorite gigs so far because everyone has got to be ready to work," Joseph said. "The stereotype is that it's a lot easier than stage because you get to do multiple takes. (However), on a soap, you're shooting an entire scene in one take."

Because soap operas air new episodes five days a week, actors get a maximum of two takes per scene, whereas episodic television comedies and drama run scenes many more times.

"I love the fact that you have to be on your toes working in your craft and really have your stuff together," Joseph

Joseph's rise to the challenge was noticed by producers, who were quick to extend his contract to 12 episodes and keep him in Dr. Myers' shoes.

"It was a very long time for what was supposed to be a guest star role," Joseph said. "They just kept writing me in; it was very flattering.'

While the daytime method might have been an obstacle for some, Joseph enters the role with a long pedigree of work from both his early career in India and a number of acting and voice-over jobs he received during the span of the MFA program.

"Most MFA acting programs keep you under lock and key, but it was just a matter of good time management," Joseph said. "I wanted to work steadily ever since I got here, and that's just been Khalil Joseph plays Dr. Myers on the soap opera "Days of Our happening nonstop.

Joseph's mentors credit his personality for his current wave of success.



Lives," a character he will portray for 12 episodes. He will soon appear in commercials for Chrysler and the U.S. Army, along with the season premiere of the prime-time hit drama "24."

"The thing about Kahlil is that there is a truth to him and an honesty that is sorely lacking in a lot of American students. When he says he's going to do something, he follows up and does it," said UCLA assistant theater professor Ed Monaghan, who specializes in martial arts training. "Besides acting, Kahlil also used the MFA program to explore his interests in both combat and voice and speech technique."

"He's really dedicated to growing and improving, and that makes such a big difference in getting ahead," said Kahlil's so-called 'voice and speech guru,' assistant theater professor Paul Wagar.