



IAAS Walks of Life 2000 Vincent Dowling

Vincent Dowling, in an association with Dublin's Abbey Theatre that began in 1953, has served that theater as an actor (with over 100 leading roles), director, artistic director and director of the Experimental Theatre. He spearheaded its first trip to the Bolshoi Theatre in Leningrad and the Moscow Arts Theatre, and its first national American tour in 35 years. For nine years as artistic and as producing director of Cleveland's Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival, and later as producing director of the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts in California, Dr. Dowling directed more than a score of classical and new works. He also has directed at many of America's leading professional resident theaters. His was the first American production of *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby* in Cleveland and Chicago and he won an Emmy Award for his PBS production of *The Playboy of the Western World*.

Also a poet and playwright, Dr. Dowling has produced his own works at the Missouri Repertory Theatre, the Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival, London's Globe Theatre, the Cleveland Playhouse and at California State University. Vincent Dowling the actor has performed his one-man shows at the White House as well as in New York, Chicago, Dublin and Chester, Mass., where in 1989 he founded the Miniature Theatre of Chester. After serving that theater in a variety of roles, in 1996 he stepped down as artistic director to become founding director and president for life of the MTC Board of Directors. Each year since, he has performed in his annual Founding Director's Production; this year it will be *I Am of Ireland*, about the life and times of William Butler Yeats.

Dr. Dowling also has been a visiting professor and lecturer at the University of Missouri, Western Michigan University, California State University, Ohio's College of Wooster, and Loyola University. A member of the International Artistic Directorate of England's Shakespeare Globe Theatre, and Life Associate Director of the Abbey Theatre. Dowling has been awarded honorary doctorates in Fine Arts from John Carroll University, Westfield State College and this spring from the College of Wooster, for his contributions to theater in the United States, Ireland and the United Kingdom. In 1989 he was honored by Loyola University with its Loyola-Mellon Humanitarian Award.

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