



January 2024

Student Connection



CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Amaya Mayes

Nordonia Hills



Amaya Mayes is a senior at Nordonia High School and is enrolled in CVCC's Cosmetology program instructed by Marilyn Mormile. Amaya decided to attend the Cosmetology program with hopes of joining her family legacy of cosmetologists. Amaya's great grandmother was a hairdresser and converted her basement into a salon. Her daughter, Amaya's grandma, aspired to do the same but when she got pregnant with Amaya's dad, she decided to pursue a different path. Amaya's dad wanted to finish what his mom started by becoming a barber and has now owned a salon since 1996!

"Amaya has been an impressive student from the moment she arrived at CVCC. She presents herself in a professional manner and is very focused on her academics and advancing her career."
-Marilyn Mormile, Cosmetology Instructor

Amaya has two big dreams after graduation. One of those dreams is to own a mobile salon so she can take her career and passion with her on-the-go. Her big dream, "THE dream", is to become an actress and do modeling, hair, and makeup on the side.

"The Cosmetology program has given me an opportunity to express my creativity and be vulnerable with other girls my age who have a similar passion and goal. It's been really awesome to share that journey together." -Amaya Mayes

Amaya's favorite experience in class has been "state board drills." Amaya really appreciates that though intimidating and not an enjoyable task, these drills have pushed her to work harder and have been a "blessing in disguise" for preparing her for the real test.

"Be prepared to put in the work because you are always learning something new. People don't realize how science heavy cosmetology is. We have to understand why things work and look the way they do, somewhat similar to baking. You have to have life, people, and time management skills as a cosmetologist. People are coming to you, the cosmetologist, because they don't know how, or don't feel confident enough, doing their hair or nails themselves." -Amaya Mayes

Outside of academics, Amaya works at a salon and is heavily involved in Nordonia High School Drama; she just finished performing in their recent show "A Murder is Announced" and recently found out she got the lead role, Donna Sheridan, in their next show, "Mama Mia!" Amaya is also enrolled in College Credit Plus (CCP) courses at Kent State University. Keep up the great work, Amaya!

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