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# Student Connection



CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

## Spencer Mills

### North Royalton



Spencer Mills, a senior at North Royalton High School, is currently enrolled in CVCC's Media Arts program under the guidance of Bernie VanTilburg. Spencer's journey into the world of creativity began early, sparked by his mother's encouragement to pursue acting as a means to step out of his comfort zone. However, with each experience on set, Spencer found himself drawn to the idea of working behind the scenes. Taking initiative, he delved into courses and self-taught through online resources like YouTube to deepen his understanding of the craft.

Post-graduation, Spencer aspires to fulfill his dream of becoming a Cinematographer, envisioning a career marked by flexibility and global exploration. His passion lies in the process of creation, relishing the satisfaction of witnessing a project evolve from an idea to completion.

Acknowledging the invaluable lessons instilled by his program and instructor, Spencer emphasizes the importance of professionalism both within the industry and in life. From mastering time management to delivering one's best effort, he attributes his growth to these teachings. Fondly recalling experiences such as a lighting workshop led by industry professional Najada Davis and collaborating on a short film, Spencer highlights these moments as highlights of his educational journey. Notably, he served as the director for one of the entries in the International Youth Silent Film competition, a testament to his dedication and skill.

Reflecting on his time at CVCC, Spencer encourages future students to embrace opportunities and remain dedicated, acknowledging that challenges are part of the rewarding experience. Beyond his academic pursuits, Spencer actively engages in theatre at North Royalton, even contributing to prop-building efforts. Additionally, he balances his studies with a part-time job at Dunkin Donuts and enjoys drawing and building things during his leisure time. Kudos to you, Spencer, for your admirable dedication and pursuits!

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