



September 2024

Student Connection



CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Kayla Newcomer

Independence



Kayla Newcomer, a junior at Independence High School, is currently enrolled in CVCC's Construction Trades program, taught by Paul Yuravak. Unsure of her career path after high school, Kayla saw CVCC as a valuable opportunity to explore her options. While she isn't certain whether she'll pursue a career in construction, the program is equipping her with practical skills that she can apply to everyday life, like fixing drywall or honing leadership abilities.

Since starting at CVCC, Kayla has noticed a significant improvement in her time management skills. *"Balancing two schools has been a major adjustment and has really made me prioritize managing my time. I'm so grateful for Mr. Yuravak – he challenges us every day and constantly reminds us of what we're capable of."*

In addition to her instructor, Kayla is especially thankful for Tylar VanNess, a recent graduate of the Construction Trades program and already a leader in the industry. *"Mr. Yuravak connected me with Tylar, and she's been an incredible mentor. She's had the biggest impact on me at CVCC so far, and after talking to her, I feel inspired to pursue a career as a project manager."*

Recently, Kayla was elected Vice President of CVCC's local SkillsUSA chapter and is preparing to run for Regional Officer soon. *"Tylar's best advice to me was to get as involved as possible, especially with SkillsUSA. It's been challenging, but also so rewarding. I can't wait to keep getting involved and see where the organization takes me."*

Outside of school, Kayla is a cheerleader at Independence High School and juggles two jobs: teaching Brazilian jiu-jitsu to kids at North Coast Jiu-Jitsu Club and working at Tita Flora's, a Filipino kitchen. Despite her busy schedule, Kayla enjoys staying active and engaged in various activities, from volunteering at her school to spending time with family, working out, attending concerts, making paper stars, and fixing things around the house. Keep up the amazing work, Kayla!

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