March 2025



News Flash

CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

AT A GLANCE	 Job Fair CVCC Participates in Hands of Gratitude Project Educators Rising State Conference SkillsUSA Precision Machining Competition BPA State Competition HOSA Regionals CVCC Awarded Academy 25 Years of Service Award Nordonia Students Learn About Nursing Careers from Cleveland Clinic Experts Cuyahoga Heights Students Explore Career Strengths Garfield Heights Students Explore Career Opportunities at Playhouse Square Twinsburg High School Students Create Professional Resumes for Future Success Twinsburg High School Hosts 2nd Annual 'E' Fair Twinsburg 8th Graders Get Ready for CVCC Tours
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Job Fair

A big thank you to all the employers, students, and job seekers who took part in CVCC's Job Fair on March 6. Your support and participation made this event a success, helping to create valuable connections and opportunities. We truly appreciate you!

CVCC Participates in Hands of Gratitude Project

On February 27, students from CVCC Success Academy had the incredible opportunity to take part in a workshop led by Matt Campana and his organization, Hands of Gratitude. This organization offers a fun and interactive program where individuals and teams collaborate to create 3D-printed prosthetic hands. Once completed, these prosthetics are distributed to recipients across the globe! During the workshop, students worked in small groups to assemble the prosthetic hands and included personalized letters and artwork for the recipients. Each student also received a brief biography of the recipient, who came from the Dominican Republic, Tanzania, and Guatemala. The event was even more exciting with Fred Barrett present, filming a documentary on Hands of Gratitude for PBS, set to air at the end of March. The workshop was a team effort, with support from the Education Professions, Media Arts, and Construction Trades programs. A special thank you goes to Dino DeGirolamo, Success Academy Instructor, Michelle Hasman, Career Specialist for the Garfield Heights School District, and Josh Hayes, Assistant Principal, for their dedication and hard work in organizing this meaningful event. Thank you, Hands of Gratitude!



Educators Rising State Conference

CVCC Education Professions students excelled at the Educators Rising State Conference in Columbus on March 5 and 6. Olivia Todaro (Nordonia High School) and Penelope Marsh (Twinsburg High School) earned bronze in the Interactive Bulletin Board category. Ella Chase (Nordonia High School) placed third in the state for Lesson Planning CTE, and Zaria Jackson (Nordonia High School) placed third in the state for Exploring Administrative Careers. Ella and Zaria will advance to Nationals in Orlando, FL, June 26-29. Way to go, Education Professions!



SkillsUSA Precision Machining Competition

On February 28, CVCC hosted the SkillsUSA Precision Machining Competition, showcasing the talent of students, strong community partnerships, and the commitment of dedicated instructors. The event tested both technical skill and endurance, as students worked with blueprints, raw materials, machinery, and the pressure of a ticking clock. While not every participant completed the task, that was part of the challenge. The top performers are advancing to the State competition, with the chance to progress to Nationals. A total of 35 students from 16 school districts in Northeast Ohio competed, demonstrating their abilities. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be recognized at the SkillsUSA State Conference in Columbus on March 18 and 19. Competitions like these go beyond being annual events—they highlight the vital collaboration between businesses, schools, and the community, offering valuable career pathways and motivating the next generation. Well done, Machine Technology students!



BPA State Competition

On March 10 and 11, CVCC students competed in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) State Competition in Columbus, Ohio. The students who qualified will advance to the BPA National Conference, taking place May 7-11 in Orlando, FL. CVCC is proud to have 19 students heading to Nationals! They are:

Program: Medical Administrative Specialist

- Savanna Adamini Nordonia High School
- Malkiyah Armstrong Nordonia High School
- David Lopez Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School
- Andrionna Wells Garfield Heights High School

Program: Programming & Software Development

- Denny Rushing Nordonia High School
- Evan Schaus Twinsburg High School
- Brendan Gyorki Nordonia High School
- Samuel Lombardo Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School
- Luke Rinas Nordonia High School
- John Steel North Royalton High School
- Alex Miller Twinsburg High School
- Anthony Youssef Twinsburg High School

Program: Computer Networking Academy

- Logan Di Biase Nordonia High School
- Damon Hoody Twinsburg High School
- Tontawan Hunjangsit Nordonia High School
- John Shubert Nordonia High School

Program: Digital Design

- Nicole Nisenbaum Twinsburg High School
- Darren Fidel North Royalton High School
- Sophia Kish Cuyahoga Heights High School



HOSA Regionals

Students from Dental Assisting, Health Careers, and Sports Medicine Exercise Science showed up and showed out at the HOSA Regional Competition on Saturday, February 22, at Medina County Career Center! Out of 65 competitors, an impressive 50 students are advancing to the State Competition on April 9 and 10 in Toledo, Ohio. Huge congratulations to everyone who competed—you've made your instructors, classmates, and the entire CVCC community incredibly proud! We can't wait to see you represent CVCC at States.

Dental Assisting Student Success at HOSA Regional Competition

Congratulations to all our winners and state qualifiers:

Community Awareness – TEAM

4th: Olivia Albrecht (Twinsburg High school), Jade Henry (Cuyahoga Heights High School), Kenzie Kowatch (Nordonia High School), Simar Laly (Twinsburg High School), Lillian Nichols (Cuyahoga Heights High School), and Lilly Sobieski (Nordonia High School)

Dental Science

3rd: Sophia Walp – Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School

Dental Terminology

2nd: Alexa Braun – North Royalton High School 3rd: Yuliia Kleban – North Royalton High School

Job Seeking Skills

1st: Holly Gayner – Revere High School

Pathophysiology

3rd: Kaitlin Domzalski - Cuyahoga Heights High School

Public Service Announcement – TEAM

1st: Taylor Bartholomew (Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School), Peyton Hanzel (North Royalton High School), Amy Haselow (Nordonia High School), and Sophia Stencel (Revere High School)

2nd: Akeelah Adams (Garfield Heights High School) and D'naya Anderson (Twinsburg High School)



Health Careers Student Success at HOSA Regional Competition

Congratulations to all our winners and state qualifiers:

Creative Problem Solving – TEAM

2nd: Tevin Cullison (Independence High School), Makenzie Enczur (Nordonia High School), Eshal Qureshi (Twinsburg High School), Deborah Sadiq (Garfield Heights High School), Anderson Sears (Independence High School)

3rd: Melinda Geringer (Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School), Erin Popovic (Twinsburg High School), Samantha Simonitis (Nordonia High School), Alex Talposh (North Royalton High School)

4th: Rainah Graves (North Royalton High School), Braydon Kaliszewski (North Royalton High School), Jenna Shriver (Nordonia High School)

Health Career Display – TEAM

1st: Ryleigh Ressler (Cuyahoga Heights High School) and Elizabeth Werner (North Royalton High School)

Health Career Photography

1st: Alexis Miller - Revere High School

Medical Spelling

1st: Isabela Melendez – Cuyahoga Heights High School

Medical Terminology

2nd: Peyton Simmons – Nordonia High School 3rd: Arianna Cocroft – Twinsbrug High School

Nursing Assisting

1st: Emilee Sanicky – Cuyahoga Heights High School 3rd: Breanna Pfieffer – Nordonia High School

Prepared Speaking

4th: Mackenzie Ferber – North Royalton High School 4th: Miranda Olson – North Royalton High School

Public Service Announcement – TEAM

4th: Sofia Castro (Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School) and Alisa Villanueva (Cuyahoga Heights High School)







Sports Medicine Exercise Science Student Success at HOSA Regional Competition

Congratulations to all our winners and state qualifiers:

Prepared Speaking

2nd: Makayla Corrigan – Twinsburg High School 3rd: Halley Sekerak – Twinsburg High School

Sports Medicine

1st: Penelope Bly – North Royalton High School2nd: Aly Gurnak – Twinsburg High School3rd: Sarah Priest – Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School

Health Career Display – TEAM

4th: Gracie Dunbar (Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School) and Isabel Samadi (Revere High School)

Nutrition

1st: Ash Watkins – Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School 2nd: Jessie Zenir – Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School







CVCC Awarded Academy 25 Years of Service Award

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center has been awarded the Academy 25 Years of Service Award from Cisco Networking Academy! This recognition celebrates 25 years of dedicated partnership with Cisco Networking Academy, providing courses from their portfolio and making a profound impact on learners and our community. We're proud of the incredible work our educators and students have accomplished and look forward to continuing to inspire future innovators.

Nordonia Students Learn About Nursing Careers from Cleveland Clinic Experts

On Tuesday, February 25, Nordonia High School welcomed two distinguished healthcare professionals from the Cleveland Clinic: Randy Knapik, MSN, RN, PCCN, Nurse Manager at the Heart, Vascular & Thoracic Institute (and a 2008 Nordonia graduate), and Shannon Pengel, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Vice President & Chief Nursing Officer. Invited by CVCC Career Specialist, Deb Monaco, the duo shared valuable insights on what it takes to become a registered nurse, career and college pathways in nursing, and the experience of working at the Cleveland Clinic. Students also had the opportunity to ask guestions and learn about career shadowing opportunities.





Cuyahoga Heights Students Explore Career Strengths

Students in Mrs. Siley's 9th Grade English classes at Cuyahoga Heights High School recently took another step in their career exploration journey. Collaborating with Mrs. Regula, CVCC Career Specialist, students completed the Naviance Strength Explorer Assessment. This activity guided them through a series of questions to identify their top three strengths based on their interests. After reviewing their results, students grouped their strengths to see how their traits aligned with those of their classmates. Mrs. Regula highlighted that it's common for friends to share similar strengths, which often explains the connections they form. But why is understanding our strengths so important? Research shows that high achievers often thrive by recognizing and using their strengths regularly. Additionally, pursuing careers that match one's strengths leads to greater job satisfaction, increased confidence, and overall happiness. This insightful activity provided our 9th graders with a valuable tool for self-discovery, offering them a glimpse into how understanding their unique abilities can shape their future paths.



Twinsburg High School Students Create Professional Resumes for Future Success

In January, all 11th-grade students at Twinsburg High School took part in a two-part resume-writing workshop aimed at preparing them for future job and scholarship opportunities. The sessions focused on equipping students with essential career skills, such as understanding the purpose of a resume and creating a solid foundation for their first professional document. In the first session, students explored the significance of resumes and how they can open doors to employment, internships, scholarships, and more. The discussion also addressed the influence of social media on professional reputation, encouraging students to be mindful of what they post, tag, and like online. The second session was hands-on, allowing students to craft their first resumes and create reference documents. These resumes highlighted volunteer work, part-time jobs, school activities, and academic achievements-key elements that showcase a student's strengths and potential to future employers. Following the workshops, Mrs. Cluse, CVCC Career Specialist, reviewed and edited over 300 resumes to ensure each student had a polished, professional document in time for the upcoming E-Fair in March. Throughout February, resumes were refined with personalized feedback, ensuring every student had a resume ready for the next step in their career journey. By the end of this initiative, every junior at Twinsburg High School left with a strong foundation for their future career path. The resumewriting sessions not only provided a practical tool for job applications but also reinforced the importance of professionalism and digital responsibility in today's competitive job market. Students not enrolled in English 11 will meet individually with Mrs. Cluse to complete their resumes.



Twinsburg High School Hosts 2nd Annual 'E' Fair

On March 5th, Twinsburg High School hosted its 2nd Annual "E" Fair, combining the elements of a traditional job and career fair with opportunities for students to explore various "E" categories: Enroll, Enlist, Employ, and Entrepreneurship. With over 35 local organizations in attendance, students in grades 9-12 were able to discover a wide range of options for both their present and future endeavors. Based on feedback from last year's event, additional part-time job opportunities were included to assist students with finding summer and part-time employment. The event attracted more than 800 students, many of whom earned stamps on their "E" passports by engaging with exhibitors and discussing opportunities with attendees. A special thank you goes out to Todd Courtney of Crown Composites Tooling for generously donating gift cards for raffle winners, as well as to Melissa Mertes of Mad About Marketing and CVCC's Patrick Ruebensaal, Graphic Imaging Technology Instructor, and his students for their design and printing work on the passports, table signs, and "E" Fair flyers. We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Business Advisory Council members, Alex Popovich, Curriculum Supervisor, Toni Cluse, CVCC Career Specialist, and the Twinsburg City School District for their efforts in organizing this successful and enjoyable event for students, staff, and participating organizations.



Twinsburg 8th Graders Get Ready for CVCC Tours

During the week of March 10, Toni Cluse, CVCC Career Specialist for the Twinsburg City School District, visited eighth-grade Social Studies classes to prepare students for their upcoming CVCC tours. The classroom session refreshed students on the Holland Personality Codes, first introduced in 6th grade, and provided a preview of the CVCC campus before their visit. All eighth graders participated in a lecture on the Holland Codes, completed an Interest Inventory to determine their personality code, and watched a video highlighting the main campus and its programs. Discussions in class also focused on how students' career interests align with their personality traits. Thanks to this session, students are now "Aware & Ready" for their eighth-grade tours. "Aware & Ready" is the career readiness program at RBC, which ensures students are exposed to various career clusters through assignments, guest speakers, hands-on learning experiences, and other activities. Students are looking forward to their visit to CVCC!

Garfield Heights Students Explore Career Opportunities at Playhouse Square

Michelle Hasman, Career Specialist, accompanied Garfield Heights High School seniors on a Career Exploration tour at Playhouse Square on February 25. Students had the opportunity to visit the Palace, State, and Allen Theaters. What a fun day!







For questions, feedback, or news ideas, email mrobertson@cvccworks.edu.

Upcoming Events:

- Monday, March 24 Friday March 28: Spring Break (No School for High School)
- Thursday, April 17: New Student Orientation (No Afternoon High School Classes)
- Friday, April 18: Good Friday (No School/Building Closed)
- Thursday, April 24: Board of Education Meeting 6:00 p.m.