



May 2025

Student Connection



CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Emilee Sanicky **Cuyahoga Heights**



Emilee Sanicky, a recent graduate of both Cuyahoga Heights High School and the Health Careers program at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC), is already charting a bright course for her future. Under the instruction of Mike Zana, Emilee thrived in a program that nurtured her lifelong passion for healthcare—a passion that was sparked by a family full of medical professionals, including dermatologists and nurses.

This fall, Emilee will attend the University of Cincinnati to pursue a degree in nursing. Her dream is to become a registered nurse in either labor and delivery or pediatrics, driven by a deep love for children and a desire to serve others. "I have several younger cousins, and my grandma has always called me the 'baby whisperer,'" she shared.

Reflecting on her time at CVCC, Emilee had high praise for her instructor, saying, "Mr. Zana is truly the best—he's always supported me on this journey." She added, "I've made some of my closest friends here. It's clear that everyone at CVCC genuinely wants you to succeed. It's been such a joy to not only feel supported, but to also encourage others, all while gaining knowledge and skills in the field."

Emilee's accomplishments at CVCC are as impressive as they are inspiring. She was named the Student of the Year for the Class of 2025, a recognition given to just one student, and also received the honor of being Mr. Zana's 2025 Outstanding Student. As a member of HOSA – Future Health Professionals, she recently earned 1st place in Nursing Assisting at the State Leadership Conference, qualifying her for the HOSA International Leadership Conference in Nashville this June.

Beyond academics, Emilee was active in both the National Technical Honor Society at CVCC and the National Honor Society at Cuyahoga Heights High School, and she participated in Spanish Club. Through CVCC's Work-Based Learning program, she gained hands-on experience at the Oaks of Brecksville, a local nursing home. "Working at the Oaks taught me how to build relationships, communicate effectively with different people, and adapt to a variety of situations," she said.

To students considering CVCC, Emilee offers this advice: "There will always be someone more experienced or skilled than you, but success comes from confidence, dedication, and a willingness to grow. Take every opportunity you can—CVCC has helped me grow so much personally and professionally. My brother completed the Electrical Systems program here and encouraged me to give it a try (it didn't take much convincing), and it's been the best decision I've ever made."

We are incredibly proud of Emilee and all that she has accomplished. She will be dearly missed at CVCC, but we're excited to see what the future holds. Best of luck at the HOSA National Conference in June—we'll be cheering you on every step of the way!

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