

Alumni Spotlight

CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Jarroed Evangelist

Class of 2012



Jarroed Evangelist, a 2012 graduate of Revere High School and a former student in CVCC's Media Arts program instructed by Bernie VanTilburg, exemplifies the impact of early career exploration. Today, Jarrod works as an editor and videographer at WKYC in Cleveland, but his path began years earlier at a summer camp that introduced him to the opportunities that awaited him at CVCC.

"I wanted to attend CVCC ever since I went to a summer camp at the career center back in eighth grade," Jarrod recalls. "That's where I met Mr. VanTilburg, and I knew immediately that I wanted to enroll at CVCC as soon as I could. I was amazed by all the resources and opportunities that the school offered, and choosing the Media Arts program was a natural choice for someone passionate about telling stories through video."

After high school, Jarrod attended Kent State University, majoring in Broadcast Journalism with a minor in Electronic Media Production. Immersed in the campus TV station, TV2, he gained hands-on experience that laid the foundation for a successful career. Jarrod worked in multiple media markets before joining WKYC, where his work has received regional recognition—including a recent regional Emmy for severe weather coverage as part of a morning newscast team!

Reflecting on his experience at CVCC, Jarrod credits both the program and his instructor for preparing him not just for a career, but for life as a whole. "CVCC and Mr. VanTilburg taught me valuable skills that I still use every day, both in my profession and beyond. The experience really pushed me out of my comfort zone and helped me grow into adulthood," he said. Skills like video editing, camera operation, meeting deadlines, and mastering the fundamentals of broadcast journalism continue to play a crucial role in his work today. Some of Jarrod's favorite memories from CVCC include hands-on projects and field trips. "It was amazing to see professionals in action, and I especially loved filming our project during my junior year—it was such a great experience and so fun," he shared.

For current and prospective students, Jarrod offers this advice: "Don't be afraid to try something new. Be willing to branch out and explore different things. You'll learn countless skills at CVCC that you can apply to a variety of fields." Congratulations, Jarrod — we're so proud of you!

Written By: Makayla Robertson, CVCC Media Specialist

