

EXCEL LETTER

News of EXCEL TECC • Mayfield Excel Technical Education Career Consortium

Vol. XXI No. 2

Spring 2021

Director's Notes

by Nate Bishko

Hello parents and students! What a year we have had. I want to first start off my final message of the 2020-2021 school year with a huge shout out to our graduating seniors from Excel TECC programs. As I told all of you during the Senior Send Off presentations, I could not be more amazed and proud of your strength and determination as you navigated through this school year. The Excel TECC graduating class of 2021 will go down in history as the first graduating class in generations that endured an entire school year in the midst of a global pandemic. We are proud to graduate 496 seniors from our 24 programs this year. Almost all of our seniors will be continuing within their career pathway by either migrating directly into the workforce or continuing on at 2- and 4-year colleges. We are also so proud of the fact that this year's graduating class accumulated over 14 million dollars in scholarship monies to colleges and universities. To our returning seniors, next year will be filled with so much excitement. Depending on your program, you may find yourself doing a work-study, completing an internship or earning an industry based credential! To our incoming juniors, get ready for

...continued on page 2

Program Power

Interactive Media - Light Up the Night

by Mike Caldwell, Instructor

The Interactive Media class was involved recently in a project with the Community Club of Gates Mills in their initiative with the Village of Gates Mills to design a logo for reflective safety vests. As written in the May 2021 'Pink Sheet', the newsletter of the Village: "These bright orange or pink vests raise awareness and encourage safety for all villagers who enjoy... outdoor activities. The Community Club wants to make sure that you are clearly visible to cars, bikes and bicycles."

Mr. Caldwell, instructor, invited students to draw a logo for the vests from ideas shared by the Village. Students who completed an entry received extra credit and a small stipend. The logo chosen is the work of Kaya Wightman, an Orange high school senior in the class.

The Pink Sheet reported: "In Kaya's words, this was a great

...continued on page 3



This distinctive logo on the back of the vest as designed by Kaya Wightman

SKILLS USA WINNERS...on to Nationals!!



Congratulations to the Excel TECC student winners from three programs that competed in the SkillsUSA State contest. All GOLD Medal winners will go on to the National Competition, held in a virtual format this year 14-18 June. Sixteen of the twenty-two Excel TECC SkillsUSA state competitors earned medals. Award winners include:

Fire/EMS Training Academy

- Silver/Prepared Speech - *Sophia Caruso
- Bronze/First Aid-CPR - *Benjamin Knox
- Gold/First Aid-CPR - *Samuel Patrizi

Information Technology & Programming

- Silver/Technical Computer Applications - *Connor Gdovin
- Silver-Team/Robotics: Urban Search & Rescue - *Noah Harrison & *Mason Sellers

- Gold-Team/Career Pathways Showcase: Business, Management & Technology - *Raihan Malik, *Nayab Khan & *Ryan Miller



...continued on page 4

Director's Notes (continued from page 1)

the two best years of your high school career! We will have our Excel TECC Orientation for Mayfield programs on August 12, 2021 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Mayfield HS Auditorium. Please be on the lookout for communication this summer from your Excel TECC program instructor, including other orientation dates, if applicable. Finally, to our students, we wish you a safe and restful summer — you have certainly earned it. Should you have any questions regarding your program, please don't hesitate to contact me this summer.

Mayfield Cosmetology

by *Maryanne Hummell and Debby Kall, Instructors*

As the school year comes to a close we want to wish our seniors the best of luck as they prepare to take their State Board of Cosmetology Exam. The students will be testing in Columbus throughout the summer.

Our junior students have been in the process of securing internships for the next school year. We will be going out to visit and complete an orientation with the different salons the students will be interning at. The students are also in the process of completing their certification test so that they are eligible to work in the customer clinic next school year.

We are excited to welcome our incoming juniors next school year. We have a full class of incoming future Cosmetologists. Welcome to the class of 2023!!!

We are also excited to welcome back our customers next school year. The customer clinic will be open next school year starting in September. At the start of next school year we will have an official date for the opening of the customer clinic. The juniors moving up to senior class status are very excited to be able to start next school year in the clinic.

Thanks to everyone for all your support this school year!!!

Auto Collision: Buses, Bikes & Hot Rods...Oh My!

by *Bill Kennelly, Instructor*

This year the Auto Collision students had the opportunity to work with buses, bikes, hot rods, and vintage trucks in addition to the modules, tech sessions and panels we are accustomed to working on. We completely disassembled a C-10 and reworked the entire frame by reconstructing the truck bed and completing all the metal work. Next year our current juniors will be seniors and will take this project to the next level by priming, blocking and painting it.

A favorite project that our students worked on this year was painting the Bicycle Hub bus. The photo below will give you a good idea of the scope of the project. The bus was so large in fact, that we couldn't use the paint booth and instead used the middle of the shop to complete the body work, taping and painting. Students and staff alike enjoyed the start to finish progress on this project.

In addition, our Auto Collision class gave back to the community by partnering with the Caley Home in Painesville which provides temporary care to children between the ages of 7 to 18. Our students diagnosed, painted and repaired 11 donated bicycles for the children living there so that they could enjoy the simple pleasure of owning their very own bike. Next fall we will go back and finish what we started with 11 more bikes. We are looking forward to keeping this partnership going for many years ahead.

Finally, I am excited for next year as I plan to start a Cars, Bike and Coffee Club next year for students and community members. If you are interested or know anyone interested in meeting with Mr. Kennelly and his students to network and talk about common interests: car meets, car shows and to participate in tech sessions, please email me at: Bill.Kennelly@weschools.org.



Allied Health

by Danielle Blood, Instructor

The entire junior class passed their Licensure exam and are now all State Tested Nursing Assistants (STNAs). Two have already begun working in their new positions. Five Allied Health seniors are working as Nursing Assistants as well.

Interactive Media...

(continued from pg 1)

experience. 'In the beginning of the project, I was very interested because it was a real client, but when I learned what it was for and what they wanted, I was super excited! In the end, I had about 30 versions of the final idea for the Village, and I was really proud of all my work. Even though I was very confident in my abilities, when my art was chosen by the Village, I felt incredibly honored. I feel very happy with the outcome of this whole project. My plan is to stay in Ohio and major in graphic design at Akron University. I would be thrilled to do more work like photography, Photoshop, illustration and/or graphic art for anybody in the Cleveland area where I grew up so that I can build my career in Ohio.'

Members of the Community Club publish the Village 'Pink Sheet' newsletter, promote cultural activities and fellowship, and contribute to educational, civic, charitable and public projects benefitting the Village.



Success Stories From Business Academy

by Lisa Simon, Instructor

Our Business Academy students have so many success stories from this year that this newsletter could be solely about this one program. Although I don't have the room to showcase everything, here are two examples of ways that our Business Academy students were able to showcase their skills this year:

Food Truck Project:

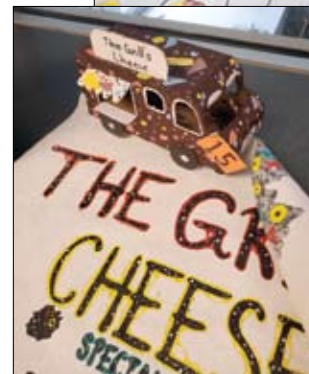
All students were challenged with coming up with a Food Truck which catered to their idea of "good street food". Students researched and created a marketing plan to sell their ideas. They were also tasked with creating a social media plug for their business and handcrafted a design for the truck. Students now have a better understanding of the cost of goods, serviceable hours, inventory, and much more.

The Top Candidates were Niah Johnson (Brush High School) with her Deliziosa Italian themed truck and Kyle Goertler (South High School) with The Grill's Cheese concept.

Student Run Businesses:

Now more than ever, students have taken the opportunity to learn the ins and outs of e-commerce during a world-wide pandemic nonetheless. The skills they have acquired will last a lifetime from ordering, stocking inventory, selling to customers, attending local farmer's markets etc. Here is a spotlight on three:

- Dominic Niro (South High School): "Brush Drive"
-<https://brushdr.com/>
-All natural bamboo and charcoal toothbrush items
- Jovianne Henderson (South High School): "Jovianne Beauti"
-<https://joviannebeauti.com/shop>
-Lip Glosses - Lip Balms - Body Butters
- Sharrae Henderson (Orange High School): "Rae's Chocolate"
-Facebook @raeschocolate and Instagram @raechocolates
-Chocolate Covered Strawberries made fresh when ordered



Members of the Community Club host a successful sale of fluorescent, reflective, safety vests on the steps of the Community House on Saturday, April 24. Kaya is third from right, with Mr Caldwell behind group.

Medical Assisting-Graduating Seniors

by Deanna Sanford, Instructor

This year, to say the least, has been not only challenging for our students with bouncing back and forth from in-person learning to virtual learning and back. Many challenges to stay on top of studies, finding motivation, dealing with internet issues or whatever was thrown our way, all the while trying to learn skills that would be applied in their clinicals. To say we had to get creative may be an understatement.

Students performed hearing and vision screenings for the district as a part of their clinicals. This opportunity started when we were in-person in the fall and then resumed when we returned to in-person in January. Students traveled from school to school for elementary and middle school student screenings. Preparing themselves for externships in February.

These students pushed themselves and as a team we held each other accountable so that the goal of getting to the externship sites in February would be achievable. We were very fortunate that our students were still able to work in a clinical site, despite Covid. We reviewed all the new policies for clinicals for each hospital system and applied them to our in-person training.

February came and it was time for them to step into the offices. University Hospital and Lake Health gave these students the opportunity to continue learning, applying, and perfecting their skill sets. They gave great guidance and feedback to these new MA's even with the pressures of very busy offices and being short-staffed due to Covid. Students are required to complete 180 clinical hours; these students went above and beyond that. Everyone put in anywhere from 230-281 clinicals hours. The weekly reviews and feedback from our offices were fantastic and because of their hard work and their dedication to their new careers in healthcare 7 out of 10 of these graduates were offered employment at the office where they completed their externships.

SkillsUSA...continued from page 1

Silver/Computer Programming - *Adam Widina

Gold/Computer Programming - *Ruslan Zarabov

Gold/Information Technology Services - *Eddie Barch

Gold-Team/Interactive Application & Video Game Design - *Elijah Gulley & *Paul Connolly

CADD Engineering Technology

Bronze-Team/ Additive Manufacturing - *Lawrence Huston & *Jonathon Coluby

This was the first ever attempt at the Robotics: Urban Search & Rescue contest, earning a Silver Medal. This is the 7th State Championship, Gold Medal Team in Career Pathways Showcase for ITP, all six preceding teams earned National Gold medals.



Medical Assisting Seniors:
TOP: Zishaneese and
Marshyaun

CENTER: Amari, Sienna, Bailey,
Briana, Lizbet and Heaven

BOTTOM: Madison and Bryanna

Even though they had completed their externship hours and were focusing on graduation, the work was not done. Students were still studying for their RMA (Registered Medical Assistant) Exam, which they took at the end of May. I am proud of how hard these students have worked and of the obstacles that they have overcome despite all the changes we have had to make during the last two years. They took it in stride and proved why they belong as a part of a healthcare team.

Good luck to all of them as they take their test, their next steps in their careers, and their education. Congratulations Seniors!!



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ExceLETTER****
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Kay Vincent, Editor

CADD Students Come Through as Winners

by Craig Schmidt, Instructor

We hope you and your family are doing well! CADD students returned to in-person learning in mid-October, giving them much-needed access to our computers, software and fab lab equipment. Both classes focused on computer-aided drafting work, making up the time away from our applications while they were remote. By the end of this school year, both classes had caught up. Our juniors have been working with the Revit Building Information Modeling application, and are ready to collaborate with Construction Trades on the homes project when we return in the fall; '21-22 will be the 10th year we have collaborated on the project.

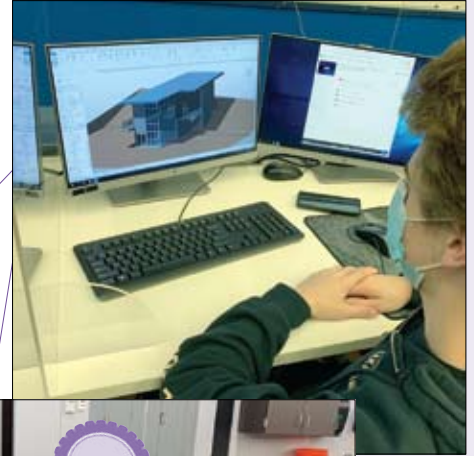
The SkillsUSA Ohio State Championships were held virtually this year during March-April, and three CADD juniors competed in two contests. Congratulations to CADD juniors Jonathan Coluby and Lawrence Huston, both from Orange High School, who earned bronze medals in the Additive Manufacturing contest. Contestants were given just 17 days to develop a working prototype for a hinged, wall-mounted USB outlet cover that would 3D print as one object. Our juniors did not begin work with 3D modeling software until mid-November, so this is a huge accomplishment. Jason Bailey, from South High School, earned 7th place in the Related Technical Math Contest.

While contest opportunities were limited this year, we've learned competitions such as the L.E.A.F. Umbrella Project Engineering Challenge will return next year, and other contests held virtually this year will return in-person.

Congratulations to the CADD class of 2020 for earning \$1,366,190 in college scholarships, beating our old record by over \$200,000. CADD senior, Alan Golubitsky, from Orange High School, earned a scholarship in the amount of \$301,140 from the Illinois Institute of Technology & The U.S. Navy, setting a record for CADD scholarships. CADD seniors also earned scholarships from Bowling Green State University, Cleveland State University, Colorado State University, Indiana University, Kent State University, Miami University, The Ohio State University, Ohio University, Penn State - Allegheny, Robert Morris University, Texas Tech University, The University of Cincinnati, The University of Akron, The University of Dayton, University of Kentucky, University of Michigan, University of Toledo and Youngstown State University.

Congratulations to this year's award winners: Excel TECC Departmental Award/Juniors - Jason Bailey (South HS) and Seniors - Nick Tatko (Mayfield HS); Outstanding Senior is Hailey Doerner (Mayfield HS). Hailey was also named the Mayfield City Schools Student of the Month for May, 2020.

See what's happening in CADD by following our Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram feeds @excelteccadd .



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:

CADD senior Gennaro Garofoli works on a home created with the Revit Building Information Modeling application.

CADD juniors Jonathan Coluby and Lawrence Huston earned bronze medals in the Additive Manufacturing contest at the SkillsUSA Ohio State Championships, which were held virtually this year.

CADD junior Lola Preseren, of South HS, shows off her game board, which was the junior class' first project produced on our CNC equipment.

Hailey Doerner, CADD Outstanding Student Award winner, was also named Mayfield City Schools' Student of the Month for May, 2021

Culinary Arts

by Stephanie Czech, Senior Instructor

As we reflect back on our 2020-2021 school year, we are saddened by the fact that we were unable to run our program and give our students the experience that they deserve. However, having that said, we are proud of the way our students adjusted. Both the seniors and juniors exhibited perseverance, dedication and determination to be active participants in their learning. They did not allow the pandemic to hinder their culinary passion, but to strengthen it by working hard to hone their skills while in our hands-on labs. We are proud to announce that 14 of our seniors earned their Certificate of Achievement from ProStart, which earns them credit hours towards their post-secondary education in the culinary arts. We look forward to hearing about all future accomplishments from our 2021 graduates in the coming years.



Chef Wilson instructing Raleigh, junior Solon High School, on steak preparation.

100% Virtual Senior-year students were able to complete a variety of hands-on labs via Chef Czech's "Bison Apron" at home Lab Kits.



Bison Apron
*at home Lab Kit

Willoughby Welding

by Mike Kirchhevel and Mark Stevens, Instructors

As the students are finishing up their senior year, many have moved on to more advanced manufacturing processes. For instance, Charlie Hudock is seen here using AutoCad (a computer aided drafting program) to create an image which will then be cut out on our Computer Controlled Plasma Machine. Charlie currently works for Power-Pack Conveyor Company in Willoughby where he is in charge of ensuring program correctness and accuracy on a computer controlled laser which cuts out materials. In addition to this internship, we currently have 10 other senior students working for and interning at multiple different companies in the local area including: Swagelok (De'Shawn George), Phil Maddock Screw Corporation (Jacob Sherman) and Spence Technologies (B'Jorn Jackson) to name a few. Finally, senior Logan Ferritto was recently hired to begin a robust internship program called S.O.A.R at Component Repair Technologies which will lead to full time employment, paid training and tuition reimbursement. Our second semester internship opportunity has allowed students to earn a wage while learning to improve their industry skills all while finishing high school academic requirements and staying a member of our welding course. We are quite proud of all of our senior students this year!



The juniors are progressing on track, even with missing eight weeks after a quarantine period in the first semester. In fact, 12 of our junior welding students have already passed the AWS welding certification process which typically doesn't even happen until senior year. Students have worked on perfecting their welding skills this year and have also had experience working on small projects including: trailers, car demolitions, smokers and landscape equipment. All students and staff are looking forward to next year and working in the community more on projects like the Eastlake Skate Park. In fact, we already have our first fall project on the books, which will be to fabricate an "Eastlake" sign similar to the Cleveland signs seen at many locations through Cleveland.

WINNERS' CIRCLE

LOOK for our *Winners' Ribbons* throughout this newsletter!!



Performing Arts Academy

by Tom Fulton, Instructor

ABOUT THE ACADEMY Educating, Guiding, Inspiring.

Students interested in auditioning for the Academy should contact Yesenia Real at yesenia.real@chagrinschools.org or chagrinacademy@gmail.com



Academy Film and Sound Studio set up in our Studio Theatre.

WHO IS THE ACADEMY?

FOURTEEN YEARS EXCELLENCE. - Over 800 students

The Academy was founded in 2008 at Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools. Since then, we have graduated over 800 students. Our seniors average \$3,200,000.00 in scholarship offers from some of the finest colleges in the nation.

AN EDUCATION OF PURPOSE AND FULFILLMENT

At the Academy for the Performing Arts, creative challenge, growth and life-long friendships are nurtured — from the classroom to the film studio, to the design and tech shop, and to the stage. Our college preparatory education prepares you for a life of purpose and promise within — and beyond — the arts.

MAJOR AREAS OF STUDY:

Classical & contemporary acting, musical theatre, film, radio, new media, design and technical theatre.

SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS

Academy Seniors have averaged over the past 14 years \$3.2 Million in college scholarship offers yearly. Our graduation class this year has garnered \$4.3 Million in scholarship offers to some of the best theatre schools in the country.

COMING NEXT YEAR: OUR 2021-2022 SEASON:

- The Academy produces eight, fully mounted productions a year. For our 2021-22 season, we will be creating two films,
- BLITHE SPIRIT by Noel Coward - FILM
 - EURIDICE by Sarah Ruhl - FILM
 - SENIOR IMPROV SHOW - LIVE ON STAGE
 - THE THREE SISTERS by Anton Chekhov - LIVE ON STAGE
 - THE JUNIOR PLAY FESTIVAL (A festival of One-Act Plays) LIVE ON STAGE
 - SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE by Stephen Sondheim LIVE ON STAGE

A RECAP OF OUR 2020-2021 Season

This year, the Academy produced three Video Movies and three Radio Plays.

1. The Laramie Project (Story of Matthew Shepard). VIDEO
2. Macbeth (Shakespeare's play about ambition and murder) VID-

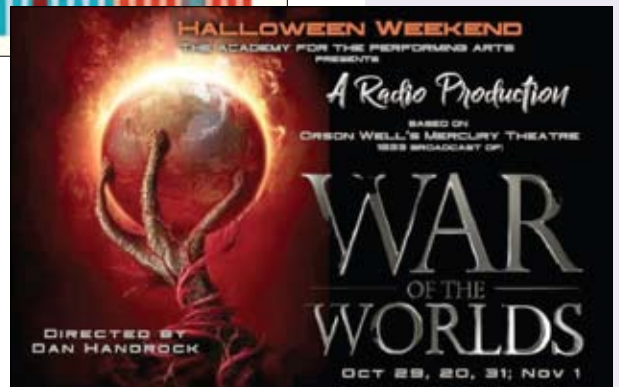
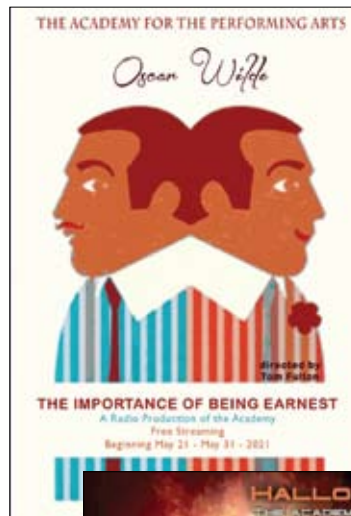
EO/ZOOM

3. Masked Bandit (Original Play) VIDEO
4. The Importance of Being Earnest (Oscar Wilde's satire about Victorian society and love) RADIO PLAY
5. War of the Worlds (H.G. Well's story of an alien invasion)
6. A Christmas Carol (Charles Dicken's story of the redemption of Ebenezer Scrooge)

The pandemic inspired us to produce theatre/entertainment in different media than live performance. While we weren't "live" this year, we were active - very active! We

took on a wide range of classic plays and radio shows. Our students have become well-versed in the business of acting for the camera and the microphone.

Visit www.chagrinacademy.org for more information.



Auto Technology

by Nathan Inbody, Instructor

The 2020-2021 Auto Technology classes have concluded another successful year. Students worked on numerous customer vehicles where they provided services ranging from detailing, oil changes and brakes to alignments, tire services and more. This year, like in previous years, over half of the senior class took advantage of the internship program provided through the Northern Career Institute at various locations such as Classic Ford, Lakeside Auto, Confident Car Care and Western Reserve Honda. These students will be able to transition to full time employment after graduation in May! In addition to full time employment opportunities, we have several seniors who have committed to continue their education at schools like Ohio Technical College, Matrix Trade Institute and Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics after graduation. We look forward to continuing excellence next school year with new equipment Owen is working on in the adjacent photo.



Construction Trades - Building Success

by Rick Zivny, Instructor

This year all Construction Trades students started class on August 17, 2020 in person and stayed in person all year with no shut downs due to COVID-19. The students completed six tiny homes and one 1900 sq. ft. house this year. They were able to show off all their hard work to their parents on May 6-7, 2021. Thanks for everyone that attended — the students really loved seeing everyone come through and view their work. Congratulations to the senior class as they go off to college-apprenticeships-military. We are looking forward to another great school year with our new junior students and our returning senior students. We wish everyone a great summer!

TOP 3 PHOTOS - Exterior and interior of 1900 sq ft 2-story house



BOTTOM 3 PHOTOS: Tiny homes



Environmental Education

ACE and Floral Operations

by Becky Gardner & Kim Judson, Instructors

OSHA Credentials:

Thirty-two Environmental Education students from the ACE, Botanical Gardens and Greenhouse Operations classes received 10-hour General Industry OSHA Certification. These students will be able to utilize this credential for current and future internship positions.

New Educational Tools:

A beautiful 'living wall' has now found a home in the floral design area of the center. Students have propagated the tropical plants and have maintained them throughout the school year. The once bare wall has now become a living/breathing addition to the floral area.

Compost, soil and mulch bays were also constructed at the center. Students have been busy turning our greenhouse compost into usable nutrient-filled garden soil for our vegetable garden as well as our landscape beds. This set-up is the same as you would see in the larger nursery operations.

Students were eager to use our new shading sprayer to cover the three greenhouses on site. Students are able to treat the greenhouse in a fraction of the time. Shading is applied to diminish the amount of sunlight and ultimately heat produced in the greenhouses throughout the summer months. Without the shading, the temperatures can rise to over 130 degrees! Plants do not like it that hot!



RIGHT: Isaac selecting plants for Eastlake Skate Park

BELOW: Tylan spreading mulch at the Skate Park

LEFT: Tyrell, Louis, and Wade applying shading to the greenhouse



All We Do Is Win:

District Floriculture Contest:

First Place team

SARAH FIELDING (first place individual), MAKAYLA BATISTIC (second place individual), BRANDON LISTON & JACK IVES

Second Place team

GRAHAM CRUZ (third place individual), DANI SERAFIN (fourth place individual), GAVIN CARRIG and JOEY BERENHOLZ

Fifth Place team

CARLY ANDREWS (fifth place individual), LOUIS WILLIAMS, TYRELL CONNER, DEANGELO WRIGHT

State Floriculture Contest:

Fourth Place team

SARAH FIELDING (South) First Place individual
 CARLY ANDREWS (South)
 JACK IVES (South)
 CARNYA SCOTT (Brush)

44 teams and 235 students competed in the Sate Floriculture Contest

Eastlake Skate Park:

We were asked by Eastlake Mayor Dennis Morley to design, install and help maintain an ornamental/perennial landscape bed at the skate park that was designed by the Excel TECC CADD program and built by the Welding students from NCI. This was a great learning opportunity for our students from the 'ground up'. From site analysis, plant selection, bed formation, meetings with the Mayor and his staff, trips to local nurseries, installation of plant materials and a final application of mulch, the students certainly did enjoy this project. Thank you Eastlake for the opportunity.

Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden

by Kim Haydu, Instructor



Why wouldn't you love to be at the Cleveland Botanical Garden EVERYDAY or what about Holden Arboretum? Our students enjoy working and learning in our extended

Environmental Education...continued from previous page

classroom on the grounds of Cleveland Botanical Garden and new this school year at the Holden Arboretum. We complete every task that the horticulture staff are responsible for in the most beautiful gardens. We have started the growing season with many spring clean-ups, tour of display gardens, opening up the GMEEC veggie garden, and assisting with the popular Holden plant sale. Check out the students work and other various activities held at CBG and the Holden Arboretum by visiting <https://holdenfg.org/>.

Landscape Construction & Design

by Ed Tuhela, Instructor

As always, the Landscape Construction and Design program jumped head first into various projects. The students were disappointed this year since we were not allowed to participate in any competitions or the Landscape Olympics due to Covid. We were also limited to the construction projects since we were not allowed on travel to any field trips and limited work projects. So we took advantage of the situation and worked on two close-to-home projects.

The first project was to redesign and rebuild our small pond out front. The students researched various design ideas including fish habitat, fish and frog breeding areas, pond vegetative habitats and frog ladders. The students took all of this into consideration and started to incorporate them in the pond. Various ledges, animal hiding areas, plant areas, etc., were built. The pond now has a pleasing look and sound with a water fall and is ecofriendly to the environment. The students learned that a landscape needs to be designed in a sustainable manner to work in harmony with the environment and its many creatures and also give the home owners a pleasant outdoor area to enjoy.

Our second project took place on the Sherman Road Land Preserve owned by the Gates Mills Land Conservancy. Part of it is an old farm field and the goal is to return it to its native woodland state. Many tree seedlings were planted last year. Our job was to go through and cut down the invasive European Buckthorn and Multiflora Rose. A certified pesticide applicator then treated each stump. This will give the new tree seedlings a chance to take hold without harmful competition. The students cleared out an acre along with local



TOP: Nicholas and Robert in the field
 BOTTOM: Dominic, AJ, Robert and Dylan working on the entrance sign to the Environmental Center

volunteers. The students learned that we need to give up planting invasive species in our landscape, since they will escape and harm the native areas. It was a great way for the students to give back to the community.

Congratulations to our two seniors: Caleb Kautz who will be attending Tri- C to earn a degree in landscape design and landscape installation, and Dominic Gerome who has a fantastic job lined up and will be starting his landscape working career.



Environmental Ed Awards:
 ABOVE: Caleb Kautz being honored by Ohio Landscapers Association



RIGHT-from top:
 Scholarship winners:
 Mrs Haydu with Danielle Serafin; Ms Gardner with Carly Andrews; Ms Judson with Sarah Fielding;

2021-2022 Important Dates to Remember

Holiday Open House
 Friday, December 3, 2021:
 8am-6pm

Spring Open House & Plant Sale
 Friday May 6, 2022
 8am-6pm

Exercise Science & Sports Rehabilitation

by Justin Murphy CSCS, Instructor



The Exercise Science & Sports Rehabilitation Healthcare Program had a great year – culminating in the graduation of our third class of ESSR students!

This group of students is special. Throughout the school year they showed resilience, and an unmatched ability to adjust to adversity and changes. We were able to navigate the transitions between remote, hybrid, and in-person learning models, while still raising the standard for learning in our program. That ability to adapt may be one of the most defining characteristics of our students as they develop into working professionals and community members.

As an instructor, it has been awesome to see these students grow as individuals and as young exercise science professionals following their interests. The field of exercise science covers multiple career paths, and we now have graduates pursuing post-secondary opportunities in physical therapy, occupational therapy, cardiac rehab, physician assistant, pre-medicine, military service, nursing, radiology, personal training, and strength & conditioning.



TOP: Jeremiah [standing] with class in outdoor classroom

BOTTOM: Foreground: L- Michala, R- Monique; Background: L- Kaylee, R- Anabella

These different pursuits add to our program’s depth as we grow our alumni network of exercise science professionals.

This year we participated in our program’s second ever regional HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) competition. The competition was highlighted by the success of regional champion Makayla DePinto, who won first place in the Sports Medicine Competition, and the performance of Ella Barth, who placed third in Sports Medicine. Both of these students then competed in our first state HOSA competition. Seniors also completed

the AMCA (American Medical Certification Association) Physical Therapy Technician/Aide Certification.

The ESSR Junior class has been remarkable as well. Overall, the class is characterized by energy, a passion for exercise science, and ownership of learning.

Members of this class proposed the idea, and created the format for including independent seminars/workshops in our curriculum, where students present and teach about skills, research, and practical applications they are passionate about. These seminars helped connect course content to the exercise science-related ideas that teenagers are interested in. Ten

Standing: L- Hailey, R- Shannon; Seated: L to R- Wil, Trace, Markell



Makayla and Ella - HOSA winners

of our Juniors were accepted into the National Technical Honor Society. They all have been a joy to teach, and I cannot wait to see what they will do next year.

This year was also highlighted by the addition of some impressive new technology and equipment for our students to learn with. We added a compression recovery system, a velocity-based training device, and a force plate and software system that allows for an incredible amount of assessment and data collection, along with

Exercise Science...continued from previous page

athlete profiling. As the field of sports science continues to grow, these types of tools are important for our students to be exposed to, allowing for greater understanding and application of concepts, experimentation, and ultimately giving our students an advantage as they prepare for college and professional pursuits.

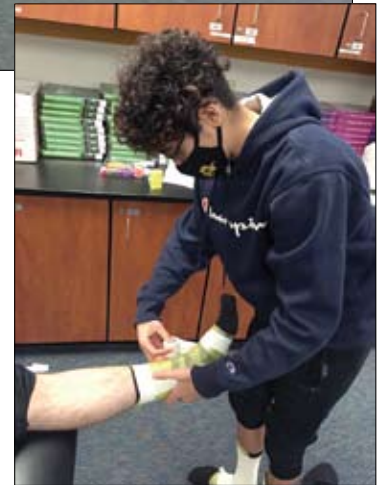
We again have many people to thank for their help with our program this year, but we would especially like to thank: the parents of our students, Mr. Bishko and the Excel TECC team, SEL Superintendent Dr. Linda Reid, Dr. Larraine Fuller, Mr. Karl Williamson, and Ms. Sarah Ball. Thank You!



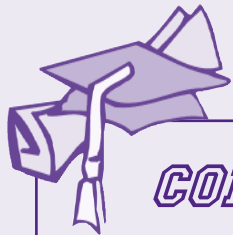
TOP: 2021 Seniors' Last Day [with program certificates]



LEFT: L- Michala, R- Monique



RIGHT: Cameron



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE EXCEL TECC
CLASS OF 2021!
WE WISH YOU ALL THE
BEST IN YOUR FUTURE
ENDEAVORS!**

Congratulations to this year's seniors who earned over \$14.8 million in scholarship awards.

**THANK YOU**

TO THE 200+ BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE EXCEL TECC CONSORTIUM COMMUNITIES THAT SUPPORT EXCEL TECC PROGRAMS BY OFFERING STUDENTS INTERNSHIPS, MENTORSHIPS AND WORK EXPERIENCES; PARTICIPATE IN MOCK INTERVIEWS AND SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS; SERVE ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS.

2021 Outstanding Seniors



Congratulations to the following students who earned the Outstanding Senior Award for their program. This award was announced at their Senior celebration in their classroom.

- Alex Ballantyne-North-Studio Art & Design
- Ethan Barnes-Mayfield-Teach
- Natalia Baylog-South-Cosmetology / WE
- Sydney Boyes-North-Allied Health
- Mya Cannady-Brush-Medical Technologies
- Melissa Carrick-Mayfield-Cosmetology / MAY
- Mallory Chylla-Beachwood-Marketing
- Matthew Cox-Solon-Welding Technologies
- Hannah Daedlow-Mayfield-Cosmetology / MAY
- Hailey Doerner-Mayfield-Cadd Engineering
- Brooklyn Franklin-Brush-Culinary Arts
- Abby Friedman-Beachwood-Teach
- Jarrell Glover-Mayfield-Interactive Media
- Elijah Gulley-North-Information Tech & Programming
- Caleb Janke-West Geauga-Construction Trades
- Niah Johnson-Brush-Business Academy
- Bridgette Karr-North-Fire / EMS Training Academy
- Caleb Kautz-West Geauga-Environmental Education
- Alyssa Lepage-Richmond Hts-Exercise Science & Sports Rehabilitation
- Michael Liptak-West Geauga-Construction Trades
- Heaven Love-Richmond Hts-Medical Assisting
- Alyssa Mirossay-Mayfield-Medical Technologies
- Destiny Nash-Solon-LPN
- William Onderdonk-West Geauga-Auto Technology
- Samuel Roter-Beachwood-Performing Arts Academy
- Gianna Saviano-North-Cosmetology / WE
- Krystal Tatum-Mayfield-Digital Arts & Technology
- Devan Willyard-North-Auto Collision

Cosmetology-Willoughby/NCI

by Mindy Montello and Peggy Jean Teske, Instructors

Despite a lengthy quarantine period in junior year and another six week quarantine during senior year, the senior cosmetology students have exceeded expectations. In fact, two of our senior students earned their 1500 state board mandated qualifying hours in early April which is the fastest any student has earned those hours in our eight year history. One advantage to Covid was that the State Board of Cosmetology temporarily eased up on their distance learning requirements and extended the previous rule of only allowing 6% of the hours to be done virtually to 75%. Although this percentage will change to 20% after the pandemic is over, it will help all future cosmetology students earn hours from home. Our current students certainly took advantage of the temporary rule change and we had several who started and completed their 150 internship hours by March of this year, which was unheard of prior to the rule change in our location.

The 150 internship hour experience has proved to be quite beneficial to our senior students. Spending 150 hours in a salon and assisting trained stylists in industry allows the students not only to get hands-on experiences but also allows them to learn the nuances of the industry. We are quite fortunate at NCI that over 140 local salons scattered over all of Northeast Ohio have agreed to partner with us. Our senior students can use the list of 140+ salons or find a salon on their own to complete the internship. This year we had students represented at many salons, some of which included: Jennifer & Company, Ladies & Gentlemen, Lavish Hair Salon and Bixel's Salon & Spa.

In addition to the internship experience, senior students recently had the opportunity to host a small group of students from Success Academy, a middle school program housed at NCI, for a salon day. Our visitors received a shampoo, hair cut, dry, style and a manicure. The photos attached to this article provide just a

snapshot of the afternoon that the senior students spent with their clients. It was a great day for all involved!



RIGHT: Madison with Success student Luke



LEFT: Ayisha with Success student AJ

Senior Send-Off 2021

Congratulations to the 496 graduating seniors from Excel TECC programs! Unfortunately, due to current health orders, we were not able to hold our annual large gathering event. We did, however, still celebrate with Director Nate Bishko touring the consortium and distributing the seniors' program certificates in their classrooms, along with a 'mini-reception' of dessert trays provided by our Culinary Arts students. Seniors also received a Senior Send-Off program booklet, with class rosters, a message from Superintendent Dr Keith Kelly, Interactive Media student art work and scholarship listings. The Class of 2021 earned scholarship awards totaling over \$14.8 million dollars! The winner of the \$3,000 Director's Scholarship is Stephanie Rayborn, a Brush student in the Licensed Practical Nursing program. We wish all the best to the Class of 2021 in their future endeavors.



TECC Senior Classes [clockwise from top]: CADD Engineering, Interactive Media & Information Technology & Programming, Medical Technologies, Performing Arts Academy, Fire/EMS



INSIDE...

Front-IM/SkillsUSA

2 -AUTO COL/MAY COS

3 -ALLIED HEALTH/BUSINESS

4 -MED ASSIST

5 -CADD

6 -CULINARY/WELDING

7 -PERFORMING ARTS

8 -AUTO TECH/CONSTRUCTION

9 -ENVIRONMENTAL ED

11 -ESSR

13 -WE COS

CONGRATULATIONS 2021 NTHS INDUCTEES!



Congratulations to the 103 students who earned the National Technical Honor Society [NTHS] award this year. The inductees represented nine consortium districts, ten consortium high schools and seventeen different programs. To qualify for membership in NTHS students must have a 3.5 overall GPA and an 'A' average in their career technical program. Students complete an application packet which includes an essay on the attributes of an honor student: Skill, Honesty, Service, Responsibility, Scholarship, Citizenship and Leadership. Due to COVID restrictions, we could not hold our originally scheduled Induction Ceremony in April; instead, students received their certificates and cords in their classrooms.

