

Excel LETTER

News of EXCEL TECC • Mayfield Excel Technical Education Career Consortium

Serving School Districts:

- Aurora
- Beachwood
- Chagrin Falls
- Mayfield
- Orange
- Richmond Heights
- Solon
- South Euclid-Lyndhurst
- West Geauga
- Willoughby-Eastlake

Vol. XXI No. 1

Fall 2020

Director's Notes

by Nathan Bishko

Hello everyone and welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! As we are well aware, the start of this school year has been unlike any other in the history of our lifetime. At Excel TECC, we have begun the year with our largest enrollment ever with nearly 1100 students enrolled in our programs. Excel TECC is comprised of 10 school districts and 24 career technical education (CTE) programs spread over four counties throughout NE Ohio. We also have 16 different locations in which our programs are located and as we began the school year we have 11 of those programs meeting in person and the other 13 are remote. To say that the beginning of the year has been challenging would be a gross understatement. Yet through it all, our team of teachers and support staff have done an amazing job in adjusting, preparing, and adapting to "the new normal!" I also want to take the time to welcome all of our new juniors to their Excel TECC program. For some of you, I know this is not the ideal start you envisioned but I would ask for you to hang in there as I am confident that all programs will return to in-person learning at some point in the 2020-2021 school year. To our returning seniors, I want to say "welcome back!" In just a few short months you will be finalizing your plans for post-secondary education

...continued on page 2

Program Power

ESSR – Off to a Fit Start

by Justin Murphy, Instructor

The Exercise Science & Sports Rehabilitation Healthcare Program had an amazing year last year! As an instructor, it is always rewarding to see your students grow as individuals and as young exercise science professionals following their interests - this was magnified even more by the events at the end of last school year. I am incredibly proud of our students' resilience and ability to adapt and overcome adversity. The class of 2020 finished as the most highly decorated group in ESSR history. All 23 students from the class of 2020 are currently pursuing post-secondary education in exercise science related fields, and have put themselves in positions to be successful moving forward.

This year's senior class and



ESSR student Val

...continued on page 5

Willoughby-NCI Cosmetology - Like They Didn't Skip a Beat...

by Mindy Montello & PJ Teske, Instructors

A mere hours after the clinic floor re-opened at NCI-Willoughby, senior Cosmetology students were in their happy place: behind a chair! When the brick and mortar school closed due to the pandemic in March, students were able to earn hours towards licensure using the online curriculum already in place. Utilizing MindTap, along with a temporary State Board of Cosmetology rule change, students had the ability to earn hours virtually. This allowed for seniors to



earn the 1500 necessary hours needed to be eligible to test and gave the juniors the opportunity to continue earning as well. This temporary rule change will end in January. In the meantime, both senior and junior classes are in-person and diligently working on their clinic and non-clinic hours using a combination of online learning, hands-on learning and teacher-directed learning.

Senior Ayisha in the classroom

Director's Notes (continued from page 1)

or entering the workforce. Enjoy this year — it will go quick! The senior year in CTE has so many possibilities! Some of you will have a great opportunity for an internship or clinicals through your program or receive a credential. All of you will have the opportunity to earn college credits, and most importantly you will leave here with the necessary skills to further your career in college or the workforce! I encourage all parents and students to follow us @exceltecc on Twitter and also monitor the Excel TECC link on the Mayfield Schools webpage for any updated news. If you have any questions, concerns or just want to discuss Excel TECC programs, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 440-995-6751. I wish you all the best in this upcoming school year!

Welcome New Excel TECC Teacher!

Bill Kennelly

A new member of the Excel TECC Family, Bill comes from Willoughby-Eastlake Schools with over 20 years of teaching experience at the Secondary Level. His last five years were at Success Academy as the General Shop teacher.



Performing Arts Academy - Shows Go On!

by Tom Fulton, Instructor

The Academy for the Performing Arts will be virtual this year, at least until the end of the First Semester. We will be watching the Coronavirus and medical recommendations from the experts to indicate when we can return live.

Since we cannot perform live, the Academy will be producing RADIO PLAYS and VIDEO Productions shot on site. See our plan for the 2020-2021 season on page 3 of this newsletter.

Also, we would like to welcome our two new faculty and staff members: Dan Hendrock and Yesenia Real.

MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

We are so lucky to have gathered these two wonderful professionals into our fold.



DAN HENDROCK

Resident Director and Instructor
Acting, Speech, Movement, History,
Acting for the Camera, Dialects

Credentials:

- MFA in Acting from the Cleveland Play House/Case Western Reserve University - Graduate Acting Program
- BFA Musical Theatre from Kent State University
- 15 years professional actor, director, teaching artist, NYC, Cleveland, Chicago
- Member of Actor's Equity Association
- Head of Acting - Hathaway Brown School
- Certified teacher in The Michael Chekhov Technique
- Certified Career-Tech Instructor, Excel-TECC
- Robust experience in television, film, commercials, regional theatre, national tours, and off Broadway.

Contact

Dan.Hendrock@chagrinschools.org



YESENIA REAL

Production Stage Manager; Student Liaison,
Instructor in Tech Theatre, Office Manager

Credentials:

- MFA in Acting from the Cleveland Play House/Case Western Reserve University - Graduate Acting Program
- BFA Musical Theatre from Kent State University
- 15 years professional actor, director, teaching artist, NYC, Cleveland, Chicago
- Member of Actor's Equity Association
- Head of Acting - Hathaway Brown School
- Certified teacher in The Michael Chekhov Technique
- Certified Career-Tech Instructor, Excel-TECC
- Robust experience in television, film, commercials, regional theatre, national tours, and off Broadway.

Contact

Yesenia.Real@chagrinschools.org

Performing Arts Academy...(continued from pg 2)

OUR 2020-2021 SEASON

RADIO PLAYS & VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

Visit www.chagrinacademy.org for updated information.

ACADEMY PRODUCTIONS 2020-2021



WAR OF THE WORLDS
Senior Radio Play
by H.G.Wells
Adaptation by Orson Wells
& The Mercury Theatre Co.
Streaming: Oct. 29,30,31,Nov 1



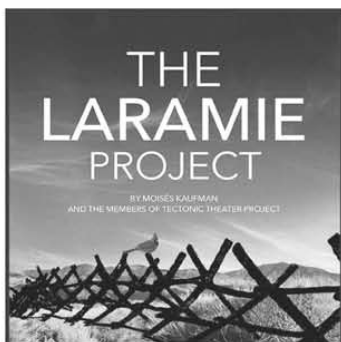
A CHRISTMAS CAROL
Junior/Senior Radio Play
by Charles Dickens
Adaptation by Tom Fulton
Streaming: Dec. 18 - Jan. 3
In Five Episodes



SENIOR IMPROV SHOW
Senior Video Presentation
Dan Hendrock
And the 2021 Senior Class
Streaming Dec 14-18



EARTH, WIND, FIRE & WATER
Junior/Senior Dance Video
Academy Dance Quartet
"Earth, Wind, Water and Fire"
Video Streaming - Jan 28-31



THE LARAMIE PROJECT
Junior Video Presentation
by Moise's Kaufman
and the Tectonic Theatre Project
Video Streaming February 2021



PLACES!
Junior Video Contemporary Presentation
Musical Numbers and Scenes from
Contemporary Plays and Musicals
Streaming March 2021



WHIRLWIND OF PASSION!
Senior Video Shakespeare Presentation
Scenes and Monologues and Songs from
and about Shakespeare.
Streaming March 2021



DRACULA by Bram Stoker
Junior/Senior Radio Play
The 1897 Gothic horror novel, i A
Horror-Thriller to end the season.
Streaming May 2021



MACBETH by Wm. Shakespeare
Video presentation of Macbeth
shot at the end of last year.
With 2020 alums and 2021 grads.
Streaming April 2021



Mayfield Cosmetology

by Maryanne Hummell and Debbie Kall, Instructors

We would like to welcome all of our Junior and Senior Cosmetology students back to VIRTUALLY Cosmetology. We have been off to a good start. The juniors and seniors have been doing hands-on using zoom live and google classroom. It has been a challenge for all of us but the students are doing wonderful. The seniors are working on their internship placements and are excited to begin that process. We are looking forward to getting the students back to the classroom. We hope everyone is staying healthy.



Welding: It's More Than a Bead

by Michael Kirchhevel & Mark Stevens, Instructors;
Dave Ebbert, Project Assistant

Welding, manufacturing, fabrication... science, math, engineering... You can't be the best welder without understanding the academics of the process first. After our welding students become proficient at the theory behind welding they sharpen their skills in the shop. While the students are preparing for the industry with welding techniques and measurement skills, they are also creating, programming and designing. As our graduates matriculate from this career tech program, they are using their newfound skills to work full time at places such as: Swagelok, Component Repair Technology, and Buyers Products. Some students have decided to enlist in the military, many

attend a trade school and some take the knowledge of the field to head to college including The Ohio State University to major in Welding Engineering. Career opportunities under the umbrella of manufacturing are endless.



Ryan, a senior student, practices welding skills

Amarion, Dominic and Victor are engaged in virtual presentations in their Business classroom



Business Academy - Making Connections in a Digital World

by Lisa Simon, Instructor

One of the many benefits that the students of the Business Academy reap is making connections. Knowing the importance of building personal relationships, the Business Academy program prides itself on the number of opportunities our students have to network. This year may look different for field trips, guest speakers, DECA competitions etc., but continuing to introduce students to the industry will stay a priority. Recently the Business Academy students, located at the Northern Career Institute in Willoughby, participated in a video conference with Déjà vu Social Media Entrepreneurs. Students were able to interact in real time with the founders of the public relations organization. Senior Business Academy student, Victor Ononogbo from Orange High School said that, "I learned so much from the speakers but my biggest take away was: it is never too early to start a business, and I highly concur with that statement because it's best to always keep your eyes on the prize and attempt to not derail from it."

In addition to networking, the Business Academy students will also stay active in DECA. DECA is a student organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. In the past, students of Business Academy have earned scholarships and state recognition for participating in DECA events including: hospitality, finance and marketing. We look forward to once again participating in DECA's industry-validated competitive events in the career clusters of marketing, business management and administration, entrepreneurship, finance, and hospitality and tourism. DECA students participate in both a written component such as an exam or report and an interactive component with an industry professional serving as a judge. DECA's competitive events directly contribute to every student being college and career ready when they graduate from high school.

Auto Collision - Internships = Opportunities

by Bill Kennelly, Instructor

Business Academy, Auto Collision, Auto Technology and Welding senior students often times spend their second semester at an internship or co-op. From Swagelok in Solon to Mig Marine in Euclid and from Liberty Ford in Aurora to Classic Ford Lincoln in Mentor, our seniors are spread out over multiple counties. Typically the opportunity for seniors to work in industry is limited to the second semester of senior year. However, COVID has us opening doors for our afternoon students earlier this year and senior Roche Gartell was one of our several students who took advantage.

A Richmond Heights High School student, Roche, is beginning a two-week internship at Mig Marine where she is using her Auto Collision skills to fabricate and repair campers, RVs and motor boats. During this time Roche will receive mentorship, further training and experiences to add to her resume. In addition, after the two-week period, Roche will have the opportunity to interview at Mig Marine for employment.

The Auto Collision program located at the Northern Career Institute in Willoughby is grateful for our 2020-2021 community partners listed above and these local businesses as well: D & S Automotive in Mentor and Take 5 in Mayfield Hts. Reach out if your business would be interested in hiring local high school or newly graduated students: http://www.weschools.org/NCI_Info.aspx



Senior Roche gets a thumbs-up from her mentor, Paul, as she wet sands a 17-foot camper.

ESSR...(continued from pg 1)

incoming juniors are also very special groups with their own unique strengths and interests. We have modified and adjusted our program curriculum to meet the changing demands of learning this school year, but the excitement and anticipation of a new school year is still present. Our program is looking forward to collaboration projects with other Excel TECC programs, HOSA competitions, the AMCA Physical Therapy Tech certification, practical themes around speed development (#SPRINTember) and transfer of training, and national-level guest speakers from the strength & conditioning and physical therapy fields. We are also very excited to be developing modified/virtual community health and fitness programming; including a high school fitness competition, a variation of our Sweat & Feast program, a Prom-Fit program, older adult exercise plans, athletic development programs, and original fitness classes – designed, marketed and led by ESSR students.

[RIGHT] Sam and Samantha run through an exercise

[CENTER] Thomas at CPR certification

[LEFT] ESSR class at Spire Institute last year:
L-R front seated- Ella, Isabella, Sam, Val, Katie and Adonis; L-R back- Ethan, Samantha, Shayna, Alyssa, Natalie, Maddie, Harper, Makayla, Mr Murphy, Jack, Thomas, Brennan, Christian B, Jordan, Christian T, Corey and Josh



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Exce**LETTER**
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ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Landscape Construction and Design

by Ed Tuhela, Instructor

As with everyone, the Landscape Construction and Design class got off to a very different start. The students and myself are working out zoom meetings, google classroom, breakout rooms etc. and everything we did not even know existed several months ago. In preparation and anticipation for a quick return to in class and hands-on learning, the students jumped right into studying the use and safety of various pieces of landscape machinery including the ZTR and stand-on mowers, hand-held machinery, and the skid steer and tractor. We also jumped into learning plant identification starting with deciduous trees. The students are completing landscape projects around their homes with guidance from me. It is amazing what the students can accomplish. One student is working on a paver patio alongside his deck. Another student is reworking a perennial garden. The students are recording their work and sending in documentation. I want to thank all of my students' parents for being very helpful and cooperative with the students' projects and all of the computer issues.



Student field work: TOP-
Dennis' work on patio building;
BOTTOM-Caleb's lawn care

[CLOCKWISE FROM
TOP LEFT]

Sebastian at work at
Lowe's Home Improvement
garden center

Ashton at work at
Lowe's Home Improvement
garden center

Mark in his lab project-
vegetable garden
construction to harvest

Tyrell at his
internship
at Walmart
(garden center
last spring)



ACE

by Becky Gardner, Instructor

Cleveland Botanical Garden

by Kim Haydu, Instructor

Floriculture and Garden Operations

by Kym Judson, Instructor

The staff and students at the Gates Mills site have been busy learning the ins and outs of Schoology and Google Classroom. It is a different world to most of us-but we continue to grow. The entire staff at the Environmental Education center is eagerly awaiting the return of our students.

The pandemic has caused several of our learning experiences this year to be canceled or postponed. The Annual Fall Festival, Holiday Open House, Plant of the Month Club and Landscape Olympics have been canceled. The popular FFA work projects may resume, on a limited basis, when the students return.

The center is in the process of installing a new professional soil, compost and mulch storage bins behind the landscape maintenance barns. Students will continue to learn the proper process and techniques for making usable nutritional compost.

The hydroponic system is up and growing. Lettuce, Basil and Cilantro should be plentiful in the next few weeks. Students will continue to study the proper nutrients levels needed to cultivate healthy green crops.

Many of our students are participating in paid internships.

Carly Andrews (South) is displaying her skills at Highland Gardens, Sarah Fielding (South) is busy at Sandridge Golf Club, Ashton Kerr and Sebastian Sirk (both from South) are demonstrating their knowledge at Lowe's Garden



Sarah at work

Center in Willoughby, Justin Elliott (Mayfield) will soon be the foreman of his own crew at Schmid Landscaping and Tyrell Conner (North) has been racking up the hours at Walmart and hopes to move to their garden center in the spring.

Stay safe! We want you back!

See more Environmental Ed photos on back page.

CADD Engineering Technology

by Craig Schmidt, Instructor

We hope you and your family are doing well! Just as we finished the spring semester, CADD Engineering Technology began the 2020-2021 school year virtually.

So, how does a computer-aided design and drafting class work virtually? We have simply moved lessons, or portions of units, forward that don't need our high-end computers. For example, CADD seniors just completed a kitchen design project, where students sketched designs, researched appliances, cabinetry, finish materials and hardware. When we return to in-person classes, seniors will use the Revit application to model their kitchens and other projects they designed virtually. Juniors are having a similar experience; they are following the Design Thinking process to redesign a household gadget. When the juniors return live, they will use SolidWorks to create 3D models of their designs. Juniors also recently experienced virtual demonstrations of our 3D printers and laser equipment. Our curriculum hasn't changed; students are just experiencing it in a different order.

For the tenth year, CADD seniors will collaborate with Construction Trades students on the annual Homes Project. This year, teams of four CADD seniors will be paired with Construction Trades teams. CADD seniors will begin design work soon on six tiny homes to be built by Construction Trades students. Depending on the timing of our live return, Construction Trades may begin the project using sketches developed by our seniors, with the completion of construction drawings when our seniors return live.

For the third year, CADD juniors will participate in the L.E.A.F. Umbrella Project Engineering Challenge, sponsored by the Lake/Geauga Educational Assistance Fund. CADD students from our program and the Lakeshore Compact CADD program will design fixtures to display umbrellas decorated by area high school students at various locations in Lake County. Students must focus on safety and durability, as well as preventing damage to the umbrella handles. CADD students will have the opportunity to compete for scholarships for the engineering portion of this project.

CADD seniors will also have the opportunity to compete in the National Association of Women in Construction Design Drafting Contest. Successful students at the local level will have the opportunity to compete in regional and if successful, national competitions. And, if SkillsUSA moves forward with their competitions, CADD seniors will have the opportunity to complete contest projects started last year.

Congratulations to the CADD Class of 2020 for earning \$487,500 in scholarships! 2020 CADD graduates' are attending several different colleges and universities, as well beginning military service, including Butler University, Cleveland State University, University of Cincinnati, University of Dayton, Heidelberg University, Kent State University, Lakeland Community College, Mercyhurst University, The Ohio State University, Ohio University, University of Mount Union, as well as the Air Force Academy and Air Force ROTC.

Please stay safe! See what's happening in CADD by following our Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram feeds @excelteccadd

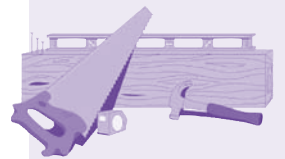


CADD students Shareef, Joe and Richard pose with their solution for the 2020 L.E.A.F. Umbrella Project Engineering Challenge. CADD juniors will work on the challenge this fall.

Construction Trades Swings Into New School Year

by Rick Zivny, Instructor

Construction Trades is in full swing this year. We have just completed tearing down the junior homes built last year. For the 2020-2021 school year, we will be building six Tiny Homes and finishing our 1800 sq foot home that the senior class started last year along with an addition to our outside garage. We started our first day of school on August 17 with 23 new juniors and 27 returning seniors — and a lot of handwashing-sanitizing-and face mask wearing. We are thankful to be in session and are looking forward to a great school year.





Excel TECC

TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAREER CONSORTIUM

DISTRICT Office: 1101 SOM Center Road • Mayfield Heights OH 44124

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Dreyden poses with the new Hunter equipment in the Auto Tech lab

New Year, New Tools Auto Technology

*by Nathan Inbody, Instructor
& Sherry Ebbert, Project As-
sistant*

The Auto Technology program benefited from the federal funding source for career and technical education (CTE) programs under The Perkins Act through Excel TECC. Thanks to this partnership, the auto students now have access to the Hunter Hawkeye Elite. This technology-rich system aligns with industry standards to support vehicle alignments and suspension components.

The program also added additional tire mounting and balancing equipment. This new technology allows our students to be even better prepared for their next step in their career. Careers which can include: Mechanic, Lube Tech, Porter and even Entrepreneur.



Follow us on Twitter  @exceltecc
GO TO: <http://www.mayfieldschools.org >ExcelTECC>
for news, program information & calendar of events



[TOP] Justin, with Dan Schmid, at his internship with Schmid Landscaping

[BOTTOM] Carly at her internship at Highland Gardens in Highland Heights
See *Environmental Ed* article on page 6