



# COMPACT Points

www.sixdistrict.com

News from the Six District Educational Compact

Cuyahoga Falls • Hudson • Kent • Stow-Munroe Falls • Tallmadge • Woodridge



Level I Cosmetology students at the Cleveland art Museum



Level II Cosmetology students at the Cleveland art Museum

## Cosmetology students celebrate culture through artistic expression

Students in the Cosmetology program at Cuyahoga Falls showcased their creativity and skills through an art-inspired project this winter. To spark inspiration, students kicked off the project by visiting the Cleveland Art Museum, where they explored exhibits connected to January's World Cultures theme and February's Black History Month focus. After selecting their artistic direction, students conducted research on the culture, person, place, or event that inspired their work and completed a written reflection on their findings.

Next, students designed hairstyles, makeup looks, and nail art on mannequins that reflected their inspiration and research. These mannequins were displayed throughout January and February. This project provided students with an engaging opportunity to dive into their artistic expression while demonstrating the technical skills they are developing in the lab.



## Festive learning opportunities for Culinary

Culinary Arts and Hospitality Studies hosted its annual Holiday Buffet in December. Over two days, the students and instructors welcomed community members and school personnel from the six districts to four sold-out seatings. The buffet featured delicious entrees, including herb-roasted turkey breast, cioppino, and honey thyme pork roast. Students engaged with the guests as they served passed appetizers, including smoked salmon spread and steak crostini. Thank you to all who attended!

Following the holiday buffet, students jumped right into another festive project as Level II students competed in the Ohio Hospitality (ProStart) Gingerbread House Competition. Two teams designed and created a structure that followed safety and sanitation guidelines, utilized required materials, and were judged on difficulty and overall appearance. Congratulations to the Home Alone team, who placed in the top ten, and to the Polar Express team for their hard work and impressive designs!



Culinary students and instructors pause for a quick photo before the first seating of the 2025 Holiday Buffet



L to R - The Home Alone gingerbread house team of Kayla Janes-Schweyer (Tallmadge), Maddison Monroe (Hudson), and Cameron Trayers (Stow-Munroe Falls)



L to R - The Polar Express gingerbread house team of Samirah Danner (Stow-Munroe Falls), Kaylena Tomsello (Tallmadge), Lindsay Rigenbach (Stow-Munroe Falls), Amy Hart (Stow-Munroe Falls), and Addy Szalay (Stow-Munroe Falls)

# Recruitment event showcases CTE experiences beyond the classroom

The third annual Career Program Showcase highlighted the 30 Career-Technical Education (CTE) programs available to students within the six districts, demonstrating how the **CTE experience extends learning beyond the classroom**. Student ambassadors, CTE instructors, and district and Compact personnel shared program information through hands-on demonstrations, interactive exhibits, and personal experiences. Approximately 1,750 sophomores attended the daytime event, gaining a deeper understanding of the career pathways and opportunities available through the Compact. The evening Showcase welcomed nearly 500 community members, business partners, students, parents, Board of Education members, and administrators. More than 150 student leaders were trained to serve as program ambassadors, helping plan the event and support additional recruitment efforts. Their leadership, pride, and professionalism were evident as they represented their programs throughout the Showcase.



Tallmadge sophomores ready to learn about the CTE experience



L to R: Kent Klaben Ford Service Manager Tom Alcorn, Ford Motor Company Technician Placement Specialist Brandon Butorac, Student Ambassador Sophia Pocock (Stow-Munroe Falls), Student Ambassador Depash Biswa (Cuyahoga Falls), Automotive Technologies Instructor Chad Groom, Hudson Board of Education Vice President Mark Dzurec, Hudson Board of Education Member Tom Tobin



Industry partners from Davey Tree, alongside Forestry and Environmental Studies instructor Kyle Kutinsky, during the evening Showcase



Community Agriculture for Local Impact student ambassadors, L to R: Wes Huhn (Cuyahoga Falls), Taylor Carr (Cuyahoga Falls), Iris Amore (Kent), Mackenzie Stumpf (Cuyahoga Falls), Dominic Bowles (Cuyahoga Falls), Elia Friel (Hudson)

Industrial Maintenance and Production for Employment student ambassadors Madison Butorac (Stow-Munroe Falls) and Colton Foster (Stow-Munroe Falls) eager to welcome visitors to their program table



Biotechnology Academy student ambassadors engage with Stow sophomores

Let's Connect



@sixdistrictCTE



**Criminal Justice students engage in discussion with Stow Municipal Court Judge Lisa Coates**

## From the classroom to the courthouse

First-year Criminal Justice students recently had the unique opportunity to explore the inner workings of local courthouses. First, students visited the Stow Municipal Court, where they observed live arraignments and engaged in discussion with **Judge Lisa Coates**. They also toured the clerk's office and probation department, gaining valuable insight into the day-to-day operations that keep the court system running. At the Portage County Courthouse, students attended a criminal trial, sitting in on the final day of defense and listening to closing arguments. These visits provided meaningful career exploration, helping students better understand the wide range of opportunities available within the criminal justice field.



**Eli Cargioli (Stow-Munroe Falls) and Ela Lyell (Stow-Munroe Falls) bring in donated gifts for the Angel Tree family**

Students also participated in the Angel Tree program through Safer Futures. The class adopted a family, purchasing gifts tailored to the needs and wishes of the mother and her children. Looking ahead, students plan to continue their outreach by creating and donating no-tie blankets for children at Akron Children's Hospital and designing a bulletin board for the music therapy program at Hattie Larlham.

## Health Careers students spread cheer beyond the classroom

This holiday season, Health Careers students focused on giving back to the community through meaningful service projects. One initiative included creating hand-made holiday cards for residents at local assisted living communities where some students work, including Arbors of Stow, The Pavilion of Stow, and Hudson Grande Senior Living. Students decorated cards with handcrafted snowflakes and wrote personal notes to help brighten residents' days and send warm wishes during the winter season.

# Success Stories

## CTE experience jumpstarts welding career

**Amelia Vaughn** is a 2023 Cuyahoga Falls graduate and completer of the Computer-Aided Design (CAD) and Engineering Technologies program. Amelia is currently working as a union apprentice welder/pipe fitter with local mechanical contractor T.H. Martin. Previously, she worked as a general laborer on the plasma cutter and other machinery in the fabrication shop. This work experience, paired with her welding experience from her CTE program, has allowed her to cut her training program length in half! Amelia shares that she spends most of her time MIG welding, but she is also getting TIG welding experience and looks forward to learning about the plumbing side of the career as well. She works on fuel, oil, plumbing, and air lines. Amelia feels that the CAD and Engineering Technologies program kept her excited and knowledgeable about her career options, which led her to where she is now!



**Amelia Vaughn on the job at T.H. Martin**

## Project SEARCH completer celebrates 3 years at Summa

Project SEARCH 2023 completer and Tallmadge High School graduate **Mavrick Mazzei** recently celebrated three years of employment at Summa Health. Mavrick is employed as a Food Service Captain, where he delivers meals to patients, ensures they receive the correct food, and assists patients with anything they need related to their meals. During Mavrick's time as a Project SEARCH intern, he completed a rotation in Food Service. Mavrick explains that the time he spent as an intern, shadowing and training within the department, set him up for success in employment. **Tiffany Brown**, Supervisor in Food and Nutrition at Summa, shares, "Mavrick is a polite and dependable young man who comes to work with a positive attitude, does his job well, asks questions to learn, and is willing to help when needed."



**Mavrick Mazzei**

# News from around the Compact



## Six District EntrepreNew brings a giant duck and big prizes to annual duck dash

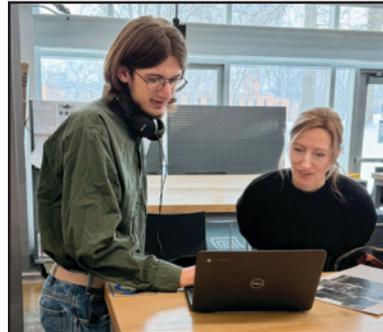
The Ohio Rubber Duck Dash Festival Weekend is coming to Downtown Cuyahoga Falls April 23–25, 2026, bringing together the iconic World's Largest Rubber Duck, the high-stakes Duck Dash race with major prizes, and a full weekend of community events along Front Street. Here is what you need to know!

- **Thursday, April 23:** World's Largest Rubber Duck installation and the Cuyahoga Falls City School District All-City Art Walk from 5–8 p.m.
- **Friday, April 24:** Vendor and Food Truck Fair from 12–8 p.m. and Wing-Eating Contest at 6 p.m. on the amphitheater stage
- **Saturday, April 25:** Vendor and Food Truck Fair from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and the **Ohio Rubber Duck Dash race at 1:30 p.m.**

The Ohio Rubber Duck Dash is organized entirely by students in the Six District EntrepreNew Pathways program; the Ohio Rubber Duck Dash is a fully student-run business experience. Level I students are leading the planning, marketing, sponsorships, and operations, with all proceeds supporting their entrepreneurship education.

Adopt your ducks, meet Mama Duck, support these students, and join the celebration April 23–25 in Downtown Cuyahoga Falls! Learn more at [www.ohiorubberduckdash.com](http://www.ohiorubberduckdash.com).

*Thank you, sponsors!*



AFEP student Kingston Kenney reviews design materials with KSU Professor Dr. Michelle Bebber as part of the project's design revision phase

## AFEP students to open immersive cave installation at KSU on April 14

Students from the Academy of Future Entertainment Professionals (AFEP) will debut a large-scale immersive cave installation opening April 14, 2026, at the Kent State Design Innovation Hub. The installation, developed inside the Hub's Blank Lab, is the result of an interdisciplinary collaboration blending immersive storytelling, scenic construction, design technology, and hands-on fabrication.

The project is designed and project-managed by AFEP senior **Kingston Kenney** (Tallmadge), who has led the creative vision, spatial planning, and production coordination for the installation. "This is exactly what AFEP was designed to do," says instructor **Dave Obney**. "Our students aren't just learning concepts—they're applying them in a professional environment, taking on real leadership roles, and creating work that will be experienced by the public."

In addition to the exhibition, the project will contribute to published academic research. Obney will co-author a scholarly paper with Anthropology Professor **Dr. Michelle Bebber**, examining student-led immersive design, fabrication-based learning, and the impact of secondary–postsecondary partnerships in professional makerspaces. "AFEP students are engaging in the same iterative, design-driven processes used by professionals," said Dr. Bebber. "This collaboration allows us to document how immersive, hands-on work deepens learning while empowering students as designers and project leaders."

Public hours and additional exhibition details will be announced closer to opening.

*The Six District Educational Compact does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities.*

## Computer Science student places first in IT visualizer contest

Level I Computer Science Pathways students recently participated in Discover Information Technology (IT) activities hosted by the Greater Cleveland Partnership. In the career exploration activity, students researched various IT roles and functional areas, as well as the demand for IT jobs in Northeast Ohio. Additionally, students participated in the Visualizer contest, in which they were tasked with researching and designing an infographic design representing their career exploration research. Congratulations to **Jennifer Sumner** (Cuyahoga Falls), who won first place in the contest!



**First-place Discover IT Visualizer contest winner Jennifer Sumner (Cuyahoga Falls)**



**Six District Educational Compact**

Cuyahoga Falls • Hudson • Kent • Stow-Munroe Falls • Tallmadge • Woodridge

Mary Jane Stanchina, Executive Director  
2386 Hudson-Aurora Road, Hudson 44236  
phone: 330-655-2247 • [www.sixdistrict.com](http://www.sixdistrict.com)