



Winter

2020/21

CUYAHOGA VALLEY
CAREER CENTER

Catalyst

YOUR COLLEGE & CAREER CONNECTION

CVCC Alumni Spotlight

Former Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) Graphic Design Student, Erica Larson is Flourishing!

Erica Larson attended CVCC in 2015, as an adult student in CVCC's Adult Education Graphic Design for Print and Web Production program. Growing up in Brecksville, Ohio, as well as attending the Brecksville-Broadview Heights City School District, Erica was familiar with the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center facility. Erica has a background in Environmental Studies, as she earned a bachelor's and master's degree in the subject matter. After graduating, Erica worked full-time for six years before attending CVCC. She received the adult program offerings in the mail and was very interested in the Graphic Design for Web & Print Production class that CVCC offered in the evenings, as it worked with her busy schedule. Already having an established marketing career, Erica was constantly in a position where she needed to be creative and produce visually appealing marketing pieces, which was challenging at first due to her not having any graphic design background. In addition, she had to work with many graphics that had been laid out in Adobe InDesign in which she had no idea how to use or work with. Erica finally decided to enroll in the Graphic Design for Print and Web Production program at CVCC as she felt it would help her overcome the design and creative struggles she was experiencing, as well as allow her to not only meet, but exceed the expectations that were being asked of her at work.



Erica Larson

Currently, Erica runs a web design and marketing agency called Pixel Power that specializes in WordPress websites and social media management for medium-sized service-based businesses. The Graphics program she took at CVCC allowed her to gain the experience needed to not only be promoted by her former employer, but eventually move on to run her own agency on a full-time basis. Erica prides herself on being self-taught in many areas within her career; however, she is immensely grateful that CVCC provided an option that allowed her to conquer particularly large hurdles that were not easily overcome by self-teaching. Having an instructor who was a professional in the graphics field teach her theory as well as how to use industry standard software really gave Erica a leg-up in comparison to her peers. CVCC is thrilled to have been able to provide Erica with such a quality program that allowed her to thrive in her career!

CVCC's Adult Education programs are enrolling now for 2021. The Graphic Design for Print and Web Production program, along with many other quality options are available! For further information about the Graphic Design program, and many others that CVCC provides, please visit: https://www.cvccworks.edu/adulteducation_home.aspx. Additionally, program inquiries can be emailed to aeinfo@cvccworks.edu or received at 440.746.8230.

Serving the school districts of: Brecksville-Broadview Heights ♦ Cuyahoga Heights ♦ Garfield Heights ♦ Independence ♦ Nardon Hills ♦ North Royalton ♦ Revere ♦ Twinsburg

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CVCC Service Spotlight

Quality Student Support Services at CVCC!

It is no secret that taking the next steps toward obtaining further education and training is a major investment; not only in time, but financially as well. Cuyahoga Valley Career Center is here to help in one's academic journey, by providing a variety of opportunities and assistance in finding a program and career path that works specifically for each student! CVCC's Adult Education Department provides ongoing access to valuable, diverse programs that range from medically based, to computer expertise, and more! Moreover, CVCC prides itself on being a guide in helping students reach their full potential; with that, quality support services are available to students to assist with their education!



Susan Kelley

CVCC's Student Support Services team member, Susan Kelley, is a key associate of the organization, as she connects with adult students to share all the resources CVCC can provide. Specifically, Susan deals with financial aid, scholarships, career advising, tutoring, and working with adult students who request accommodations, as well as follow-up with them to make sure their individualized plan is working to meet their needs. Susan also handles documentation of any national testing for students to receive accommodations regarding accreditation, and is a School Certifying Official for Veteran Affairs. Furthermore, Susan works with students on social services referrals to the Department of Jobs and Family Services to assist with childcare, food stamps, unemployment, and more. CVCC is honored to be able to offer these services, as well as have an expert on board to take the lead in guiding students to being as successful as possible at CVCC and in their future career.

Many of CVCC's programs offer scholarship and payment plan options, as well as financial aid eligibility. Programs that qualify for federal student aid include: Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN), CNC 650, Cosmetology, Esthetics, and Medical Administrative Specialist (MAS). Additionally, the Lozick Scholarship is available for students in the machining CNC 650 program. The CVCC Endowment Scholarship is available to Adult Education students as well who live in one of CVCC's eight associate districts, which includes: Brecksville-Broadview Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, Garfield Heights, Independence, Nardon Hills, North Royalton, Revere, and Twinsburg. CVCC also promotes the College Now of Greater Cleveland Manufacturing and Adult Learner Scholarships, which several previous students have received. In addition, the Horatio Alger Career-Technical Scholarship is also available to students, in which two CVCC nursing students have just received. Ohio Means Jobs is another resource Susan recommends for funding, as there are many opportunities available; last year alone CVCC had approximately 15 students who received funding for LPN, Heating Ventilation/Air Conditioning (HVAC), Dental Assisting, Phlebotomy, and EKG. Recently, students have also found opportunities with Union Education Trust who funded learners in HVAC, EKG and Phlebotomy. All of these resources are available to qualifying students who are ready to take the leap into obtaining quality education at the career center.

To continue, CVCC offers a valuable Adult Diploma Program to those who may have experience, but are in need of a diploma. This is available through CVCC's Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), State Tested Nurse Aide (STNA) program, EKG Technician program, Phlebotomy program, Web Design and Animation program, HVAC program, and Graphic Design for Print and Web Production program. The Adult Diploma Program is free, though certain stipulations do apply. Further information about the details of this program can be found at: <http://www.cvccworks.edu/AdultDiplomaProgram.aspx>.

Obtaining advanced education is a big commitment; CVCC is here to assist in making your educational experience the best it can be through offering excellent programs, one-on-one advising, and a variety of student support services. For more information about CVCC's Adult Education Programs and the Student Support Services that are available, visit: <https://www.cvccworks.edu/FinancialAid.aspx> or connect with CVCC Student Support Services expert, Susan Kelley at: skelley@cvccworks.edu or 440.746.8337.



CVCC Staff Spotlight

Best Wishes Hal Kendrick!

CVCC sends a heartfelt farewell and best wishes to Business Manager Hal Kendrick, who is retiring at the end of 2020. Hal started working at CVCC in 2016, prior to that, the 23-year veteran of the Army National Guard, served as the Director of Business Operations for Cuyahoga Falls City School District. Hal also spent a number of years working in public service for other districts and municipalities such as Amherst Schools, City of Lorain and Cuyahoga Falls. Hal has given so much of his time and effort to serving others, and for that, CVCC is immensely thankful to have had him as a part of our district. The CVCC community wishes Hal all the best as he starts this next chapter in life; he will be greatly missed!



Hal Kendrick

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Monday, December 21- Friday, January 1 ♦ Winter Break for Students
- ❖ Thursday, December 24 ♦ Christmas Eve
- ❖ Friday, December 25 ♦ Christmas Day
- ❖ Friday January 1 ♦ New Year’s Day
- ❖ Thursday, January 7 ♦ 5:30 p.m. ♦ Board of Education Meeting (Virtual)
- ❖ Thursday, January 14 ♦ 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ♦ Virtual Student/Parent Information Night
- ❖ Monday, January 18 ♦ Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observed
- ❖ Monday, February 1- Friday, February 5 ♦ Career Tech Education Week
- ❖ Monday, February 15 ♦ President’s Day
- ❖ Thursday, February 25 ♦ Board of Education Meeting (Virtual)
- ❖ Thursday, March 25 ♦ Board of Education Meeting (Virtual)
- ❖ Monday, March 29 - Friday, April 2 ♦ Spring Break

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