Studio Production Takes Home the Win

Chloe Swift - Writer
CCTEC

Studio Production and Broadcasting cropped the competition out of their frame when they won the CTE Pep Rally this past March. The Pep Rally at CCTEC is a highly anticipated event in which programs compete in a variety of fun competitions to celebrate Career and Technical Education Month. Students wore assigned program colors to show team spirit and pride for their programs. Some of the competitions included the three legged race, stacking cups, and the Oreo Cookie Face Challenge. Even program teachers got in on the fun, competing in the egg-and-spoon race to open up the rally:

This year, a chant centered around each program of study took center stage. Business and I.T. performed a parody to “Ice, Ice, Baby” while other programs, such as Cosmetology and Studio Production, created original chants from scratch.

Business and I.T. came in third place, Cosmetology clinched the second place spot, and Studio Production received the coveted Principal’s Cup trophy. The Pep Rally is a great way to bring programs together year after year to Celebrate Today and Own Tomorrow.
On Thursday, March 28th, freshman and sophomore students participated in CCTEC’s annual College and Career Day. Over forty colleges, universities, businesses, and service organizations attended the fair, including Stockton University, Rowan University, Inspira, Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office, and Southern New Jersey Steel.

All students were professionally dressed and conducted very meaningful conversations with the vendors at the fair. In class, students were given an assignment to complete where they had to gain information from at least one college and/or university, one business and/or organization and one company of their choice. Mrs. Gates, a coordinator for the event, received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from all the vendors about how well behaved, well spoken, and professional all the students were during the fair.
Interact Leadership Conference

Kayley Price - Writer
CCTEC

On February 10th, freshman and sophomore leaders of the Interact Club attended a leadership conference at Cumberland County College. With the guidance of co-advisors Ms. Bernhardt and Mr. Campbell, students were made aware of issues within Cumberland County by the Rotary Club. As members arrived, they were assigned different colored folders, which placed them into different groups. Each group learned about a different problem and how to rectify it. Two of these issues educated leaders on water sanitation and illiteracy. Leaders were presented with solutions of how clean drinking water can be provided to Cumberland County and the world. As chemicals have become more prominent in tap and well water throughout the county, clean drinking water has been a large issue. The education of young Interact leaders allows for a positive future in clean drinking water.

Interact students were also educated on illiteracy and the complication it adds. Having the highest illiteracy rate in the state, Cumberland County is in need of literacy education. Through the education provided by the leadership conference, Interact members gained knowledge of how to improve illiteracy throughout the county. To end the day, leaders were provided with lunch and a conversation about the Rotary Club. Through the education provided by the conference, our Interact Club now has newly gained knowledge that will help them to continue making extraordinary change.

The TEC Factor Highlights Student Performances

CCTEC

CCTEC’s new drama club, The TECnical Players, hosted its first talent show on April 20th. This year’s talent show, dubbed the TEC Factor, was hosted by co-advisors Mrs. Demery & Ms. Wilford and was very successful! Students and staff came to support the talented performers and everyone had a great time. Freshman Mariah Figueroa hosted the event and the judges included a few of CCTEC’s own board members.

First place was awarded to the Dream Team, Jessenia Rivera claimed second place, and Courtney Hand received third place. Audience members were given the opportunity to vote for their favorite act. The People’s Choice Award Runner-Up went to Briana Pettus and the People’s Choice Award was given to the Dream Team.

The TECnical Players would like to thank everyone who attended the event. Congratulations to all performers!

Dream Team Members from Left to Right: Karla Mejias, Kiara Santana, Tamia Kent, Emany Cradle, Bianca Cortes, Armani Bunton, and Uriah King.
SkillsUSA is an extremely important competition that students in technical schools participate in. According to its mission statement, SkillsUSA empowers its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. SkillsUSA improves the quality of our nation’s future skilled workforce through the development of framework skills that include personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics. Additionally, more than 335,000 students and advisors join SkillsUSA each year, organized into more than 18,000 local chapters and 53 state and territorial associations.

Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, dozens of TEC students prepared for NJ SkillsUSA competitions including, but not limited to, Broadcast Production, Criminal Justice Quiz Bowl, Mobile Robotics, Motorcycle Service Technology, and Welding Art/Sculpture. After rounds of competitions held in locations throughout NJ, 30 of TEC’s full-time and shared-time students brought home Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals. Gold medalists will continue on to compete at Nationals in June. Congratulations to all of TEC’s NJ SkillsUSA competitors! A special thank you to advisors, Mrs. Hawk and Mr. Sharp, as well as all of TEC’s amazing teachers who supported the students every step of the way!

NJ SkillsUSA Award Winners for the 2017-2018 school year are as follows:

Anthony Flores, Broadcast Production: Gold Metal
Caleb Jones, Broadcast Production: Gold Metal
Chisano Mutts, Broadcast Production: Gold Metal
Chloe Swift, Broadcast Production: Gold Metal
Jack Kruger, Mobile Robotics: Gold Metal
Michael Mancus, Mobile Robotics: Gold Metal
Logan Sutton, Welded Sculpture: Gold Metal
Darbi Errickson, Chapter Display: Silver Metal
Hailey Collins, Chapter Display: Silver Metal
Quinn Lesher, Chapter Display: Silver Metal
Stephen D’Agostino, Motorcycle: Silver Metal
Richard Wills, Oramental Iron: Silver Metal
Catherine Kennedy, Radio Production: Silver Metal
Tabitha Gentilett, Radio Production: Silver Metal
Zoe Munos, T-Shirt Design: Silver Metal
Austin Hastings, Team Fab Welding: Silver Metal
Jose Masso, Team Fab Welding: Silver Metal
Kyle Austin, Team Fab Welding: Silver Metal
David Jacome-Mendoza, Welding: Silver Metal
Davine Myers, Criminal Justice Quiz Bowl: Bronze Metal
Malachi Quest, Criminal Justice Quiz Bowl: Bronze Metal
N’Yonah Coriano, Criminal Justice Quiz Bowl: Bronze Metal
Nicholas Blauth, Criminal Justice Quiz Bowl: Bronze Metal
Desiree Gordillo, Cosmetology Knowledge Bowl: Bronze Metal
Estefania Segura, Cosmetology Knowledge Bowl: Bronze Metal
Caryl Filio, Cosmetology Knowledge Bowl: Bronze Metal
Marissa Watford, Cosmetology Knowledge Bowl: Bronze Metal
Alfonso Capistran Cortazar, Finished Carpentry: Bronze Metal
Kyle Tomarchio, Plywood Challenge 2: Bronze Metal
Britney Morales, Plywood Challenge 2: Bronze Metal

Congratulations to all students on your amazing accomplishments!
Students Competing at NJ Skills USA
Learning how to debate and take on leadership roles has been the main focus of history class recently at CCTEC. Socratic seminars, discussion circles, debates, and mock trials have occurred involving the material learned. Many students have found a love for debating and, as a result, have joined the Model Congress team. Model Congress is a club where students learn how to construct bills and pieces of legislation as well as debate the “pros and cons” of bills.

The members of Model Congress worked for months on creating their pieces of legislation. Some bills included a national healthcare plan, an immigration bill preventing the separation of families, a ban on online tobacco sales, a prevention of imperialism bill, and many more. Many club meetings consisted of mock debates where the members were educated in both supporting and opposing bills.

After the students worked tirelessly debating and editing their bills, Model Congress left in the early morning on March 15th and headed for Rider University in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. Students dressed professionally and many appeared to mimic real congressmen and women. Upon arrival, the students gathered in a large auditorium for the opening ceremonies. After the welcome, students joined a political party and attended either The House of Representatives or The Senate. The students debated bills for hours on end. Research was conducted during the committees and points were made either for or against bills. The Model Congress team had the opportunity to speak in front of the committee to support or oppose a bill.

After being separated throughout the day, TEC’s Model Congress team gathered together for meals. They also attended party rallies and a student mixer at the conclusion of the first night. In the overall Senate, bills that passed in committees were debated in front of the entire Senate. The representatives of the bills that passed in both committees and the overall Senate included Nickolas Casalinuovo and Tiara Morales and Yaceline Rodriguez. Casalinuovo was also awarded the Outstanding Delegate Award. The experience of Model Congress was thoroughly enjoyable and the skills obtained will be utilized throughout their high school and vocational careers. Congratulations to all delegates!
This year CCTEC participated in Cumberland County College’s 30th annual science fair. Students from all over the county created scientific experiments and were placed into categories depending on the subject of their project.

Students involved could work alone or in teams of two or three. CCTEC opened up the Science Fair to students taking Chemistry this year. This included most of the sophomore class and several freshmen students. Overall, CCTEC submitted seven projects to the fair. Five of these projects were teams and two were solo. Students worked from winter break until March 15th to come up with an experiment, write a procedure, perform the experiment, gather data, and create a display board. Students who volunteered to participate were also given the option to write a research paper on their topic and keep a data book detailing the results and process of their experiment. Those who created projects and submitted them to the Science Fair were also compensated for their efforts in the form of extra credit points that would be added on to their 3rd marking period final grade.

The fair included forty-seven projects in total. The participants were split up between 6th-8th graders and 9th-12th graders, which kept the competition fair and concise. Those who placed in first or second within each category would proceed on to the Delaware Valley wide Science Fair. Different cash rewards from several colleges were also given to the students that placed first, second, and third in each category. The competition was tough due to the amazing projects brought in by every school. Judging took place and each student was given the opportunity to explain their projects to several judges. Each judge kept a score sheet to determine who the winners of the fair would be in the end. CCTEC’s winner from this year’s fair was Teresa Klugewicz, who placed first in the category of physics. Her project was titled “Shutter Speeds and Human Perception of Motion.” The project related to the basic laws of motion, modeled by photographs taken at different shutter speeds. Although only one win came out of the Science Fair this year, CCTEC will keep submitting projects in the years to come as a way to grow and broaden students’ scientific skills. Congratulations to Teresa Klugewicz and to all of the other participants on their great achievements!
Ms. Greenidge has stated that “Tyler is a hardworking, dedicated student. He is committed to understanding and achieving success in Algebra 2. Tyler always makes the time to come to SMART when he has questions or wants extra practice. I am so honored to nominate Tyler for the student of the month. He deserves it.

Outside of school, Tyler enjoys fishing, hunting, other outdoor activities including flying drones. Once he graduates, he foresees becoming an engineer.

Ms. Birdsall has stated that “Rodrigo is always respectful & polite. He receives the best of grades in my class. He is a quiet young gentleman who will make a great impact as a health care professional.”

Outside of school, Rodrigo enjoys working out, going to restaurants, exploring new places, reading, watching movies, hunting and spending time with his family.

Once he graduates, Rodrigo aspires to become a physical therapist and entrepreneur. He looks forward to giving back to the community as well as his family.

Ms. Vicari has stated that “Jordan has been working hard in class for HOSA & outside of class getting his EMT Certification. He has become a peer leader and I am very proud of him.”

Outside of school, Jordan volunteers as an EMT, plays Varsity Football and is involved in HOSA.

Upon graduation, Jordan plans on going to college and becoming a Physician Assistant.

Ms. Kessler has stated that “Kanazsha is a great role model to the other students when we go on the job training. She loves to take on the role of helping others when they are in need.”

Kanazsha enjoys dancing in church and is involved in the Special Olympics.

After graduation, she plans on working at a physician’s office and helping people.