



## Interactive Media students gain skills & certifications

Graphic Design, Studio Photography, Video Production, Media Broadcast, 3D Design, Animation, Adobe Suite Certifications & more in a newly updated modern lab.

One of the programs at Tri-Rivers that has experienced rapid change the last several years is Interactive Media. It has gone from the early years of Graphic Printing, to Digital Media for a few years to its current moniker of Interactive Media.

"The program's latest title and direction is fueled by changes in communications. In our technology-driven world interactive media surrounds everything we do; It transforms the way people share information and ideas through creative uses of technology," explained Josh Ebert, one of two instructors for the program.

"One of the coolest things has been watching the talent of the students go up and up! As enrollment rises, it's bringing

a greater variety of students and raising the bar," said Ebert.

"With advancements in technology, creative problem solvers are in high demand," said Ebert. "Even companies like Apple, who design products, need creative designers to work alongside their engineers. Critical thinking, like what we teach, continues to be one of the top skills we hear employers looking for."

Ebert has over 10 years of experience in the field and is in his second year of teaching. He has had the opportunity to experience a variety of clients and projects. He can share those experiences with students. "I've been involved with everything from branding, to commercial videography, to software design, and more. I even started my own business and have worked to grow that the last several years."

His teaching partner, Jeff Davidson, who is in his first year at Tri-Rivers, has worked in the interactive media and graphic design industry for 30 years. "I have a wealth of experience to share with the students. I have worked in almost every segment of the design industry—graphic design, web design, animation, game design, and video



**"Experienced instructors make all the difference. Mr. Ebert and Mr. Davidson are both positive, dynamic individuals. They take ideas and turn them into reality. Their passion encourages students to believe they can succeed and do anything they want to if they put their minds to it. Both Interactive Media instructors are innovators."**

—Kristina Lucas, Executive Director of Operations for Tri-Rivers



production to name a few. I think that having seen the evolution of the industry, I can give interesting insights to students."

The dynamic duo as many colleagues call them, also emphasize that having an expansive state-of-the-art lab with some of the nicest high-end equipment of any interactive media training lab in the state, also sets their program apart. "Access to professionals who have worked and are still working in the field, along with a lab that you have to see to believe how amazing it is, gives our students the best possible opportunity to learn to be successful in this field," said Davidson.

"Most of our students will want to go on to post-secondary educational opportunities, but our students will have a strong enough foundation that they could definitely go directly into industry," said Davidson. "Even students who are planning on continuing their education will find themselves in a better position than their peers in their major after taking this program."

"I agree with Mr. Davidson, additional education certainly opens doors and can give students an edge, but it's not essential," said Ebert. "That's the nice thing about interactive media, there are a lot of opportunities at every level."

*I love it here. The staff are good to students; they care about us as individuals. Everything is hands-on and interactive. We do a lot of critical thinking and brainstorming. Both my teachers are interested in what I want to learn.* —Skye Shipman  
Junior from Mount Gilead

## Doing What She Loves!

### Meet Corrine Starks 2018 Tri-Rivers' Graduate, Student at Baldwin Wallace University majoring in Technical Theater & minoring in Studio Art



*My focus in my major is Costume, Wig, and Makeup Design which is where Tri-Rivers comes into play. In high school I worked very hard and got my Cosmetology and Esthetics License in the same year. Doing that set me apart right away in the theater world to be able to go to school and work in my dream job. I have already been able to design makeup, wigs, and natural hair for eight shows in the past two years. Tri-Rivers fully set me up with leadership skills, a drive to work hard and the feeling of believing in myself. What made my time in high school even more special was SkillsUSA—I can walk into every job interview and use my leadership and interview skills gained from Tri-Rivers' SkillsUSA.*

### Our Address:

**Tri-Rivers Career Center  
High School & Adult Education**  
2222 Marion-Mt. Gilead Road  
Marion, OH 43302

### Our Mission:

Educate students in an engaging environment for tomorrow's opportunities in the workforce and community.

### Our Promise:

Tri-Rivers promises to provide high quality, efficient technical education with fiscal responsibility, academic accountability and technical advancement.

The Tri-Rivers Career Communicator is published by the Communications Department at Tri-Rivers Career Center, 2222 Marion-Mt. Gilead Road, Marion, OH 43302. It is mailed to residences in school districts served by the Career Center—Cardington, Elgin, Pleasant, River Valley, Ridgedale, North Union, Mt. Gilead, Highland, Marion Harding. Inquiries should be directed to the Career Communicator Editor, Ellen Messenger at emessenger@tririvers.com



Tri-Rivers was proud to host the Meijer's Pharmacy Team's #COVID19 vaccination clinic for all of the Marion County School employees and community school employees. #TRCCMakingItWork Special thanks to Criminal Justice and Health Careers Academy students for assisting with the clinic. Above, TRCC Instructor Brett Gentkowski gets his vaccination.

Tri-Rivers Career Center (High School & Adult) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or transgender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") in its educational programs or activities.

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## Tri-Rivers Events

**March 29-April 5**  
Spring Break, No School

**April 6-16**  
Welcome Receptions at  
Associate Schools

**April 21, 2021**  
—Area Superintendents/Principals,  
Counselors Annual Luncheon  
—Board of Education Meeting  
6:30pm at Tri-Rivers

**April 29**  
—College Credit Plus (CCP)  
Meeting in Multi-Purpose Room  
5:30pm  
—Dessert With Your Teacher  
6pm—New students meet in their  
Career Tech Labs

**May 19**  
—Senior Breakfast-8:15am  
—Board of Education Meeting  
6:30pm at Tri-Rivers

**May 27**  
Senior Recognition 2021  
at the Marion County  
Fairgrounds Coliseum  
7pm

**May 11**  
Adult Education  
Industrial Maintenance  
Giauque Auditorium-5 pm

**Tuesday, June 8**  
Great Start 2021  
9am-6:30pm

**June 18**  
Adult Education  
Nursing Graduation  
at the Palace Theatre  
7pm

**Upcoming  
Video Events**  
—Retirement  
Celebration

—Distinguished Service/  
Outstanding Alumni  
Recognition

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# Tri-Rivers Career COMMUNICATOR



### In This Issue:

Interactive Media Program's Lab is AMAZING! • Events Calendar • Fiscal Update From Treasurer  
COVID19—#TriRiversMakingItWork  
Alumni Updates • NTHS Winter Inductees • Marion Community Foundation Grant buys Swivl Systems

**There's Still Time to Apply to Tri-Rivers! • On-line Application at tririvers.com**



Be Amazing!

#TRCCYouBelongHere





## Fiscal Update From Our Treasurer

Funds from the CARES Act provided our District with One-Time Funds to Meet Pandemic Related Needs



Tammi Cowell  
CFO/Treasurer

The global pandemic caused by Covid-19 has presented many challenges to our educational system over the past year; however, at Tri-Rivers Career Center (TRCC) we were prepared to change our teaching methods to a virtual setting since we have been a school of one-to-one computers for many years.

For most of our students remote learning was a totally new concept. Tri-Rivers, along with our local education community, worked together to provide the services and support necessary to meet the needs of our students both at the secondary and adult levels as they learned from home last spring.

We are tasked daily with meeting the needs of the whole child while ensuring students, educators, and staff are healthy, safe, and successful. The COVID-19 pandemic has proven how essential it is to meet these needs and has also added an increased sense of urgency to the task.

We continue to respond by employing innovative strategies to address the social, emotional, physical and educational challenges of the pandemic that will continue to benefit students, educators and our communities as we move forward.

This pandemic has put stress on our District's budget over the past year; however, we have been fortunate to receive additional money to help offset some of these costs. Tri-Rivers Career Center and

Center for Adult Education was awarded federal funding through several grants made possible by the CARES Act. This additional financial support has permitted us to address concerns for ensuring equity; social-emotional learning and behavioral health; increased professional development for staff; student nutrition; updated technology infrastructure; and adequate personal protective equipment and disinfecting tools.

The money from the CARES Act provided our District with one-time funds to meet pandemic related needs—needs which we may not have otherwise met within our normal budget.

These federal funds made it possible for the Career Center to keep its doors open while adhering to Centers For Disease Control guidelines and offering our students continued learning opportunities via a hybrid model for the first five months of the 2020-2021 school year and more recently with full face-to-face classes five days per week.

The one-time CARES Act money is not a windfall of cash to our school district. It is restricted and dedicated to needs caused due to the pandemic and it comes with guidance on how we are permitted to spend it—mainly on the continuity of operations, alternative and extended learning opportunities and credit recovery for students needing extra assistance in their academics.

The Tri-Rivers Board of Education, Superintendent, Treasurer, Administrative Team, Instructors and Support Staff work tirelessly to provide a quality education to our students at a fair cost to our taxpayers.

Our Administrative Team works hard to identify student and district needs and the Superintendent, Treasurer and Board of Education develop a budget to ensure adequate resources to meet those needs.

We cannot control what happens with the State budget, but we can continue to operate in an open and transparent manner and make decisions that are intentional, purposeful, and with our students' best interests at heart. We want you to know that we are responsible stewards of your tax dollars and will continue working hard to make sure all students are successful and career ready when they leave us to enter the workforce.



Top photo: Dividers were purchased to provide barriers and social distancing.

Bottom photo: A Virtual Video of Tri-Rivers Campus was created so students interested in attending Tri-Rivers could virtually visit and select their program choice for next year.



## ...Congratulations to NTHS Winter Inductees

Riley Adams, Health Careers Academy (Harding)  
Addilay Beene, Health Careers Academy (Pleasant)  
Bryanna Beene, Culinary Arts (Pleasant)

Skye Bivens, Criminal Justice (Mount Gilead)

Grace Butler, Interactive Media (Wynford)

Rayleigh Clark, Automotive Technology (North Union)

Harli Davenport, Exercise Science & Sports Medicine (Elgin)

Alexis DeGood, Exercise Science & Sports Medicine (Pleasant)

Griffin Delawder, Ag & Industrial Power (River Valley)

Amelia England, Culinary Arts (North Union)

Trista Funk, Interactive Media (Pleasant)

Allyson Gwinner, Health Careers Academy (Pleasant)

Lucien Hendrickson, Engineering Technologies (North Union)

Caden Hines, Computer Networking Electronics (River Valley)

Domanic Hockman, Criminal Justice (Elgin)

Evan Jones, Computer Networking Electronics (Ridgedale)



**NTHS believes in Career Tech students—the heartbeat of today's workforce! NTHS celebrates the accomplishments of today's career and technical education students, empowering them to know the value and impact of their career paths and trades. Since 1984, NTHS has been honoring outstanding student achievement, providing scholarships and career development opportunities.—Mrs. Eliza Gentkowski, NTHS Advisor**

Gabriel Mahoney, Engineering Technologies (North Union)

Nicholas Manning, Automotive Technology (River Valley)

Julia Mattix, Cosmetology (Ridgedale)

Matthew Mays, Construction Trades (North Union)

Tyler McManus, Automotive Technology (Pleasant)

Mercedes Miller, Exercise Science & Sports Med (Harding)

William Ogden, Construction Trades (Upper Sandusky)

Elizabeth Oney, Health Careers Academy (Elgin)

Brandon Petty, Computer Networking Electronics (Cardington)

Grace Randall, Cosmetology (Mount Gilead)

Madison Redmon, Health Careers Academy (Harding)

Daniel Rengert, Construction Trades Academy (River Valley)

Alexis Spurlock, Cosmetology (Elgin)

Rebekah Sturdivant, Health Careers Academy (Mount Gilead)

Sophia Thacker, Criminal Justice (River Valley)

Katelynn Votaw, Construction Trades Academy (Highland)

## Swivl System Purchased with 2020 TEACH Grant From the Marion Community Foundation Improves Learning for TRCC students

While the Swivl system isn't much to look at, what it does is beautiful for the students in Tri-Rivers' programs. Cosmetology Instructor Becky Salyer says, "It's all about maintaining connections with my students and effectively addressing the challenges of teaching remotely."

"A handful of students really take to remote learning; the vast majority do not," Salyer explained. Swivl technology—a video system which follows instructors around the classroom—allows a more natural teaching style. Rather than standing in one spot for a camera, Salyer

explained, the Swivl follows a tracking lanyard and focuses on the wearer's face. She retrained her Swivl to follow her hands so she could clearly demonstrate detailed techniques, such as rolling a perm. Her students can use it to go back over lessons, step-by-step, as many times as needed.

The Swivl Technology is innovative and impactful on TRCC's programs. It improves students' classroom experiences.

Becky Salyer  
Cosmetology and  
Esthetics Instructor



## 2021 Adult Education Welding Completers celebrate success

Congratulations to Tri-Rivers-Adult Education's Welding, Fabrication & Allied Processes program completers. They were recognized at a ceremony held in the Giauque Auditorium.

(Left to right in the photo: Instructor Tom Reynolds, Welding completers: Elizabeth Santillan, Jace Chevalier, Brock Howard, Nicholas McCall and Trent Avon and Director of Adult Education Richard George.

What a special class! They made it through 650 hours/100 days of skills training during Covid! Each student received several "tough to attain" welding certificates, including Trent Avon earning the High Pressure Pipe Weld Certificate—a first! Evan Kalbes earned perfect attendance. Their main instructor was Tom Reynolds.



Evan Kalbes who earned Perfect Attendance with Instructor Tom Reynolds.

**Be Amazing!**  
**Be Like**  
**Zachary Pappert, a current student in the**  
**Exercise Science & Sport Maintenance Program**

...I love this lab, it's amazing! You get to see what you want to do. It shows what an athletic trainer does on a daily basis. During the first week of the class, I knew every one in my lab. It's like home.

- Explore a wide range of exercise science, sports medicine, nutrition, wellness and physical therapy careers in a new state of the art lab and sports complex
- Work with professionals to gain experience in sports medicine, exercise science, athletic training, physical therapy, occupational therapy and therapeutic exercise
- Prevent and heal injuries using techniques based on anatomy & physiology principles

**Applied Already? That's Great!**  
**If not, Apply Today!**  
Our Online Application is located at [tririvers.com](http://tririvers.com)

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