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## Student Connection



**CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER** 

## <u>Damon Hoody</u> Twinsburg



Damon Hoody, a junior at Twinsburg High School, is currently enrolled in CVCC's Computer Network Academy under the instruction of Tim Moore. Upon his visit to CVCC during a school field trip, Damon stumbled upon the Computer Network Academy program and eagerly seized it without hesitation. "I've always had a passion for IT. Even as a child, I'd dismantle my toys just to reassemble them. I've always been drawn to tinkering with and repairing machines and their components."

After graduation, Damon aspires to pursue a career as a penetration tester, specializing in conducting simulated cyberattacks on corporate computer systems and networks to pinpoint security vulnerabilities before malicious hackers exploit them. Alternatively, he aims to explore a role as a security engineer.

Damon expresses gratitude for Mr. Moore's support and the abundance of opportunities he provides for student success. "Mr. Moore's expertise in the field and access to extensive resources have greatly enhanced my learning experience here at CVCC. There truly is something for everyone at CVCC."

Among Damon's cherished memories is the class's video game party held just before winter break. He has also actively engaged in Business Professionals of America (BPA) activities. "Recently, I secured a top 5 medal in the Information Technology Concepts contest at the Ohio BPA state competition. Although I didn't place in Computer Security, which is my primary focus in BPA, I view every setback as a chance to learn and evolve."

Outside of his academic pursuits, Damon also contributes to the IT department at CVCC! In his leisure time, he indulges in his favorite hobby: Capture the Flag (CTF). "I thrive on tackling particularly challenging tasks." In the realm of computer security, CTF presents contestants with a range of challenges, from scavenger hunts on Wikipedia to basic programming exercises and even hacking into servers to retrieve data. Participants are typically tasked with locating specific hidden text, referred to as the "flag," hence the game's name. Keep up the outstanding work, Damon!

Written By: Makayla Robertson, CVCC Media Specialist





