



CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ALUMNI RELATIONS



Award-winning filmmaker got her start at Tri-C

Parma-native Roxy Toporowych will be home this weekend with more on her agenda than just visiting family - the film she wrote and directed, *Julia Blue*, will have its world premiere at the [Cleveland International Film Festival!](#) Toporowych attended Tri-C for two years to build the creative portfolio she needed to transfer to New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in film and television. "Tri-C is AWESOME," she said. "It's affordable, and I made incredible friends who all went on to have amazing and successful careers. And, I had some amazing professors who made a big impact on me."

The filmmaker built a career by working a variety of jobs in the industry. She interned at *Saturday Night Live*, worked as a set dresser, and eventually worked on two films shot in Ohio (*Captain America: Winter Soldier* and *The Bronze*). Her hard work was rewarded in 2014 when she won a Fulbright Scholarship, which allowed her to do research and live in the Ukraine. Toporowych went on to receive the Calvin Klein Spotlight on Women Filmmakers 'Live the Dream' grant in 2016, which aims to further the careers of emerging women directors by supporting the completion, distribution and audience engagement strategies of their first feature film or episodic series.

Roxy Toporowych will be at the three *Julia Blue* screenings this weekend, along with the film's producer, Nilou Safinya, and editor, Ben Kim. If you would like to attend, Tri-C alumni can save \$2 on each ticket using the CCC discount code [online](#), over the phone or at the box office.