

PUBLIC ART DISPLAY AT BUS STOP FEATURES COMMUTE-INSPIRED ARTWORK BY TRI-C'S **DA'SHAUNAE JACKSON**



STORY BY **Madeline Shepherd**

PHOTO BY **Katie Ardner**

The commute was long — two hours and three bus changes, to be exact. But that's what it took for Da'Shaunae Jackson to get from her home in Garfield Heights to classes at Cuyahoga Community College and to work.

The 22-year-old photography student never viewed the trip as lost time, though. She used it as inspiration.

"I've always been interested in street photography," she said, "so I decided to document my travels."

Jackson photographed her daily commutes on the rapid and bus line for one year. Her shots included people, bus stops and anything else that captured her eye along the way. At the end of each day, she would pick the best images to submit as a class project.

She submitted her work to various competitions and initiatives around Cleveland, including Art Stop — a program launched to turn bus shelters into rotating art galleries showcasing local artists.

"I found out about the Art Stop opportunity at a bus stop over the summer," Jackson said. "I thought it would be cool if the work I took on the bus was included on the shelter of the bus line."

Jackson learned in September that one of her photographs had been chosen. The artwork went up on the bus shelter at East 21st Street and Superior Avenue in mid-October. It will be displayed for three months.

"I was very excited my artwork was chosen," said Jackson. "I was working on that project for a long time and just wanted to share it with other people."

Her work can also be seen in the 2018 edition of *Breakwall*, Tri-C's annual literary journal, and through Interurban, an initiative to transform Cleveland's public transit rail system into a large-scale public art experience.

Jackson enrolled at Tri-C in fall 2016 to build her photography skills. She transferred to the College from Kent State University, where she studied graphic design after graduating from Garfield Heights High School.

"I PICKED TRI-C BECAUSE I HEARD THEY HAD A GOOD PHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM. MY INSTRUCTOR, DANIEL LEVIN, IS ONE OF THE BEST TEACHERS I'VE EVER HAD. HE'S VERY ENCOURAGING, AND I'M ENJOYING IT SO FAR."

Jackson plans to focus on freelance photography following graduation in spring 2019, with a goal of starting her own business. She is interested in becoming a fashion photographer.