

Ocean County Vocational Technical School

Buy Local, Hire Local

Owning Your Own Business



Student: Christina Menagos

OCVTS Program: Cosmetology

Instructor: Deb Gall

Employer: Nia Sofia Salon, Toms River, NJ

Website: [facebook.com/niasofiasalon](https://www.facebook.com/niasofiasalon)

Class of: 2006

Center: Toms River

In Christina's own words... My dream has always been to become a business owner. Today, I am living my dream owning the Nia Sofia Salon in Toms River. It all began while in high school, when I enrolled in the cosmetology class at Ocean County Vocational School. I had my own chair by the time I was seventeen. Once I got the taste of cosmetology, I knew then that I wanted to run my own salon. I must say that my own business is not what I thought it was going to be. Sometimes it seemed harder than I thought, but that only helped me to keep striving to make it the best that it can be.

Thanks to Mrs. Gall and OCVTS for preparing me to enter the cosmetology industry with the skill set needed to obtain my cosmetology license and reach my goals of owning my own salon. To any student or future cosmetologist, I would tell you to set goals for yourself. Most importantly, keep learning to stay ahead of the curve. Additionally, I would like to say good luck to all students and follow your dreams. As the saying goes, if you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life!

Deb Gall has been teaching the cosmetology classes at Toms River Center for sixteen years. She commented, "Christina was an excellent student who showed professionalism at all times. During the time I taught the evening program, students like Christina worked full time, came to class and took care of families. The cosmetology classes involve 1000 hours of theory, hands-on and clinical experience. Christina took on the challenge full force. I am so very proud of all her accomplishments!"

Christina poses with her sister Michelle Morehouse, Manager of Nia Sofia Salon (pictured left). Michelle is also a cosmetology graduate from OCVTS. They certainly have reasons to smile!

