

Ocean County Vocational Technical School
Sharing Success Stories
Working in the Field



Students: Nick Schmidt and Billy Nally
OCVTS Program: Audio Recording
Instructors: Billy Bourke and Zach Slater

Class of: 2015
Center: Navy Lakehurst



The Wrecks Interview
with Nick Schmidt and Billy Nally

Overview- Nick Schmidt and Billy Nally graduated from the Audio for Electronic Media Program in June 2015. That November, they moved to Los Angeles to pursue playing music as a career in the band called, the Wrecks. Within their first short year of the band, these guys have had some great achievements and success. In April 2016, their hit single, "Favorite Liar" was published and digitally released. Six months later in September 2016 their song has been played over one million times on Spotify. Currently the song has almost three million plays. Billy and Nick were home for the holidays and stopped by our school to share their experiences with the students in the audio program.

How did OCVTS help you get to where you are now?

Nick- It taught me how to be in a professional working environment without stereotyping people. It helped a lot in the studio about expressing your ideas, creativity and direction.

Billy- The program taught me about workflow and being professional. Without this class, you would be eaten up and spit out. There are so many bits of information you learn along the way in the class that it all seems to fit together when you are in the real world.



If you could say one thing about OCVTS Audio, what would it be?

Nick- It prepares you for the "real" world, and gives you "hands-on" experience in the professional audio industry. I am just thankful for all the opportunities.

Billy – Pay attention. You could never know enough. If you are serious about music, this place is great for networking with other people serious about music.



The Wrecks performing live



Zach Slater, Nick Schmidt, Billy Nally, and Billy Bourke