





Sisters

Skateboarding is a hobby that my sisters and I enjoy. Oftentimes, when I was home during the summer we would practice skating in the parking lot of our apartment complex, taking turns on the one skateboard my sister owns. Last year I crafted a skateboard mold and a single board as a means of bringing aspects of Southern California with me to Portland, but this year I decided to make skateboards as a gift to my siblings.

Woodworking and printmaking are mediums I have worked with in the past, but bringing them together to decorate the decks was a new venture. Since I already had a mold made I was able to jump into creating the skateboard decks, making improvements to my previous design (I added extra layers of wood to the decks for increased stability). My sisters were involved in the creative process by choosing which pictures of themselves they wanted rendered onto the decks. I opted to make blockprints of their portraits because the medium lends a strong graphic quality to my drawings making them well suited for decorating skateboards.

My family will be visiting me soon, so I will be able to send the skateboards back home with my sisters. Hopefully, they will enjoy the experience of riding handcrafted skateboards. With my newfound time post-graduation, I will continue to practice on my newly made skateboard (I am admittedly the weakest skater of the three of us). Regardless of our different levels of skating prowess, I love reminiscing on my skating sessions with my sisters and I am happy that this is a pastime we all connect with. Ultimately, whether they use the boards practically, or simply hang them on their walls for aesthetic value, making these boards was an act of appreciation for my sisters.







