

36. Joey Slaughter: Rip it up, Ruston!

Gavin Kelly

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Carter Carroll

Hello, everyone, and welcome to Beyond 1894. This is Carter Carroll, the university videographer inside the office of university communications here at Louisiana Tech. Today I'm joined by a friend of mine, Joey Slaughter Associate Professor in the School of Design with who is has an emphasis on sculpture. Joey, welcome to the podcast. Thank you for having me. So Joey, just to start off with Where are you from and what got you into art?

Joey Slaughter

Okay. Well, I was raised in Junction City, Arkansas, and my, around my junior year, I lived in rust, and I went back and forth from rust into Junction City for school. I got interested in art because my mom's an artist, and she went to tech, she got her MFA. But she's always been interest. She was always interested in art. And as a kid, she had real paper out down the hallway to to keep us active away from her art. So I was always drawing and, and then I think probably around seventh grade, I just knew that I was going to be an artist, you know, I just there was nothing else. There's no question about it. You know, whatever it took, I was going to be an artist. So it started. It's been there forever.

Carter Carroll

That's awesome. I love stories like that. So, so tech is in your blood then.

Joey Slaughter

It is. It's, it's, it's been here in. I went to I went to undergrad at Memphis. So but it's, you know, I was around tech and the professors and all that in high school. So I need a lot of the former professors here. And yeah, so they helped me a lot too. In high school. They gave me advice. And so I've always been surrounded by

Carter Carroll

artists. Yeah. That's awesome. Where'd you go to high school.

Joey Slaughter

I went to Ruskin high and 11th grade for a semester. But I again, I went back to Louise Jefferson City. Sorry, I went back to Junction City to finish up my degree in high school. So awesome. Awesome. Not much art there. There. Not much art in Junction

Carter Carroll

City. So you said you went to college in Memphis? Yeah. What? What did you study there art.

Joey Slaughter

In the Memphis, I went to school for graphic design. Because, you know, as I grew up skateboarding, and I was really influenced by the graphics on the bottom of the decks. And so I will always draw those traces out. And you know, just wanted to be in that style. It was always, you know, more graphic at that time, a lot of skulls and like, bright colors in the 80s and 90s. And so that's still with me today. But like, when I went to, I went to Memphis, I was going to be a graphic designer, because I wanted to do that. They know, I just wanted to be involved in that scene and that culture. But over time, they kind of beat out the graphic design sense me they're like, you need to do like painting and sculpture and stuff. So I finally got my degree and emphasis, I should say, and painting actually. And then, in Memphis, they had a program that they would send a student to New York to study for a semester. And my junior year, I got to do that. And my little brain exploded when I went to New York and saw the artwork that was seen in textbooks. And, you know, just, I was just amazed, and I just changed everything. You know, it's a different way of thinking then the school at Memphis, not to say it was bad, but it was just more contemporary. Like, let's look at people who are alive today doing this, and let's go down. Let's go have them come over to the studio and talk to you. And so that was another that was a really, that was a moment being there that I was like, I can really do this. Because these guys are doing it, you know. And so that really inspired me to think I need to go to grad school to really do this to get attention and to learn more about what I want to do. So that Memphis to New York, and then back to finish up my degree in 9719 97. And so yeah, I didn't take a break off. I didn't take a year off before grad school though. That was really important. Yeah, I wasn't, I was kind of, at that point. I was like, Maybe I want to do something different. Let me take a year off and work. And so having a year working, just doing random jobs made me go. I want to go back to my dream.

Carter Carroll

Yeah. So yeah, it's important to chase those dreams. I think

Joey Slaughter

a lot of times it is you know, with art though. Everybody needs an art. They do for any. I mean, you think about anything you do. Everybody's an artist, whether it's a phone graphics, you know, to design the lid on coffee, whatever it is everybody needs. You just got to be able to plug yourself into many different ways of working to make this happen. I don't think as an artist today, you can survive, just do it. Most people can't just doing one specific thing. Yeah. But I can learn that later on.

Carter Carroll

Yeah. So you use your time in New York and in Memphis, but what led you back to Reston?

Joey Slaughter

So, I have to go through the story real quick, because I went to I was never coming back to the south. You know, when I was when I went to Memphis, even though it was the South, it was like, not the south. So I went to Yeah, when I went to New York, I was talking to people, and they're like, wow, you know, it's so New York centric, really. And if people let you do art in the south, and they couldn't understand that other people that people in the south actually make our you know, are contemporary art t is just kind of, it's different now, I think. But after going there, I say, Okay, I want to go to grad school. So I went to grad school. And I studied painting at Cranbrook and Michigan, it's right outside of

Bloomfield Hills, very cold. I don't like the cold, very long, I like it for a little while, you know, but the school was great. But there was like six of us in that program. And we all said, less go to where the weather was more consistent. So we moved to LA. And we had a great studio there. We had a music recording studio, we had wood shop, metal shop, and we had our own studios and there, but the hustle of LA was pretty intense to try to make a living, you know, I was doing gallery we're installing we're, I got to work for a lot of great artists that I respect. And that was fantastic experience. Especially when it comes into teaching, it comes back into teaching for me a lot with the way that we present our work, and the professional practice part of it. But I met Jessica, my wife, and I came back in 2001 to visit right before 911 happened and I got stuck here. And so I was able to spend some time getting to know her by just like just being around for a little while. And so she just like her are, are just meeting her. And then going back to to California, the jobs weren't available that were so readily available. Because the morale was down. People weren't looking at art. And so that the shows kind of continued for a couple of months. And I was like, Well, I'm not making money. I really liked this girl. I'm going back, you know, for a little while to see what happens. And so I came back and in 2002 Okay, so that's so she really she's brought she brought me back here. Yeah. That was just, I don't know, I was just ready for a change to that grind was tough. I came back here and I was here for about six months and Grambling had a professor leave and they they asked me if I wanted to come on and teach. I really didn't go to grad school to teach. I didn't want to really do that. So my mom taught. And she's like, teaching kind of drains you creativity, you may want to be careful of how much work you do in the creative field and come home and try to make work. I find it really inspiring, though. It makes me make work. Teaching, you know,

Carter Carroll

yeah, I definitely understand that. As somebody who makes videos full time, you know, I often go home, and I'm like, do I really want to work on this side project? Do I really want to work on this next short film or this next documentary thing? And I'm like, sometimes you just got to do it. But then there are times. And I actually find this to be true to exactly what you just said. Because there are a lot of times when I go over and see student work. Or like I'll have a student asked me to review something that they've worked on, or I'll go shoot something over in the tea back. And I'm like, This is so inspiring to me. Yeah, like when I went and shot in your class, a few weeks ago, or a month ago, I left and I was like, dang. Like, these kids. Like, who I mean, to be fair, I'm not much older than a lot of them but but I'm like, dang, these kids are so incredible with what they do and it inspires me to when I see their their work.

Joey Slaughter

Yeah, it's pretty amazing. You know, that was it's especially towards the end of the quarter. When the final assignments there and everybody's like, I got to get done. They're gone. in a way like that you came with a great time to see that.

Carter Carroll

Yeah, I saw the pictures from that final class. That was an intro to the sculpture class. Right? Yeah. Some of that work. Uh, you, I wouldn't have told you that was an intro class. Like they were. I was really impressed with a lot of a lot of what I saw.

Joey Slaughter

Thank you. It's, it's a it's a step by step kind of class where you do a basic thing, and it builds on the previous experience. Yeah. But it's amazing what the students can do. We have everything at the school to make your dream. So like, that's why I tell some students, if you can't make your dreams here, you may want to check yourself because we have all the equipment. Yeah. Yeah, really,

Carter Carroll

all the equipment and the facilities. And on top of that, I think a lot of knowledge from a lot of our faculty have great fans a long way

Joey Slaughter

we really do. And I have to do I have friends that come down from Memphis, and all over the place like, Man, you guys have so much more equipment than we do? How do you get all this equipment? And, you know, they still have people writing grants like, or whatever it is, I don't?

Carter Carroll

Yeah, that's definitely an important part of it. And I think that that goes a long way with what our students are able to do and able to learn here. I think another great thing that the school of design does really well is bringing in people for lectures and for other galleries and whatnot.

Joey Slaughter

Yes, yeah, that's really important. That's why I went to Cranbrook is because I looked at their list of visiting artists. And that's really where you learn a lot. It's just having people come in and just having a conversation with you. You know, because, you know, it also the funny thing about having the visiting artist is you get it just get someone else to say the same thing in a different way. And so the students get Oh, yeah. And that's when it resonates when someone else says, I've been telling you this forever, but they told it a different way. And that's good. So you need people telling you the same things and just different, just different approaches to it. Yeah. I think it takes like, one of my friends so me a good effective teacher teaches the same thing. Five different ways. Yeah. I think that's kind of true, but you just never know.

Carter Carroll

Yeah, it's all it's always words have words can have a different impact didn't you can say one thing one way and then say it the totally different way. And

Joey Slaughter

it's really true. I can tell. I can tell that with an assignment like, Oh, I didn't say it that way this time. So they're not doing the same. They're not approaching it the same way. And she said it this way.

Carter Carroll

So I've seen from your social media and from your wife's who I'm, I have known Jessica for many years. I knew her when she was the director of Nick Iac, right. I used to be on the film board. So I used to meet with her like, once a week for a while. But I see that you have a really cool gap gallery coming up. Is that right?

Joey Slaughter

The gallery show? Yes. That was in New Orleans. I was I just had that it was a month of December. It just came down actually. Oh, yeah, I missed it. That was a that was an amazing show. For me, just trying to just get that work done in this time period of COVID. And everything. I really wasn't sure if the show is going to happen. But just getting to have that, that Thanksgiving holiday working and and I found that it was I enjoy being in the studio more than I ever have. Because over the last two years, I haven't had that much opportunity. You know, so having a deadline is important.

Carter Carroll

So you are working on something that I think is really cool. You are a part of this skate this Ruston skate park project. Yes. So to backtrack a little bit. When did you start skateboarding?

Joey Slaughter

I think I was 12. I skated heavily from 12 to 18. And a stock that jaw surgery. I didn't want to get that done again. Yeah. So during that time, skateboarding again, I said this earlier is like it's solidified me to be an artist and music musician because the skate skateboarding culture is heavily rooted in art and music. So as a kid, I would just get the magazines and read them cover to cover and get videos and watch them over and over to learn tricks because I had a lot of people come I had a halfpipe. So I had a lot of people come into my ramp on the weekends from 100 mile radius. I got to meet a lot of people and skate with him and talk to them and even when I went to Memphis I ran The people that I skate with on my ramp, you know, they're like, Oh, hey, it's I skate around. Yeah, I remember you. So you kind of have a friend wherever you go with that. And the thing about skateboarding in high school, junior high high school was, it just gave me something to do. I didn't really like team sports, you know. And that's another motivator behind this project is there a lot of kids that aren't doing anything because they don't fit into a certain team or whatever. I'm not saying team sports are bad, but just not for everybody. And so we started this project in 2016, Miguel assala, in architecture, talked to the mayor about and he thought it would be a good idea. And so we have a spot. And everything was ago until the hurricanes and the tornadoes COVID. It pushed everything back. So what we did is I met with the mayor, in 2020, November 2020, and said, I did this petition online, I hope to get 200 signatures, but I got 2500 signatures of support. And he's like, Well, that's we have to pay attention to that. So we met back and forth. And he said that, you know, we came to the conclusion that if we made a certain amount of money at that time, then we would get the project going. So I had formed a nonprofit and get a board together. And oh, man, it's like three hours a day, you know, work on this. But I decided that if I can get the community around this, then it'd be easy to go. And if I can get my students involved with this should be a another way to get some professional practice. So my goal from the beginning of this, like, get my students involved, teach them something, and to get the town to understand the need. And so that's been what we've been focusing on. So we've done pop ups and stores and we started a corporate sponsorship packet. And we've taken that around to local businesses. And under three months, we've raised \$43,000. That's awesome. And we have plans to involve students in the community even more going forward. We're writing grants, and we're having a big fundraiser in May, is just starting, but we will have some big name people on board with that. Tony Hawk's one of them, and some and Steve Olson, some musicians and other skaters and artists too. And I want to involve some tech students in it, just sprinkle the love around, you know, and we hope to raise 30,000 from that it's

going to be an online auction. But we're going to have a fundraiser actually in place here too. At I'm not sure the location, but it should be a good time to. It's like music, skateboarding art and food. You know, I hope that I think it'd be a good time for all. So yeah, so I answer a lot. That one.

Carter Carroll

That's great. I've seen that. Tony Hawks. Is it Skate Park Foundation? Yeah,

Joey Slaughter

it was called the skate the skate park project, skate park project. Yeah,

Carter Carroll

they have given a grant. Right.

Joey Slaughter

They only got \$10,000 from them, which I feel like that's a pretty big deal. That's a huge thing because it gets you on the list of registries for skate parks. So if someone was traveling down I 20 And they did a search for skate park, it would be like Ruston, you know, it just kind of builds the community where it seems more legit and and having the reason why Tony Hawk started that foundation is because he found that go into skate parks that like cities where they spend a lot of money but they wouldn't get a proper people to build it. And with if you get a grant from his foundation, you have to get someone who is has at least built five skate parks. It's like wow, and it has to be no fence. And it has to be accessible from morning to night. There's really certain requirements for it. Yeah, so it makes people it makes the cities understand that the proper way to build them in a so they're I've been to some really bad skate parks that they spent a lot of money on there's a big cracks in between the the joints the concrete and people fall time on them and it's just not safe.

Carter Carroll

Yes dangerous.

Joey Slaughter

It actually is. So with his foundation, he made that because of the situations and and then recently did you see the the Instagram? Yeah, I did. Oh my goodness, that was

Carter Carroll

crazy. Tell us about. For those who do not know what we're talking about. Joey had a skate deck signed by Tony Hawk. And that was a surprise, wasn't

Joey Slaughter

it? Yeah, pretty much. I mean, you know, you just never know when something's gonna come through. But a friend in town has a friend that is in Florida. And it was a really quick turnaround, like, can you design a deck in three days? Tell me how it may come and do a podcast with this type of thing. And if he's here, then he could sign it. And I was like, Sure, yeah. So I designed something that sent it there. And they, they actually went out and got it printed out of a shop. Okay, just for us. Wow. It's just amazing. The kindness. This people, it's just coming out a lot with this project. It's kind of

overwhelming, you know, to the support. So this has been this has been like right before Thanksgiving, I think. And Tuesday, I got this text and I had a picture of Tony Hawk sign that deck almost fell out. What I could not believe it's like, almost like a lifelong goal, you know, to get to skate with him. So I sent him a thank you on Instagram. And tell you know, in the in the post, I was saying it was a dream of mine as a kid to get to go skate with Tony how I didn't think he was the answer to it. But he sent me a message saying come out anytime. And skate high. Right? Is private space. Yeah. And so now I have to go practice.

Carter Carroll

It's a pretty good excuse to go practice. Yes, it

Joey Slaughter

is. So I sent him I sent him a message last night. I said, I turned 50 in November. It sounds like a good 50th birthday present for me to go there. Yeah. And so he gave me the contact. If I wanted to go, wow, that would be incredible. It's pretty shocking. That's like, Yeah, that's great.

Carter Carroll

It's cool that the story sort of comes full circle of you went to school, because you wanted to design skateboards, designed the designs on decks. And now, because of this project you're working on now, to better our community and help. You know, young people have a safe place to skate. Like you now have a skateboard that's been signed that you designed by the biggest person in skateboard.

Joey Slaughter

Crazy. And the the thing about that is, I really, I really want that then I'm like, I can't, I gotta get I gotta auction it off, you know, for the greater good. But he is going to donate another deck for the just one of his personal ones. And sign that he said that he would do that, too. That's really awesome. And so that makes the other people have a reason, I think to be a part of something. You know, someone who's like, I don't know about the I don't know about that. They see Tony Hawk, Somalia. Yeah, I want to do that.

Carter Carroll

Well, if they see these involve twice. Yeah.

Joey Slaughter

Exactly. Yeah. Yeah, it's true. I haven't thought about that. But she did just what you just showed me with that full circle thing. But yeah, it's pretty amazing. Yeah. Very grateful for that. Yeah. It's really awesome.

Carter Carroll

And, you know, it's like, like you just said, the auction is for the greater good, the skatepark is for the greater good. And I think that that's going to have a lasting impact. Once it gets go, once it gets built, you know, thing that's gonna have a really big lasting impact on this community. Because I, you know, I've, I've lived in Boston my whole life. And I was like you, I wasn't really interested in team sports. I played, I played them for a little while, but it really was never my thing. And I always, you know, now

looking back, I'm like, Well, if I had had a skatepark, or if I had had friends who were interested in skateboarding, I probably would have gotten involved with that. I think that probably would have been good for me at

Joey Slaughter

a young age. It's good. I mean, it's good exercise. Yeah, it's a and it's like, you fall down, you get back up, you know, you learn discipline, and there's lots of great things from it. It's not even, I think it's like the eighth most dangerous for 10th or something like that, like basketball is number one most dangerous, with more injuries, I should say. I was researching that I have had to do a lot of research on because people ask those questions a lot. When I go to talk to people like well, it's really dangerous, right? Like, no, it's really, it's really not, you know, and it's cheap. You know, you look at the amount of money it costs to play baseball, especially a traveling ball. It's a lot of money and not most kids can't afford that. There's good things About a skatepark is those baseball fields and football fields in the summertime are mostly empty. You can drive by a skate park anytime a year and see 10 kids there. So and it's gonna bring, it has an economic value to for our town. People come in off i 20 They stop in, they get hungry, they go eat, or we have competitions, they feel hotels,

Carter Carroll

especially with the proposed location of it, you know, not very far at all from downtown. Exactly. It's perfect. It's I think it's a great spot, because you've got a ton of restaurants right there a lot of local businesses that people you know, especially like if parents bring their kids to go skate. Those parents are gonna wander into those stores. Right. There's a lot of great economic potential for for especially that location. Yeah,

Joey Slaughter

I think our downtown wants that. And they're hungry for it. And, and I think it will take place, you know, another thing that's part of the the skatepark is really important to me is phase two. Phase one is just the skate park. Phase two is an art part two, where we'll have public sculptures, and then you're like five spots for murals. Wow. So we'll get local people and national calls. And we're working with Nikola, to we'll be working with him to get that accomplished. They'll do calls for and then have the students involved. Yeah, sir. So does, the sculptures will rotate, there'll be some permanent ones. And there'll be some memorials there for people who, you know, they're skated and passed away or something locally that I've talked to some families about. And so all that just comes around the show and how important it could be. You know, it's like, it'll be out there. I just, it just, I'm just very excited about it's a passion it's, it's a kind of like a lifelong goal to give back to that sport that gave so much to me. And so I do that is that is a professor to my classes, we have skate jams, I get the kids to paint. I say kids, too, but the students to paint on the ramps, and then sometimes they design with me and help me build on that stuff. So

Carter Carroll

let's get jams always awesome. Always love going through the halls and see and all of them so much fun. Again, our students are incredibly talented. We've we've got some very bright minds over in the School of Design.

Joey Slaughter

Yeah. And the logos to we've had students design I think all the logos that we've made for T shirts, except for the the the Run DMC and when the rest of the entity. It's, though we've had students who designed the main logo, and they've worked on a new logo that we have to let's also say we want to get give some professional practice in the mix, of course.

Carter Carroll

And there are other tech professors involved in this as well. Right?

Joey Slaughter

Yeah, we have Kevin seeing an architecture and he's, he's done a lot of modeling for what the park will look like him and his students in the community activism class. And then Tom few trails, graphic design, students have designed stuff. He's on the board too. And then Frank Hamer is a photographer. He's on the board. He's a, he's a professor here, too. And he's doing video and photos at the skate jam. And let's see who else. So I made this board up of people, the nonprofit board of people that I knew love skateboarding and music and had some kind of tie back but still could offer, like, the love of the project, right. And like Randy Braddock is the financial advisor. And he's just an amazing help, in ways that I can and think about, you know, I can't think about the three dimensional space will look like, like Kevin Can, are the videos and, and then stuff that Frank does, and the graphic design that Tom does. So what I learned from this, at the beginning of this year at the beginning of 2020 is I can't do it myself. I thought I could can. Yeah, that was a, that was a greatest thing to realize.

Carter Carroll

It's also one of the hardest things to accept, I think, is that we as artists, sometimes are like, Oh, I can do all this by myself. And I'm like, yeah, sometimes I'm like, No, I need like seven more people to help me on this day

Joey Slaughter

do you really do especially when it comes to making you know, big projects like this are like big sculptures or whatever it may be. You can't do all that yourself. And we talked about that in my in my advanced sculpture class about public art. And so I'm working to I'm working with the students to build out up to do public sculptures around campus and town. And like, well, you have to consult an engineer to make sure it's safe. You're gonna have to like, talk to electrician if you have light on it. You can't, it has to be up to code, you know, you don't want to get sued. No, you know. So all those things come to play for the students, when we, I'm what I'm planning to do is when we start to park, my students will be involved in building it with with a company. And we'll have to figure out the right proper ways of doing that to an exam.

Carter Carroll

Well, it's just like, I was out there pretty much the entire day when they were putting up a spire. And so getting to see them, you know, work with, you know, they had engineers out there, making sure that things were going right, and things were getting put in the way that they needed to and watching that whole process that day was, was intense. And so

Joey Slaughter

that's a lot. I mean, think about the budget, you look at the budget of that project, and you're like, Okay, there's 10,000 on just the wiring. And there's, I don't know how much the foundation cost to put that in there. But I know that probably came out of his budget. Yeah. And it usually does. And so, it before you know it, you're not making as much as you initially thought, if you don't plan that out, concrete gets expensive. And especially how, how tall that is, and how far it has to go down with reinforcements and stuff like that. Yeah. Things like that add up does.

Carter Carroll

So I think my last question. So I've noticed this, in my time as a student here at Tech, and then now being a staff member here. I've seen skating and skateboarding, really start making a comeback in recent years. What do you why do you think that it's making such a comeback?

Joey Slaughter

I think there's a lot of things. I think that that there's a there's a certain kind of stereotype that's been dissolved over time about what skaters are, who they can be or can't be, or whatever. And I think the Olympics helps that it legitimizes it. It's not a bunch of hoodlums out there doing stuff and, and so, there's a book called Thank you skateboarding. And it's a big hashtag on Instagram. And Facebook is like, people saying thank you for what it's given me. And I think when you see people like hawk and nicer, who's Houston and other people who are, you know, doing this and making a living at it and doing it, there's tons of people doing it. And it's all over Instagram, it's all over YouTube. It's everywhere. It's in there. Skateboard has always been cool with fashion and graphic design. So all of that culture. You know, I think every 10 years, it gets really high. And it drops down a little bit. But the Olympics really helped. And some people think it hurt, but I don't think it did. Yeah, but I think it's I think anything that pushes a sport forward is going to be good.

Carter Carroll

I loved watching skateboarding in the Olympics this year. It was awesome. Yeah,

Joey Slaughter

I think so too. was a great time. Yeah, it's and we have. I'm not gonna lie, man. It's funny things happen in Ruston. And we could have an Olympic skateboarder here. You know, that's in the future. Yeah. I think it could happen. There's some really good skaters here that just needed a place to do it and the community around it. The students that when I have, I have skate jams. It's about 100 mile radius of people this last time there was a group from Houma. They actually have a skateboard company called therapy. They came up and just to see what was going on, because I saw the buzz on Instagram. And just them coming up meeting new people and up new people meeting them. Just just such an exciting time. And it's just a, I tell my friends I think I think the community like a skate park or whatever is like something that anybody could use, like you go to a skate park. It's intimidating and driving up. But once you get out, be like, Hey, what's up? And then you skate and someone's like, Hey, man, I think you got that trick, you know, really thinks that. And then for law, you can do it. You know, I tell kids that all the time. And it's amazing. Just like what a little support does for their their boost. And a kid come up and go. Hey, man, thanks for pushing me. You know, if you had that every day. Yeah, great. How great would it be that support? So yeah, it's, it's amazing. It's amazing sport, and I can't say enough about it.

But you know, if it wasn't for that wouldn't be a professor with the roots going back like I told you to be in a kid. Looking at the graphics going, I want to do that. I'm gonna do that. But yeah, that's, that's great. Yeah, I love to give him this project is my giving back project, you know, it's really rewarding to have people like you that see it and then want to talk about it. Yeah, it's, I look forward to these things. Now you, you asked me to do this like a year ago. I'm not gonna get on board. I don't like to get on the mic or go out and talk in public. And you say you're a teacher. I'm like, that's I'm passionate about that's different. But I'm so passionate about this project. I'm ready to go talk about it. Yeah, yeah. It's interesting. I think that's great. And I think that's what the project needs is, yeah, some people to just get out there and push it, you know, and that's what you got to do. And we have I have the board that everybody's approach is different. And I'm like, do you want to donate? How much would you like to donate? And other people are like, we're doing this project, and they're more subtle about it. So we need you need all these different types of voices to sometimes that voice is denied, and another person could ask in a different way, or provide a different way of communicating, you know, right. So we, our speaker, that we just did a project with World Vision. Yes. And that's something that she brings up the Friends of the podcast. Yeah, that that was an amazing collaboration, you know, with Nick and Marlon and the other crews at worldvision. And just having that support, and, and Nick was a former student.

Carter Carroll

And I'm friends with Nick and Marlon. I really, yeah.

Joey Slaughter

That's crazy. That's like they used to skate. You know, they still do. We went out there to meet with them. Marlon, you know, at their warehouse, Marlon grouse skateboard and doesn't kick float. But I know you guys skate. Yeah.

Carter Carroll

I think that their brand is right on that edge of, of like, just almost being a skate brand.

Joey Slaughter

Yeah, they talked about, you know, wanting to lean in that direction a little bit. And

Carter Carroll

they're getting there. Yeah, with some of their more recent designs and stuff they've been putting out. I'm like, this is like, so close to being a skate brand. I love it.

Joey Slaughter

Man. You can you can pick up a skate magazine. And he's like to fashion any like a current fashion is anytime it's like, it's just a little step ahead. But 100% Interesting.

Carter Carroll

All right. Well, I think that's it for today. Thank you all for listening to beyond 1894. Joey, thank you so much for joining us.

Joey Slaughter

Thank you for having me.

Carter Carroll

And y'all go check out the Rustin skatepark project, you can find them on Facebook and Instagram. It's a great thing. I think it's gonna be a really, really impactful for this community.

Joey Slaughter

Thank you. I appreciate it.

Gavin Kelly

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