

Artist Statement: 27th Annual Exhibition of Artists in Michigan Prisons

Artist Name: Ryan G.

A friend of mine told me to keep making chess sets because she did not see anyone doing the same. I enjoy making chess sets because they take so long, the possible new innovations are limited only by my imagination, and making something for physical use is valuable to my creative process. There is an increased level of relational capacity as I build, finish, and pass the chess set along. There are ample opportunities to barter and trade for additional building supplies. A percentage of the profit goes to a selected charity. Finally, true stories are created to remember, share, entertain and even amaze. I am continually amazed. "Chess set Number Three" is made from Baby Powder (corn starch & sodium bicarbonate), glue, acrylic mediums, popsicle sticks, chip board, acrylic paint, and cotton canvas. I sketched, sculpted, moulded, and cast the chess pieces. Then I detailed them with paint. This chess set took 15 months, 728 hrs., and \$448.63 to create. It also required grace and support of the community where I live.

Please edit your Artist Statement to fit the space provided.