Kevin Pintado

Reflection Progress 2

Throughout this journey, I experienced significant personal and technical growth. My first challenge was addressing the lack of a proper scanner for capturing 3D models of my sneakers. After conducting research, I discovered the KIRI Engine app—a tool that transforms any device into a 3D scanner. The app provided clear and precise scans, which marked a major breakthrough for my project.

To test this new approach, I created a quick prototype using a pair of Powerpuff Dunks from my collection. I scanned the shoe, imported the model into a slicing program, and prepared it for 3D printing. The slicer program helped me visualize the layers and processes required for printing. However, when the prototype was complete, I noticed it had a low-poly appearance, with insufficient detail to truly represent the sneaker.

At this stage, I asked Rudy Guerrero for help, who recommended using Blender to refine and enhance my scans. Taking his advice, I began learning how to 3D model in Blender, exploring tools and techniques to improve my designs. This process introduced me to the intricacies of 3D modeling and significantly expanded my skill set.

Recognizing the need for better project management, I also decided to create a timeline. By organizing my tasks and pacing my workflow, I gained a clearer understanding of the steps required to complete my project. Additionally, I realized that finishing 3D prints involved post-processing techniques such as sanding. To stay within budget, I opted to use acrylic paint for coloring the prints, rather than incorporating colored materials during printing.

By this point, I had identified the core components of my project: a reliable scanner, an effective modeling process, and a streamlined plan for post-production. I began narrowing my focus, reducing the number of sneakers to be modeled from five to two, allowing me to dedicate more time to perfecting each design. I also decided to document my work through timelapse recordings, as these offered a concise and engaging way to showcase my process compared to lengthy videos.

With the foundational elements in place, I was ready to move forward. I felt confident in my direction and began receiving valuable feedback from my peers, who suggested potential future projects and even monetization opportunities for my 3D-printed sneakers. Overall, this phase of the project was instrumental in shaping my workflow and establishing a clear path to success.