

KAYLIE PENDLETON

# BFA THESIS PORTFOLIO

THE VALLIANT NOTEBOOK COLLECTION



BFA THESIS PORTFOLIO  
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# ARTIST STATEMENT

I love sharing the beautiful parts of life and through my illustration, its my goal to uplift stories and candid moments that often get overlooked. As a woman artist who sees how the patriarchy and white supremacy can affect all aspects of life, intersectional feminism has been a major part of my research in university and inimportant part of my art.

My inspirations come from other women artists and writers and creating portraiture based on them is my favorite part of my work. From Maya Angelou, to April Grieman, surrounding myself with other creatives is important to my process.

I have settled into a digital oil painting techinque with my full color illustrations. laying a bright underpainting and drawing shadows and highlights on top keeps expressive mark making and also allows for details to shine through.

Along with illustration graphic design and mural making round up my skills and all influence each other and combine in interesting ways. I hope to coninue with illustration in both editorial and publishing, showing a woman perspective in male dominated fields.

## SOCIAL

IG @kayliependleton

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# THESIS PROPOSAL

I am proposing a product line exploring the lives of significant women in history through illustrated patterns, flora, and symbols. Through portraiture with symbolic imagery, I will explore women such as Maya Angelou, Amelia Earhart and Frida Kahlo. And specifically how they can be inspirations to young artists and writers through illustration, design, and direct quotes from them and their work. The product line will feature a collection of notebooks with different purposes. The illustration style will mirror my current practice of a painterly approach to realistic imagery with strong colors and contrast. The visuals such as flowers, lunar elements, and related imagery within the product line will reflect each woman's personality and important details throughout their life, which I feel a personal connection to.

For as long as I can remember, I have been interested in independent women. A major part of my early teenage years was looking up to the female heroines in books such as Harry Potter, Hunger Games, Divergent, Percy Jackson, and more. The women in my family continue to be great inspirations as well. My mom owned her own business when she was nineteen and was a competitive ice skater when I was growing up. All of this sparked my interest in gender studies and intersectional feminism, which I have focused on in my time at PNCA and beyond.

I have also been creating my own products since I was fifteen. I started with Society 6 and posted

over-edited photos that I put on tote bags, mugs, etc. Some designs I cringe at, but others I'm still proud of and people continue to buy six years later. In the fall of my sophomore year, I opened my Etsy shop. I have sold hundreds of individual stickers and postcards in the past two years. I am glad I started early, as I love to work on my business and learn from what doesn't sell and what has success. Creating a professional product line which I can grow in the future is a great next step in my career. I formed my current list of women after lots of research and deliberation. It was essential for me to have a diverse variety of women in ethnicity and sexuality, but also in their profession. Trying to find the repeating themes throughout their lives, whether that's adversity, strength, or resilience. I want to stay away from the idea of profiting off of their struggles, as many women have been taken advantage of in that way before. My goal with this project is to highlight their story and their identity, not what has happened to them or how they were used. I also want to compile smaller details of their personal lives. What was their favorite color, music, flowers, hobbies, pets, etc.? The women I am currently considering for this project include Maya Angelou, Amelia Earhart, Lucille Ball, Rosa Parks, Frida Kahlo, Hannah Hoch, Audre Lorde, and Marie Curie.

For example, with Amelia Earhart after my research, I see her having energy and presence. She worked hard to pay for her passion, which through much dedication, turned into her life. My dream collection for her would include travel notebooks with illustrations of her airplanes flying high in the clouds. Graphic illustrated patterns of her plane controls, gold details, and lettering for the inside layout. Quotes of hers are scattered throughout, with a typeface inspired by her signature clothing line that she designed. Small spot drawings of her airplane from various angles to add within the pages of the notebooks. I imagine primary colors

as two of her planes were canary yellow and bright red, a different perspective than the familiar sepia-toned photographs of her.

By the end of the spring semester, my goal would be to have finished notebooks ready to go to print over the summer. Which includes the cover, title and end pages, and main notebook body constructed with spot illustrations included. As for each individual notebook, I plan on creating seven by ten sketchbooks for Frida Kahlo and Georgia o'Keeffe, five by eight and a half lined notebooks for Maya Angelou and Emily Dickinson, and three and half by five and a half pocket notebooks for Amelia Earhart and Sally Ride. These are the most popular notebook sizes which stack on top of each other nicely. I would like these all to be hard cover with ribbon bookmarks. For consistency the end pages will all have the same "this belongs to" design with small spot illustrations.

My goal for my oral defense presentation would be to have mockups ready for future marketing, and possibly have dummy notebooks with my cover illustrations in person. As I have sold products before, I have online mockup resources in mind, but I would love to shoot my own product photos if possible. After I graduate, I can then focus on the logistics of production and business instead of taking up my time during the semester. This is not a project that I want to just keep as a concept, this is a project that I would love to see in stores and sold online.

The image I have in my head is a young writer walking into Powell's, looking through the various notebooks and sketchbooks, seeing which one sparks their interest. They see a beautifully illustrated notebook that is inspired by Maya Angelou and her work. Maybe they first take it home because of the pretty illustration on the cover. But when they open it to start writing, they will see

spot illustrations and quotes from her urging them on to keep going. If I had a sketchbook inspired by Frida Kahlo when I was a new artist, seeing direct inspiration right in front of me would have been so helpful when I got in a drawing rut. As starting a new illustration or new story is often the hardest part, having a notebook with inspiration embedded within may make that fresh start that much easier. As I am currently studying abroad in England this semester, I am grateful to be close to many museums and galleries. One major influence for me with this project is William Morris. As I will be exploring his body of work and what makes good compositing and dynamism within pattern work. Within my research so far, I have also read into his daughter, May Morris's, work. She became the production head of Morris and Co and designed beautiful patterns as well. Another inspiration from the product standpoint is Rifle Paper Co. They are a company that creates illustrated stationery products with looser and graphic floral elements. While they have a different visual style, I appreciate their varied range and will investigate them quite a lot second semester.

I will expand my portfolio with the illustrations I create for the product line, as I am using my current visual style. The lens that I will look through the illustration is, "Would I buy this off the shelf at a store?" I want to be proud of this project and use the products once I get them made. This project will build my audience awareness as I want the products to be interesting to other people in their teens and early twenties who are seeking for people to look up to.

My best work within PNCA and outside the classroom is portraiture. From back at my community college in figure drawing classes to working consistently with photoshop and then procreate to now portraiture has been what keeps me in high spirits. One of the early standouts was this piece

of the goddess Hesperides I did over the winter break of my sophomore year. I continually come back to this piece for inspiration, and it has influenced my work over the past two years. Another standout is my portrait of Emily Dickinson back in Visual Vocab. This illustration was what sparked my interest in a portrait and product series around amazing women in history. My current work, much like the Hesperides portrait two years ago, focuses on contrasting colors and strong lighting. This is the style my thesis project will be in with a consistent aesthetic and color range.

From my first exploration in making products on Society6 to learning about feminist theory, my thesis project will cap off my time at university and propel me into my future business endeavors. This product line illustrating the lives of important women through symbolic portraiture will elevate my portfolio and will teach me about production, marketing, and entrepreneurial skills. I hope to have the physical products reach people the year after I graduate and achieve my goal of showing these women in a new light.



# CREATIVE BRIEF

## PROJECT VISION

My notebook collection is about sharing the life and ideas of important women of the past century. Through full color portraits and atmospheric elements, each notebook is designed with the woman in mind, from the colors to the page type. The image I have in my head is a young writer walking into a bookstore, looking through the various notebooks and sketchbooks, seeing which one sparks their interest. They see a colorful illustrated notebook that is inspired by Maya Angelou and her work. Maybe they first take it home because of the pretty illustration on the cover. But when they open it to start writing, they will see spot illustrations and quotes from her urging them on to keep going. By the end of April my goal is to have mockups and demos of the illustrated notebooks, with promotional materials and a plan for after graduation.

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## AUDIENCE

The audience I have in mind is people who are looking for inspiration or women in different fields to look up to. While that description is generally teenagers and young adults, I wish it to be accessible and interesting to all ages. I did a lot of research into many women and the few I have picked are some of the more recognizable women in history to my age group in their own respective talents.

## COMPARATIVE MEDIA

Within my research so far I have not seen many notebooks with portraits on the cover. The few I have seen of Frida Kahlo for example seem to use her as a poster board for artists or as an aesthetic not showing her as a person to look up to. My goal is to show the women in their element, surrounded by what they love and my hope is that others can see themselves through the covers. Moleskine has released a Frida Kahlo inspired notebook with graphic floral elements and quotes from her, which is the most comparable from what I've found.

## MARKET APPLICATION

I would love to see my notebooks in bookstores, whether that's in two years or five. Currently I see two paths happening with this collection. Publishing (chronicle books, denik notebooks, etc.) would definitely get the notebook series out in the public, however I will have less control on the end result. Otherwise I see an opportunity in self publishing/ developing the notebooks into a stationary collection on my own including pens, notepads, washi tape, postcards, etc. I have been selling on etsy for two years and love the business end of things and am planning to table more and more.

## METHODS & MATERIALS

The illustration style will mirror my current practice of a painterly approach to realistic imagery with strong colors and contrast. For the covers I'm approaching them like oil paintings, laying down an underpainting with bright colors and glazing skin tones on top. The visuals such as flowers, lunar elements, and related imagery within the product line will reflect each woman's personality and important details throughout their life, which I feel a personal connection to.

# THESIS ABSTRACT

The Valliant Collection is a notebook series and expanding collection sharing remarkable women's life and story. I will be sharing my final portrait series of women including Maya Angelou, Emily Dickinson, Amelia Earhart, Sally Ride, Frida Kahlo, and Georgia O'Keeffe. I have display notebooks to show what the outside looks like and mockups as I continue to finish the inside designs. The plan is to share the Valliant Collection with bookstores, museums gift shops and more to sell these in person and online.

# ORAL PRESENTATION

Hello! My Name is Kaylie Pendleton and thank you for coming to my defense! Over the past few months I have created a notebook collection focusing on important women in recent history. Through lots of brainstorming, drawing, and designing I present to you six individual portraits of women I have been inspired by as I have grown into who I am today. But before I get too deep into my project, I would like to tell you a little bit about me. I am originally from Ventura, California, a little beach town above LA and transferred to PNCA. I have always been interested in strong women whether that was through the books I've read or my friends and family in real life. I am an illustration major, graphic design minor looking to branch into editorial and publishing with a focus on painterly portraiture. My three years at PNCA have flown by even with half of it was online through our friend zoom. Thinking back to my sophomore level illustration classes I was definitely wayyyy more shy and not sure where I fit in the world of illustration. I am grateful for the experience the professors have along with the opportunities that I have received. But before I get too caught up, let me give some context to my notebook collection.

I have always loved portraiture, since I started drawing consistently over ten years ago. From doodles in science class to ink paintings on the weekends it's always been what I come back to. When it came time to create my thesis proposal a portrait series came to me early on. I went back and forth on the subject matter but important women through history seemed like the perfect option. Any chance I could I would draw or write about inspirational women in my homework as much as possible. From the beginning I knew this project would be a good piece in my portfolio, but I also wanted to create some sort of project I could sell. I've had lots of fun creating products for my etsy and I wanted to continue to grow in that way.

Last semester for me was definitely a unique one. Covid pushed my study abroad semester further and further and luckily I was able to go to England this past fall. While creating my thesis proposal I was taking a full semester's worth of classes at a different university in a tiny little town in England. Studying abroad definitely gave me a new perspective on PNCA as a school and what illustration is like across the pond. While I am very grateful that Martin met with me over zoom every week and kept me caught up, I had no idea what the rest of my classmates were making. I was able to finally see everyone else's projects through the virtual proposals last focus week. I was very happy with the feedback that the panel gave me in my proposal and I keep going with my project as planned.

As winter break was coming to a close I started to work on sketches before this semester started. There were a few things I kept in mind while I was sketching including to make sure I didn't repeat the same positioning in two different portraits. While at first that may not seem too difficult, for some of the women I had very limited reference images and I also only had half the angles as I did not want them facing into the middle of the notebook. For example there's only two verifiable images of Emily Dickinson on the internet. While none of my final portraits are directly from one reference image, I want something to compare my version of the likeness too. Over on the left I have a copy of my first thumbnails with colored dots to choose which poses I liked with which subject. I ended up with two sketch options per person just in case one ended up not working down the road. In the back of my mind I was debating how much I wanted them to stand on their own or visually fit together as part of a series. All of these women lived very different lives so I processed that over winter break. Looking back through my portfolio, my strong-

est pieces had contrast and saturated colors along with a circular element lighting the subject from behind. I decided to carry that through my thesis and included different lighted imagery behind all my subjects including the moon, sun and earth.

I finished all my final sketches and color comps by the end of January however I still did not have a mentor yet. Martin was looking at people he knew outside of PNCA over winter break but did not find someone who was available. Luckily, Carly had just flown to Portland from New York to teach drawing for illustration. She has been a great set of eyes on my thesis as someone who has self published before, along with having previous knowledge of the women I am illustrating.

Speaking of the women highlighted here today, there was a lot of thought that went into who I picked for this project. My original list of women started at around 40 names that I had to choose to illustrate. I decided to choose women who had all passed as their lives have been solidified. While I would love to do more in the future, for the timeframe I had, I decided on Maya Angelou, Emily Dickinson, Amelia Earhart, Sally Ride, Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keeffe. I picked these women as they have inspired me as I grew up but also are diverse in who they are and what they did. Partially I also picked these women to pair with one another in a duo set. The most common notebook paper types are ruled, dotted, and blank so I wanted two women who were best suited within the three categories. Maya Angelou and Emily Dickinson, the writer duo with lined notebooks, Georgia O'keeffe and Frida Kahlo the artist duo with blank sketchbook pages, and lastly the flight duo Amelia Earhart and Sally Ride with dotted pages for journaling, planning, or last minute calculations in space.

In February the pairs came into fruition. As I was creating color comps and starting with final covers I was pretty particular on the color schemes within the pair to make sure they at least would look cohesive and complementary to one another on a spread. Originally I wanted the whole series to have the same color scheme but as I was working I thought that was limiting as the women lived very different lives and color is how I like to express personality and tone. I decided on sticking to a similar color palette for each duo, to keep consistency without too much repetition. For Amelia Earhart and Sally Ride I picked a strong blue and yellow palette to link back to their strong personalities but also to the sky and space. Maya Angelou and Emily Dickinson I was going for a more introspective tone with warm colors, like they are in thought. For Frida and Georgia I wanted colors to harken back to the landscapes they lived in which are very similar and both have lovely sunsets. Going a little bit more into the actual process of how I get from color comps to final piece has definitely been trial and error since I started using procreate two years ago. For my illustration work I have developed a digital method of oil painting, starting with a bright saturated color as the under painting, layering shadows and highlights on top. Building up detail and layers with smaller brushes until it starts to look recognizable. I have always been someone who overworks or goes too far with my work so I tried to stop myself before I blended too much.

Speaking of the front covers, let's go into a little bit more detail about each portrait and overall notebook. For Maya Angelou I had a lot of inspiration to work with between her book, poetry, and essays. I picked a raven or crow-like bird to hint back to "How the caged bird sings" and the birds on the cover of her book. As for the sunset and water I was referencing the following lines in her poetry, "Just like moons and like suns, With the certainty of tides, Just like hopes spring-

ing high, Still I'll rise." and, "Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear I rise"

One decision I had to make for Maya Angelou specifically was what age did I want to show for her. She did so much throughout her lifetime and continued to speak and write publicly for her entire life. As my audience is teens and young adults for this collection I wanted her likeness to be as recognizable as possible to people my age versus reference imagery of her that were 20 plus years before I was born.

On the other hand for Emily Dickinson, my challenge with her is that there are only two photos of her on Google, which for creating a likeness, definitely makes it harder. However I tried to lean more into her poetry and the few details we know about her to create a more expressive illustration. Firstly it is known that she was interested in botany and flowers, which is a fun fact I would love to include on the inside of the notebooks. Whereas Maya Angelou included sunrises in her poetry, Emily Dickinson spoke about sunsets, night sky, and the moon in hers. This illustration was inspired by a poem excerpt reading "The Moon was but a Chin of Gold A Night or two ago – And now she turns Her perfect Face Upon the World below –"

continuing on with the background it was definitely easy to work with compared to the face. Profiles to me are the hardest to look "right" as there's less information when showing the face structure. For a while I had a portrait of Emily Dickinson that I didn't quite know how to fix. After taking a break from the illustration and working on the others, I was able to find better references and this portrait ended up being one of my favorites.

Moving on to the flight duo I started with Sally Ride as I was more unsure of how the details would turnout. In my color comps I had a strong color grade on her face and finding the right reference

was definitely quite a challenge. I restarted a few times which I usually never do with my illustration work. However it was nice to see what I didn't like from one rendition and change it in the next. Not sure if you can see it in my sketches, but I originally had her mouth closed with just a slight smile. Which is definitely the easy route, I don't think anyone really has fun drawing a wide open smile, especially from this angle. For Sally Ride in particular, all of the photos of her are super smiley and I didn't want to cut out her personality from the piece. I had a lot of fun loosely rendering her flight suit and patches along with the rocket blasting off.

Gliding into Amelia Earhart, this piece was one of my favorites to render out while I was working. I immediately loved her expression and it was easy to find a sweet spot for her likeness. I chose a straight on angle slightly looking up to hopefully show her boldness and confidence that came across even in her interviews. She had three main planes through her short 41 years including a cherry red one in the upper corner, a canary yellow plane which she is standing up in, and her silver plane which she disappeared in. While lifestyle illustration comes easy to me, conceptual illustration is something I have to really consider and with her circular element I changed it up to be a plane propeller from the front as more of a design element. During my sketches I wasn't sure how well it would translate, but it definitely adds to Amelia Earhart and her life.

My last pair was Frida Kahlo and Georgia O'Keeffe. Georgia O'Keeffe was one of my more recent additions to the collections. I had a few names I considered but when I was researching I found out that Frida and Georgia were friends and would exchange letters back and forth. Once I knew that I had to put them two together. While rendering her I had to tweak a few things as her clothing and hair looked more like a 21st century lawyer than an artist from New Mexico. Also, as more people are



unfamiliar with what Georgia O'Keefe looks like I wanted to include her style of paintings to make a quicker connection for those who are familiar.

As a set while likeness was an important part to my drawing I knew I wouldn't be able to complete my work load if I tried to make each of them super recognizable. It was in the back of my mind as I was creating these. Would people recognize these women? Curiosity got the best of me and I ended up asking on instagram if people recognize each of the women's portraits, or maybe if they look familiar but are unsure of their names. Everyone recognized Amelia Earhart and Frida Kahlo, some for Sally Ride and Maya Angelou, but only a few people knew Emily Dickinson and Georgia O'keeffe. It was very interesting market research and I am still considering putting names on my notebooks once I send them to print. My thought process is that I wouldn't buy a notebook if I wasn't sure who was on the cover, especially with my realistic style. But I also have more time to add context clues if necessary.

I also struggled with the question if people would buy these as notebooks at all? Not as a criticism of my drawing style but is there even a market for notebooks like these. Any bookstore has countless patterned and cute notebooks that give off millennial vibes and personally I'm not a huge fan of. I do really believe that if you love and would buy your own product, others will too, but that's definitely hard to keep in mind when there's not anything selling on the market to compare with. However, I was clear in my proposal that I eventually wanted to print and sell my final work, not just keep it as a portfolio piece. I have been selling on etsy for the past few years and want to table at events more and more in the future. Midterm check-ins definitely gave me the morale boost as one of my mentor's friends suggested I reach out to art museums which to me is the perfect spot for notebooks like

these. Along with art museums, I will be reaching out to bookstores, other gift shops and along with possible looking into licensing these illustrations. There's also a notebook company named Denik notebooks that works directly with artists and sell in powells so that's also a mini goal of mine.

After midterms and some renewed energy with this project lastly but certainly not least, Frida Kahlo. I kept pushing off drawing her as she is such a recognizable figure, and I wasn't confident in my original sketches and how they were laid out. Back in November for my proposal I showed a work in progress for Frida. While I liked the drawing and would love to finish it at some point, it was taking me much longer than usual. I got lots of love during my proposal and all positive feedback, so I asked Martin for some critique before spring term. He definitely did that and wanted more expressiveness in my drawing. I thought about that for a while as I didn't quite know how to mix more expressive line work with my mainly realistic style. Carly was great at giving me feedback on where to put more detail and render less. Once I fixed a few parts of Frida's color comp, her portrait actually finished quicker than the others and is definitely one of my favorites. Each drawing I pushed myself in a different way and let's just say I haven't drawn colorful birds since I was 14 helping with a mural back in California. I had a lot of fun and I am very happy with how her little bird friends turn out.

Once I had all my front covers done I worked on the back covers, which are all expansions of the backgrounds that wrap around to the back. Along with drawing people I love drawing clouds... probably a little too much so I brought the color swatch clouds to the back. To get the information looking right I took some trips to Powells over the semester to the notebook section to find some reference. As I want this line to be on its own but also still attached to me as an illustrator, I had to figure out how much

info I wanted and needed as notebooks don't have publishing info on the insides it's all on the back. Inspiration for this project isn't super obvious like other people's projects. While I did look at other notebook companies like Rifle Paper Co and Denik notebooks, I didn't really have artists that were inspirations specifically to this project. While I do have favorite illustrators, I find for projects like these that if I look for too much inspiration I tend to get more lost so I wanted to see what I could do on my own. However I did try to take inspiration as much as I could from the women themselves. Last semester I would just go searching through archives and researching, finding photos and it was definitely enough to work from.

What I think is important for the future success of these notebooks is curating other products to supplement the notebooks in creating a larger collection. I would love to create pens, pencils, wash tape, tote bags and more within the valiant line. I would love to create a kickstarter to raise the initial funds to get this collection off the ground and to form a customer base. While there are many production companies that make notebooks they can be quite expensive which is why I changed from making different sizes to finishing them all in 5 and half by eight. I didn't think it was right for someone to pay more for Frida Kahlo just because the sketchbook is bigger than the lined notebooks. Keeping them all the same size keeps production costs minimal. And I think this line could grow over time as I grow myself as an illustrator to build more audience. In the meantime these illustrations are great pieces to send as promotion digitally and mailed postcards. Stickers and mini art prints are some of my favorite items to make and give to others so feel free to take a postcard or sticker on your way out.

Behind me I have display notebooks with final covers on the outsides and mockups of what the

finished notebooks will look like on the inside. I wanted to use the thesis as an opportunity to shoot my own mock-ups for the first time which is now something I would love to do more of in the future. This semester I was able to pack in my minor in design which definitely helped in the long run with concept and experimentation but also with branding the valiant collection. I love both design and illustration as I am glad my thesis benefited from what I was learning.

Throughout this whole process while I was illustrating, I also was creative directing, which includes designing, planning, size and scope, and along with finding future outcomes of this project. I love art direction and viewing art from a wider perspective which I enjoy and would like to pursue into professional work. This semester I have also thought about why notebooks or products featuring women artists and writers aren't on the market. Think about museum gift shops Van Gogh, Picasso, Monet all have massive collections of products to buy from and we don't think twice about it. This is going to art history and feminist theory but the people deciding who goes into the history books, whose name stays in popular culture, who gets featured at museums have been white men. People want to see themselves in art so of course the big names in canon art history are also male. And its not for a lack of women artists in history, it is about whose work is seen as important. Bringing this into current times, I have had a hard time finding similar products on the market like mine because women's stories have not been treated as worthy material to focus on whether that's history books or what gets picked for museums around the world. There might be a market for these notebooks but the higher ups at art institutions aren't listening to women audiences. If I was able to do a second part to my thesis in a few years I would love to talk about reactions from museum buyers but also from my target audience and if people become more

receptive and interested over time.

My goal was to celebrate amazing women and their lives from the past century. It was important to me for them not to look like billboards or advertisements. These women have become poster boards for their respective field but the limits the rest of their story and their life to just one piece. For example I have seen Frida Kahlo used on sketchbook covers in the past but none talking about her life in a bigger picture. My goal for the insides of the notebooks will be to include quotes from them, fun facts, ways that they worked and imagery that they surrounded themselves with in their own life. This part of the notebooks I would love to finish over summer as I have more time to read up on them as a person, go digging through archives and anything that can give me the best glimpse into their lives which I can then share and design in the notebooks. For example, for Maya Angelou I have included snippets of her poetry including the lines, "You may shoot me with your words, you may cut me with your eyes, you may kill me with your hatefulness, but still, like air, I'll rise!" and some facts of the rest of her life that we do not get told when first learning about her. Including she was the first female and first black street car driver in San Francisco, like while that might have "nothing to do with writing" I love to learn about what details about their life made them who they were.

While the covers of the notebooks are completed, I will continue to finish the insides of the notebooks and create other products to support. Along with having six new portfolio pieces that I can send to potential clients, I can start to promote my collection in person to store owners, galleries, and museum gift shops to put my work out there. Through this process I continued to get faster at illustrating quickly, focusing on the details and the bigger picture at the same time. I was also able to art direct the illustrations and will be continuing to

be creative director as I finish the inside designs. Since starting my thesis I have become much more comfortable talking about my work and am very excited to see what happens after graduation. I am very appreciative of my professors and classmates who I have learned a lot through. It's crazy how fast the last semester went as I've been trying to hold on to memories with the busiest months I have had in a long time. I will end with my favorite quote from Frida Kahlo which is, "I used to think I was the strangest person in the world but then I thought there are so many people in the world, there must be someone just like me who feels bizarre and flawed in the same ways I do. I would imagine her, and imagine that she must be out there thinking of me too. Well, I hope that if you are out there and read this and know that, yes, it's true I'm here, and I'm just as strange as you."

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

Notebook Inspirations and References: Rifle Paper Co. , Denik Notebooks, Moleskine

How the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou,  
Still I Rise and Phenomenal Woman by Maya Angelou,

Wild Nights! by Emily Dickinson

Self Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird by Frida Kahlo

\*\*\*I didn't really have artists that were inspirations specifically to this project. While I do have favorite illustrators, I find for projects like these that if I look for too much inspiration I tend to get more lost so I wanted to see what I could do on my own. However I did try to take inspiration as much as I could from the women themselves.\*\*\*



# THESIS DOCUMENTATION





# THESIS JOURNAL

- List of Women Current Top 10
- Maya Angelou - Civil Rights Wrt. PC (1928-2014)
  - Rosa Parks - Civil Rights (1913-2005)
  - Audre Lorde - Activist (1934-1992)
  - Hannah Hoch - Artist (1897-1978)
  - Amelia Earhart - Pilot (1897-1937)
  - Sally Ride - Astronaut (1931-2012)
  - Audrey Hepburn - Actress (1929-1993)
  - Lucille Ball - Actress (1911-1989)
  - Emily Dickinson - Poet (1830-1862)
  - Marie Curie - Scientist (1867-1934)
  - Frida Kahlo - Artist (1907-1955)



Amelia Earhart Notes  
Possible Products: small travel notebooks, to do list, travel poster sticker sheets, washie, tape, postcard set, note/sticky notes

Illustrations: the red plane flying at different pattern of plane controls, sheeted/painted angles

Details of her life and Personality:

- Would cut out newspaper clippings of women in magazines
- Worked very hard to buy the plane
- Had her own clothing line which she designed herself
- She was a nurse and in Canada during WWI
- Helped form Ninety-Nines organization for female pilots
- Wrote lots of articles regarding women in flight
- 20 hours and 30 minutes, the first solo flight

Color schemes red, gold, black, skyblue, silver



## Maya Angelou Notes

- 1928 - 2014 born in Missouri
  - Moved to Oakland & became the first black and first woman streetcar operator in San Francisco
  - Was a dancer, adult dancer & theatre performer
  - Toured Europe in opera production of Porgy & Bess
  - Was a Calypso dancer and released an album
  - Was a writer in Cairo & Ghana
  - 1968 was helping lead the civil movement with MLK
  - Published "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" in 1969
  - Continued writing and teaching
  - 1983 was received her prez. of Bill Clinton's inauguration
- Her writing routine: she would check into a hotel for the day, write in hotel beds in the bed and then leave before night
- got awards, medals, African patterns New York & San Francisco
  - Spirit, birds, sunrise, sea, freedom



How to target audience  
How will you use imagery we all know?  
How will you show their lives?  
What do you mean by personal details  
What is your goal or what do you want people to get out of it?  
What will the art illustrations be? How many? projecting on them being real people not just props  
Each goal? picked up by bigger company or self published.

- Find References for all Cover ILLs
- o Maya Angelou
  - o Amelia Earhart
  - o Lucille Ball
  - o Emily Dickinson
  - o Sally Ride
  - o Frida Kahlo

- Find References for Spots & decide style
- MA: 0.0000 AE: 0.0000
  - LB: 0.0000 E.D.: 0.0000 Decide if in-
  - SR: 0.0000 FR: 0.0000 inches 0
  - list of spots on next page
  - o Edge at back cover for Frida Kahlo

- Other kinds related to the list
- o Find things to spread scholarship on
  - o create smooth & great set up in space
  - o email art directors
  - o Self portrait

the project thoughts!  
- It went very well! Everyone seemed to enjoy the concept and there wasn't too many critiques. It will definitely be a challenge to keep up the work without deadlines, especially over the winter.  
Now to find a writer.  
Also give out if these are all going to be the style or our conceptual.



## Sally Ride Notes

- American Astronaut & Physicist
- First woman in space first woman on space shuttle
- wrote or cowrote 7 books
- Light blue space suit
- Possible colors Dark Blue, light blue, yellow, blue at space w/ fire of rocket launch
- Possible Illustrations  
Covers showing floating in space, party, spots, her potatoes, physical models

