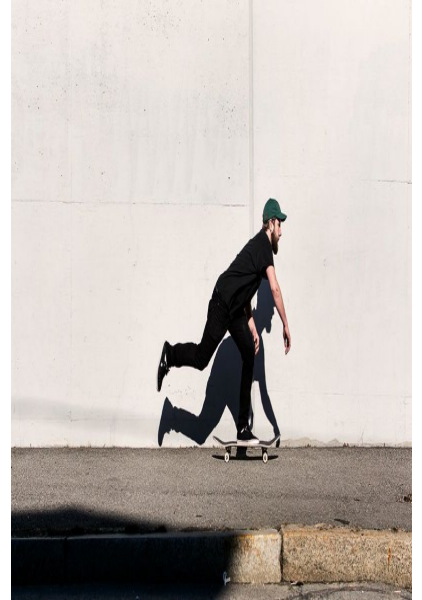


# Faces Of New Bedford – #18: Giovanni Willet

Meet Giovanni Willet, a 21-year-old cook and art student.



He spent most of his childhood traveling due to his parents' careers, never staying in one place for more than a month. At the age of 9, they settled in New Bedford, which is why the city means so much to him. Before living here, he wasn't able to experience a normal childhood and coming here allowed him to discover skateboarding.

He instantly fell in love with the culture and it allowed him to find himself as a person. Through skateboarding, he was able to explore numerous artists that greatly influence his artwork. All of this has pushed him to go to school to study graphic design.

He is also inspired by the community, which has flourishing art galleries and local businesses. To him, they prove that if you work hard enough you can make your dreams a reality. So far, Giovanni has already co-hosted two shows in downtown New Bedford, which garnered great local exposure.

*"An old friend of mine, Andrew, used to say, 'Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard,' and that has always*

*kept me going.'"*

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Faces of New Bedford is a project by Colton Simmons. If you are interested in booking a shoot or getting prints from the series email all inquiries to [colton@coltonsimmons.com](mailto:colton@coltonsimmons.com)

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