



K+J Studios Brings DIY Photo Booth to the Professional World with DNP's DS40™ Printer

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A partnership born from friendship has become one of the most unique wedding photography duos in the greater-Seattle area — offering a blend of photojournalism, relaxed portraits, and fashion shots. After several years photographing dinner cruises in Hawaii, John Nakatsu and Keoni Kitagawa founded K+J Studios in 2013 and have since strived to differentiate themselves in a crowded Seattle wedding photography industry. The pair have done just that, with a self-designed, self-built DIY photo booth complete with a DNP DS40 dye-sublimation printer that provides their clients with instant high quality printed images.

After experiencing increased demand for photo booths, the partners decided it was time to invest in one themselves rather than continuing to pass the business off to another company. When the pre-fabricated options were more expensive than anticipated, Nakatsu felt they could build a booth for a fraction of the cost.

When building the booth, the company needed something that was compact yet rugged enough to transport via car. The booth is essentially a custom road case with 3/8-inch sanded plywood sides held together with aluminum framing that strengthened the design without adding additional weight. The booth features professional components including a touchscreen, a DSLR camera, and a professional DNP photo printer.

For Nakatsu, the most important features he was looking for in his photo booth printer were speed, form factor, and reliability. The company's plan was to run the booth continuously throughout a wedding or event, and they needed a printer that would not break down and could hold a large amount of printing media — both benefits of a DS40.

"Prior to building our booth, I had no experience with photo printers. I had always sent our prints out to be produced at a lab," said Nakatsu. "After doing extensive research online, there were several printers I was considering but the DS40 was clearly the fastest and most reliable option."

K+J Studios mainly print classic 2"x6" photo booth strips for their customers but with the DS40 installed the booth can also produce 4"x6", 5"x7", and 6"x8" prints when necessary. Nakatsu also cites the ability to add their company logo to their prints as a way of generating new business opportunities for the company.

"Having the booth has not only increased our wedding business but also allowed us to take on new business such as corporate events and parties," said Nakatsu. "I would definitely recommend the DS40 printer—the prints are super fast and extremely high quality. We've really enjoyed using the printer and I can't imagine the success of our booth without the DS40."

For additional information on DNP's professional photo printing solutions, please visit:
<http://www.dnpphoto.com/EventPhoto/DS40.aspx>



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