

Group Collage – Rhythm in Layers

WSR Senior High

Sculpture and Design

Layer by layer, piece by piece, students assemble a three-dimensional collage using simple pre-cut balsa wood and cardboard shapes to build a class collage. Because the design exists on multiple levels and with multiple sections rather than a single plane, the relationship of each individual element to the whole must be considered.

The design should illustrate the following design principles:

Rhythm- repetition and placement of similar colors, shapes and lines throughout the collage will provide a sense of order and unity.

Balance- whether placed symmetrically or asymmetrically, collage materials should be arranged so that the visual weight is evenly distributed.

Movement- connecting shapes, lines and colors should lead the viewer on a path into, out of and around the entire piece.

Each student will have a 5 1/2" x 7" base piece to make their part of the collage. Each piece has a number in the middle which is the number of their piece. On the sides are the numbers of those that surround your piece. The overall design must continue through the unified class piece.

BASIC MATERIALS:

Assorted Wooden Shapes	Mat board	Acrylic Paints
Wooden Dowels and paste sticks	Sobo & Elmer's Glue	Sharpie Markers

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Start by the class deciding on a color scheme for the entire piece. Darker colors work best for the base. Work either as a class or with those around your piece to start the design process.
2. Paint each individual base to begin the process. As the bases dry, work collaboratively with those who's pieces meet yours to continue the design using the design principles listed above.
3. Build rhythm within the design by repeating colors, shapes and patterns. Whenever you lay down one shape or a series of shapes, try to repeat it somewhere else by somebody. It doesn't need to be symmetrical, just repetitious.
4. Build depth within the design by placing darker colors in the background and each layer up with sequentially lighter colors. Save the most brilliant colors for the top shapes, which will function as focal points. Use LARGER shapes in the background and SMALLER ones as the collage builds up.
5. Build interest into the design by using a variety of shapes,
6. Add movement by connecting large pieces with lines formed by sticks and dowels. Some of these components may need to be applied at the end once all pieces are joined.
7. Glue small, stacked wood shapes beneath larger elements to act as risers. We want these to stay in tact for a long time, so construct it well!
8. Design beyond the edges of the base, as far as you can with the design flowing from one piece to the next.
9. The final piece will be displayed on the wall, hopefully permanently in a hallway, the new school office or the media center.

SIMILAR EXAMPLES:

