

## NOTES TO TEACHERS

Probably nothing compromises the quality of student art projects more than the inappropriate use of color; an ignorance of how colors work together and how compliments can be mixed to achieve more interesting palettes.

The assignment requiring students to invent a color system is intended to familiarize them with the properties of color and show them how colors can work together. The resulting color system is less important than the process of color exploration. The following project, painting a bulls-eye composition, will put their new knowledge to good use.

The directions ask only that students paint color progressions between compliments and tints. This teaches students how to control color and demonstrate to them that using adjusted colors is far more interesting than just sticking to the primary and secondary colors. They learn how to use neutral colors against brighter colors, analogous colors together, and how to control the values of colors.

Different students will learn different things from the exercise, but there is no clear and concise outcome that I aim for beyond getting students to understand the properties of color and to experiment with them. Teachers can put their own spin on this project.