

# STUDENT WORK

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## 2D DESIGN SURFACE DESIGN

### NÖTAN - THE DARK-LIGHT PRINCIPLE

In this project you will continue to exercise ways to abstract from Subject Matter while focusing on Form. You will explore figure/ground relationships through the usage of shape and space to evoke content. You will also use the Principles of Organization Balance and to help you achieve the desired content.

#### Problem

You will develop the project based on the Japanese design concept called Nōtan (濃淡), which observes the relationship and placement of light and dark shapes in the composition translating shape & space into flat shapes on a two-dimensional surface. It is traditionally presented in paint, ink, or cut paper, but it is relevant to a host of modern-day image-making techniques, such as lithography in printmaking, and rotoscoping in animation (1).

#### Objectives

- Understand the differences between subject matter and form.
- Synthesize the Elements, Shape & Space, to create original Nōtan designs.
- Synthesize the Principle, Balance, to create designs with Symmetrical and Asymmetrical Balance.
- Synthesize the Principle, Balance, to create a design with Radial Symmetry.
- Practice good craftsmanship by making clean cuts and gluing neatly.

#### Vocabulary

Abstract  
Asymmetrical Balance  
Craftsmanship  
Geometric Shapes  
Nonrepresentational  
Nōtan Principle  
Organic/Biomorphic Shapes  
Plane



Keefer Art 1150, Lesson plan adapted from Claudia Jacques de Moraes Cardoso

## • 2D DESIGN – NOTAN COMPOSITIONS

## 2D DESIGN SURFACE DESIGN

### FIELD GUIDE ASSIGNMENT

A field guide is a visual guide to any subject an artist finds interesting. Historical field guides were often scientific, i.e. field guides to the natural world or to human anatomy. Artists and Scientists use field guides as a way of documenting what they know about a subject of interest. They can feature drawings, photographs, video, and more. For this assignment, you will create your own field guide.

#### Objectives

- Create a Field Guide to a topic of your choice.
- Include 4 pages
- For each page,
  - draw or collage a central image of your Subject.
  - Draw or collage 2 supporting images or details that help clarify your subject.
  - Write as many facts as will fit in an artistic way that visually supports your image.

#### Field Guide Examples

Leonardo Da Vinci created field guides to human anatomy, as well as to inventions from his imagination. His field guides and sketchbooks are wildly popular with artists and others to this day.

The Field Museum in Chicago uses field guides to convey information to visitors about the natural environment.

The Intersect Arts Center in St. Louis held an exhibition called Field Guide, described as "an exploration of the ways in which we discover and exchange knowledge that transform our experience of looking at the world."



Figure 1. *Three Generations*, Carlyn Forst, from the Field Guide Exhibit at the Intersect Arts Center

Kuefer Art 1150, Lesson plan adapted from: Mathew R. Kelly, Central College



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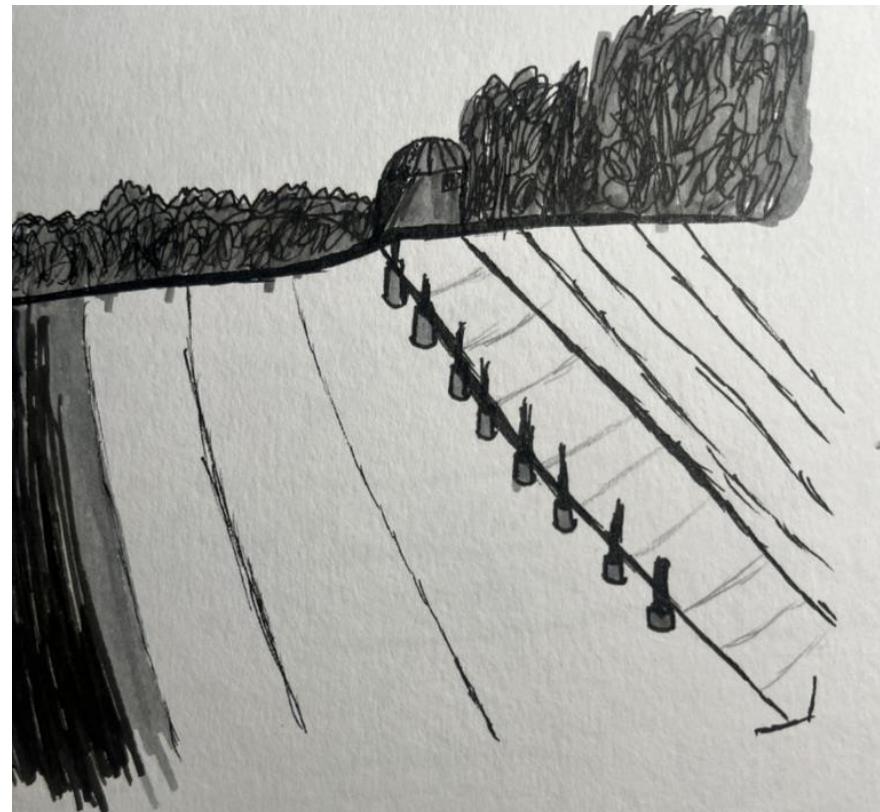
Protected manuscripts and  
food stores from rodents  
in castles and monasteries.



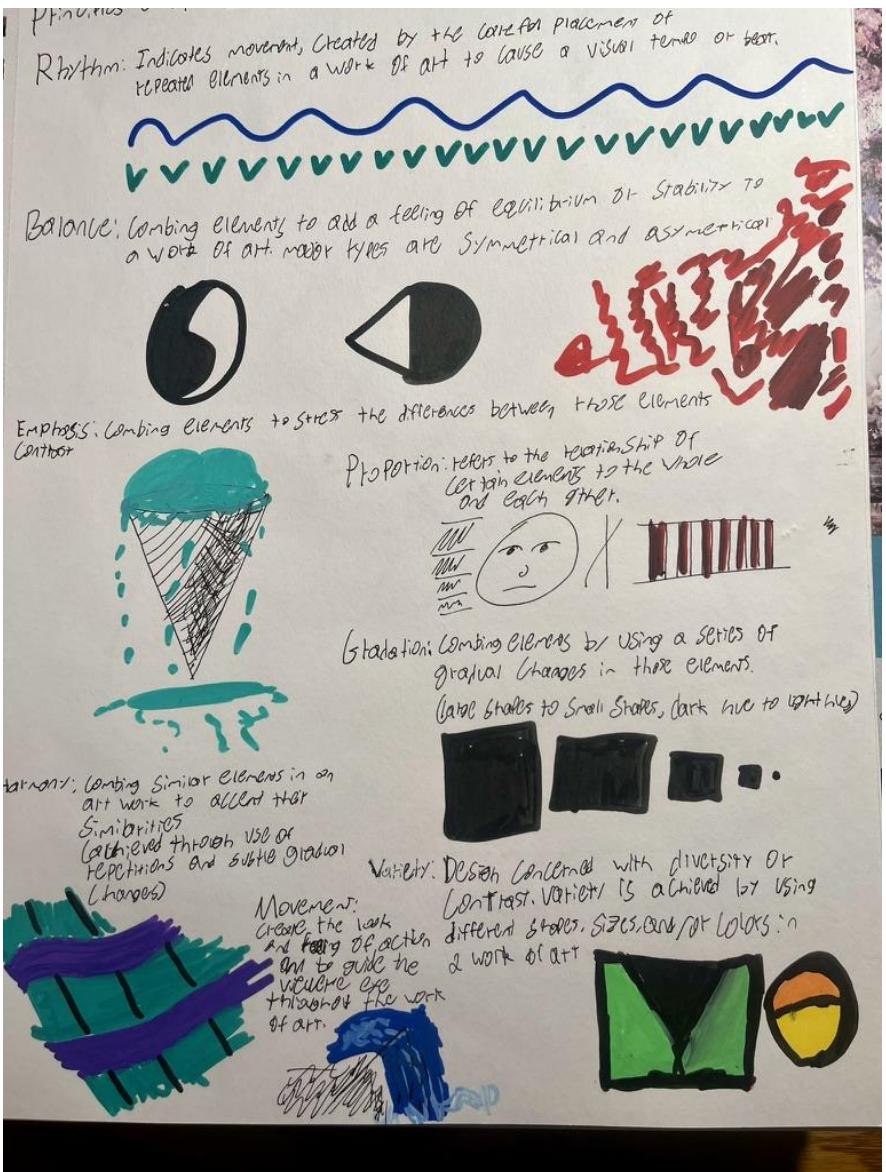
## • 2D DESIGN – FIELD GUIDES

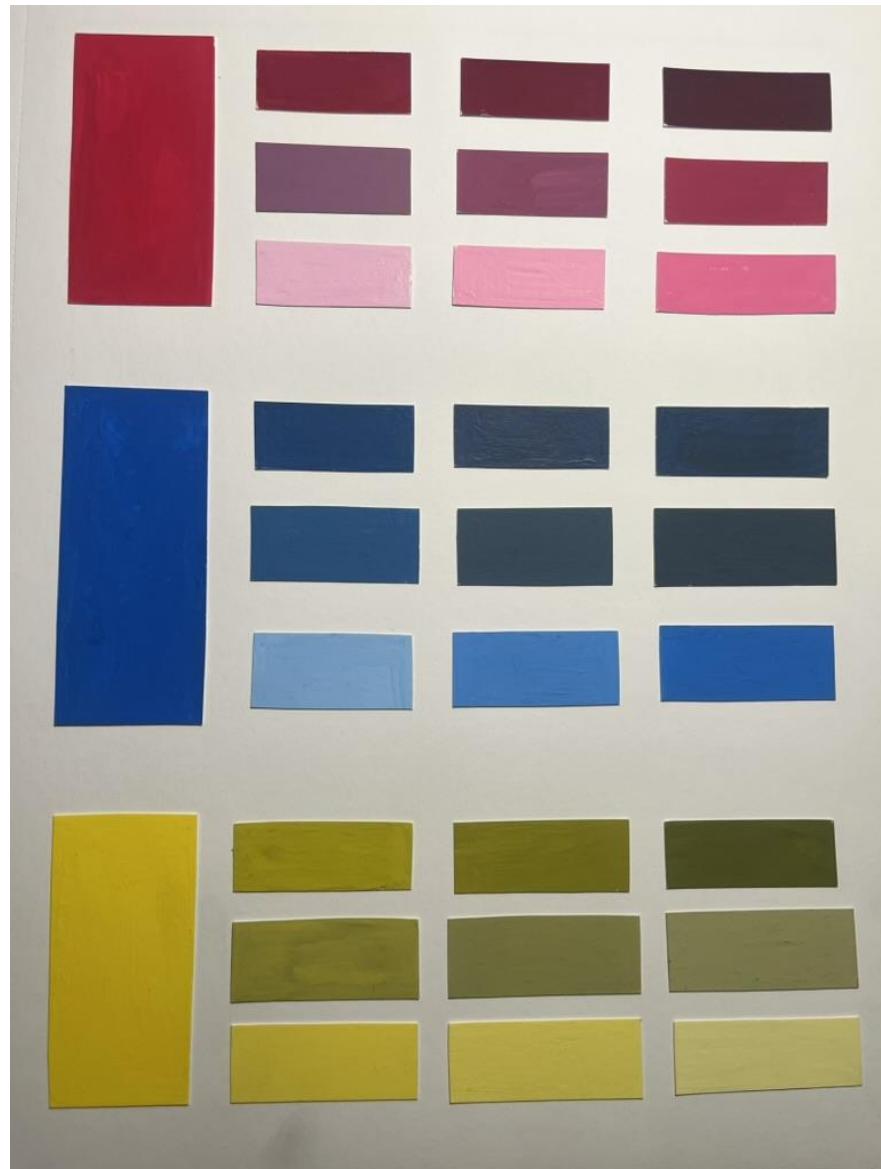


## 2D DESIGN – FIELD GUIDES

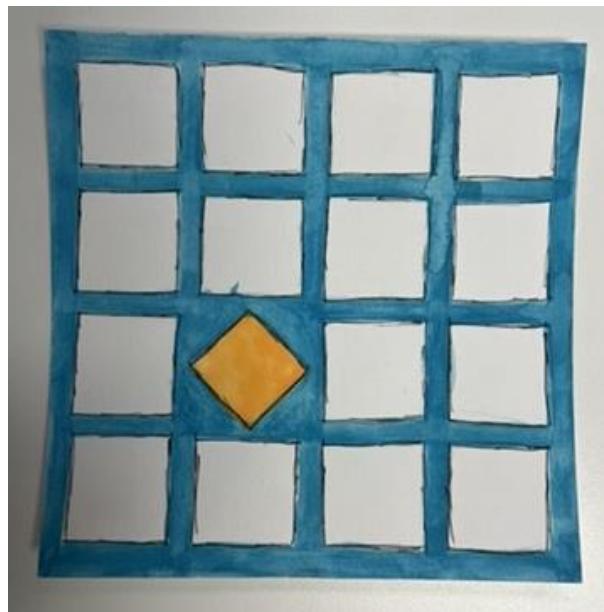


we decided to choose the buoys/lamps  
for points as we felt they represented  
Points. + As they dot along the path  
that leads to and from the observatory.





2D DESIGN – SKETCHBOOK



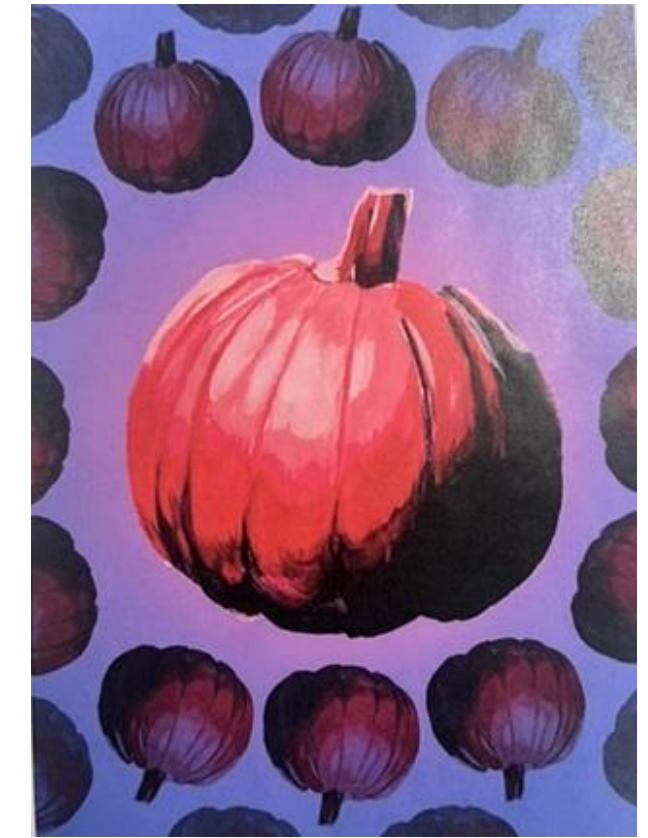
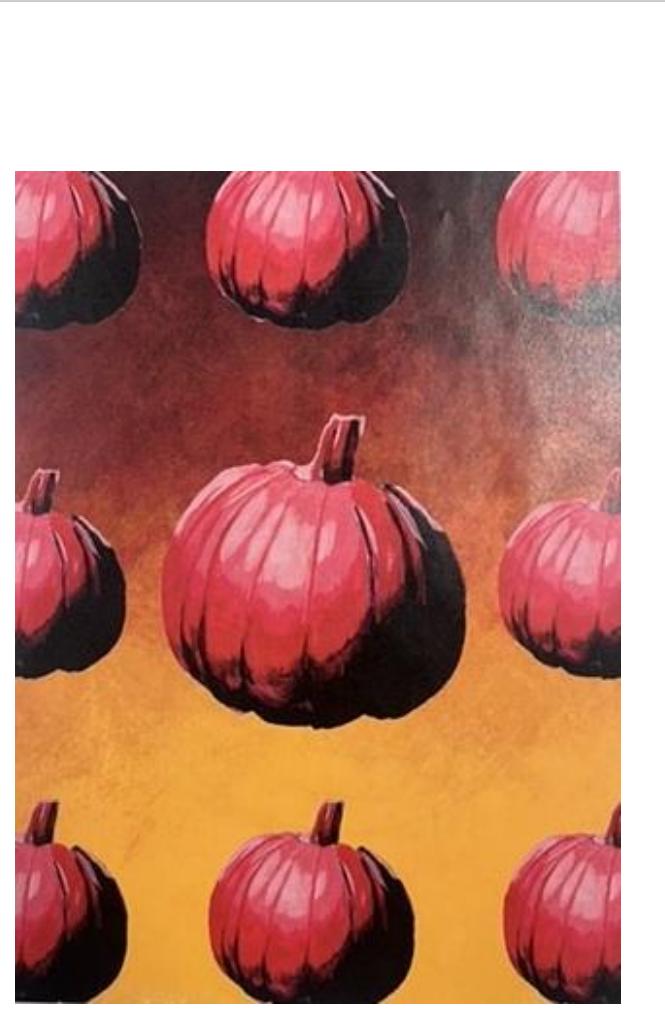
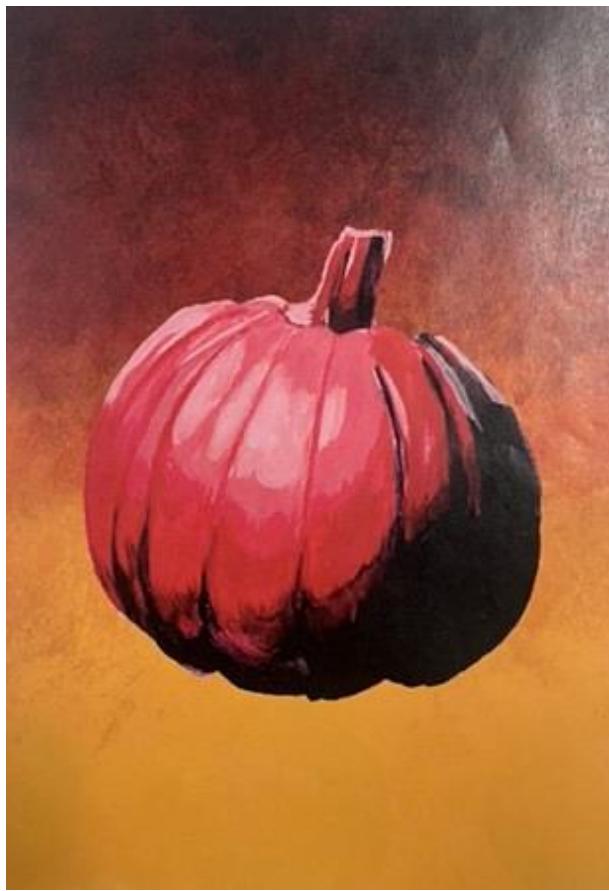
2D DESIGN – COMPOSITION



2D DESIGN – COLOR AND MOOD



2D DESIGN – COLOR AND MOOD



2D DESIGN – DIGITAL MANIPULATION