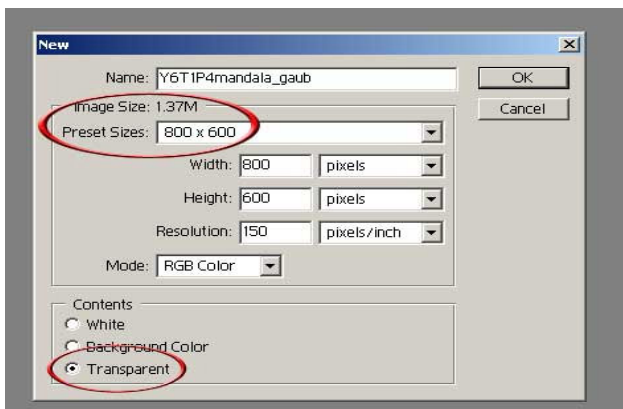


Digital Mandala Assignment

Background: The word Mandala is Sanskrit, and it means a circle, both the center and circumference. It is a symbol of Life. Mandalas have appeared throughout history in all cultures and religions. They have been painted, constructed of wood, done up in mosaic tile, and virtually every other art form. They can be abstract, or geometric designs, symmetrical or asymmetrical. The images can be literal or symbolic. They can be monochrome or fully ablaze with color.

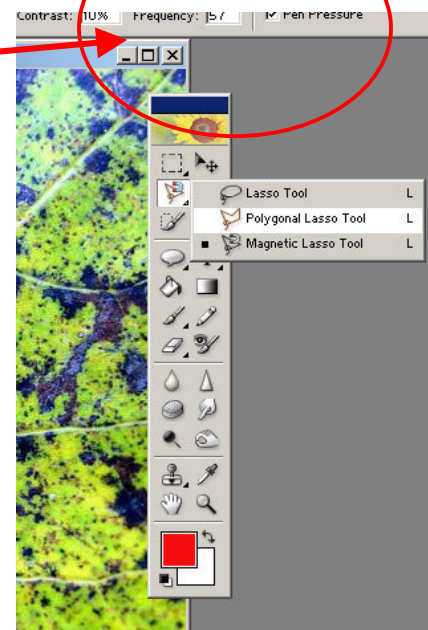
Digital Technique: With Adobe Photoshop Elements. Think of digital collage like regular collage, on a computer. You must have your piece of paper (New File) and you need a magazine of images (Browse for Images). Your desk can get cluttered and some papers might end up hiding others, usually they are all still there, just covering each other (layers). You need tools like scissors and glue (tool box). Keep this in mind as you work with your digital tools. Refer back to the digital tool overview or use HELP.



1. After opening the **Adobe Photoshop Elements** program Create your “piece of paper” using the menu **FILE --> NEW** with the **POP-UP** box give it a name; (use our class digital assignment naming pattern) Pick the **PRESET SIZE** of 800 x 600 PIXELS and the **RESOLUTION** of 150.

Finally select **TRANSPARENT**. (see image above)

2. **BROWSE** for images. Look in the PROJECT PICTURES folder. Pick an image, any image. One with lots of color will work best.
3. With **Photoshop's POLYGONAL Lasso tool** (the one that looks like the lasso, only with straight lines), select a PIZZA SLICE TYPE triangle, any part of the image with some contrast is good. The longer and thinner it is, the better. Not too thin.
4. Go to **EDIT --> COPY** to copy the selection.
5. Now Go over to your **New File** and hit **EDIT --> PASTE** the triangle, once. Adjust as needed.

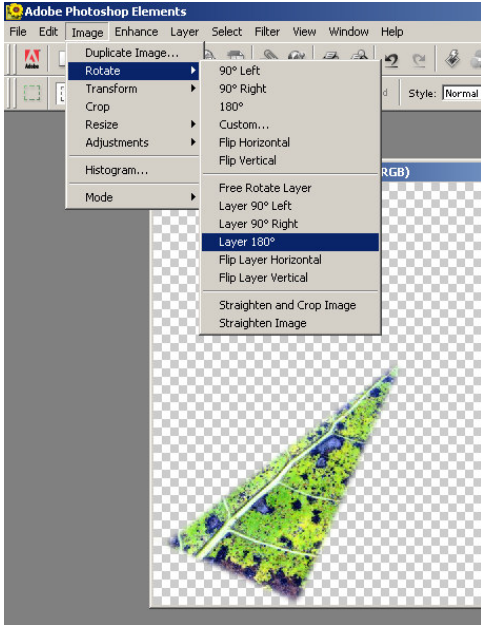


Updated 10/9/2005 Created by Cynthia Gaub for use in the classroom.

Mandala Information used from the following resources: http://www.mandalaproject.org/Mandalas/index_new.html;

<http://www.raywhiting.com/nature.html>; <http://www.abgoodwin.com/mandala/links/creating.html>; <http://www.moderngypsy.com/green/mandala/>

Digital Mandala Assignment



6. Go to **LAYER -->DUPLICATE LAYER**. Hit OK to create a second triangle.
7. Still on your **New File** Go to **IMAGE --> ROTATE --> LAYER 180** to make the second triangle flip. Grab the flipped slice in the center and move it so that you can match the two thinnest points to each other as closely as you can.
8. Go to **LAYER -->MERGE LAYERS**.
9. Go to **LAYER -->DUPLICATE LAYER**. Hit OK to create a second SET triangles.
10. Go to **IMAGE --> ROTATE --> LAYER 90 Right** to make the SET triangles flip. The centers should be matched exactly and you should have 4 pizza slices that make a pinwheel.
11. Go to **LAYER -->MERGE LAYERS**.
12. Go to **LAYER -->DUPLICATE LAYER**. Hit OK to create a new SET of triangles.
13. Then get the **MOVE tool** and hover on your image near the corner until the **CURVED arrow** shows up. Using the mouse spin the set of triangles until you line it up with the last set. Remember that EACH time you finish a task, you must click on your tool box to let it know you are done. Repeat THIS Step until you have a complete circle.
14. Go to **LAYER --> MERGE VISIBLE** to make the new triangles into one unit.
15. When you are done, REMEMBER TO **FILE --> SAVE AS JPEG, IN THE FORMAT DROP-BOX**, use our class digital assignment naming pattern and find the correct FOLDER to save in.

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