

# LESSON PLAN: SELF PORTRAITS



## INTRODUCTION

Self portraits of old and selfies of new are one and the same — both preserve thoughts, feelings and emotions in one expression. Concentrating on the Elements of Design and Value, students will use their knowledge of the history of portraits to create their own unique portrait. Students will also gain an understanding of color blending by using Tombow's blendable Dual Brush Pens. This lesson is created for students grades 6-8.

## OBJECTIVE

The students will:

- Briefly discuss the history of portraits
- Concentrate on the Element of Design, Value
- Gain an understanding of Tombow blendable markers
- Create a portrait with a unique view



## MATERIALS

- Tombow Dual Brush Pens
- Tombow Blending Palette
- Drawing Paper



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## DIRECTIONS

Begin by comparing and contrasting historical portraits to your students' social media selfies. **TIP:** Have students collect photos of portraits from magazines for examples of poses to reference for their own self-portraits.

1

Demonstrate the blendable Tombow Dual Brush Pens by having students practice each of the facial features.

2

Students will then choose which type of portrait they want to draw — a selfie, an animal or a portrait inspired by famous works.



3

Use the blendable Tombow Dual Brush Pens to help create a blending of colors and values to help enhance the portrait. Blend with the Colorless Blender by adding Dual Brush Pen color to the Blending Palette and picking up the color with the Colorless Blender by dragging the pen through the color. Alternatively, students may add the Dual Brush Pen color directly to the paper, then use the Colorless Blender to blend out the colors.

4

Have students create a contrasting background design for their portrait to help put emphasis on their subject matter.



## ALTERNATIVES

- Blend Tombow colored pencils on top of the Tombow Dual Brush Pens for added interest.
- Have students design a background using a principle or element of design for additional practice incorporating them into their artwork.