Stroupe

WRIT 4260 / 5260

**Confection Skills Workflow**

The following are steps in a workflow that you might use for the Confection Project. We’ll try them out with an exercise using a background image from the course web site and then several images that you will choose.

Specific directions to follow the steps below can be found at Affinity Photo’s Help site at https://affinity.help/photo/en-US.lproj/index.html

Terms in **bold** can be entered in the search field for detailed instructions and explanations.

Terms after “Menu:…” explain how to navigate the left-hand menu of the Help site to find directions for that tool or process.

For a basic explanation of the Affinity Photo workspace, see Menu: Workspace > Visual Reference. For more detailed explanations, see Menu: Workspace > Tools… and Menu: Workspace > Panels.

Feel free to do online searches for more explanations as you need them.

1. Download from the course web site the background image (Cadillac Mountain post card, henceforth called the “background image”)
2. Find and download images of 3 people in which their entire heads and facial expressions are visible (henceforth, called the “head images”)
3. Find and download images of 3 bodies in expressive poses, positions, or in the middle of activities (These images are to go with the heads, but not necessarily matching in size, visual style, etc. Henceforth, called the “body images”)

1. Open all images in Affinity Photo (Menu: Get Started > Opening documents…)
2. With a “head” image file open, be sure the layer containing the head is selected in the **Layer Panel**.
3. Use the **Free-hand Selection Tool** to trace and select the head only to separate it from the background (including the figure’s actual body)
   1. You may want to **feather** (refine) the selection to soften the edges
4. Copy the selected pixels of the head
5. With the Background Image open, paste in the head. (Note the head will appear on its own layer in the **Layer Panel**)
   1. If the head doesn’t appear, go back to the “Head” image and rasterize the layer before copying again. Then return to the Background image to try pasting again.
6. Move the head to the desired position in the background image with the **Move Tool**.
7. Resize the head to be easily recognizable with the **Move Tool** (exaggerated proportions are good for recognizability of person and expression)
8. Adjust the brightness, contrast, color, and other qualities of the head to enhance its visibility and to work with the background. (Menu: Layers > Adjustment Layers)
9. With a “body” image open, Use the **Free-hand Selection Tool** to trace and select the body to separate it from the background (including the actual head)
10. Copy the selected pixels of the body.
11. With the Background Image open, paste in the body. (Note the body will appear on its own layer in the **Layers Panel**)
    1. If the body doesn’t appear, go back to the “Head” image and rasterize the layer before copying again. Then return to the Background image to try pasting again.
12. In the Layers Panel, drag the layer containing the body to stack it beneath the layer containing the head. See discussion of layer “order” at Menu: Layers > About Layers)
13. Repeat the process with the two other heads and bodies.
14. Next to each of the three human figures, add a textual label on a separate layer using either the **Framed Text Tool** or **Artistic Text Tool** (see Menu: Text > Working with text)
15. Adjust the size, position, color, and font of the text as desired. (Menu: Text, Character Formatting)
16. Save your .afphoto file (Menu: Getting Started > Save)
17. Export your image to a web-compatible image format such as .jpg (Menu: Sharing > Basic Export).