



COLOR & LIGHT

High School Theatre
Hannah Formella Zdroik

Bell-Ringer

You and your groupmates will each receive a flashlight. Each of you will take turns acting as the “model.” You will take pictures of each other with the light featuring different directions and angles. Have fun with this! Here we go!



Discussion

Let's have a class-wide chat!

01

What light effect do you prefer?

02

Do every angle and direction serve a purpose?

03

How does light tell a story?

04

What can we learn from this activity?

Vocabulary

Term	Information	Definition
GOBO	“Go Between Optics”	A disc, object, or stencil in front of a light source that emits a shadow to create a shape or effect.
Color Theory		The art and science of using color.
Primary Colors	Red, Blue, Yellow	Colors of which are the source of all other colors.
Secondary Colors	Green, Purple, Orange	Colors which can be created by evenly mixing two primaries.
Tertiary Colors	Red-Orange, Yellow-Orange, Yellow-Green, Blue-Green, Blue-Violet, Red-Violet	A color made by mixing one part of a primary color with half part of another primary; or one part of a primary color and one part of a secondary one.
Additive Mixing		When two or more differently-colored lights are aimed at the same surface.
Subtractive Mixing		Involves the absorption and selective transmission or reflection of light.



Lighting and color are complex, but as the designer, you will need to do research for your production!

We will talk about both light and color today, but we will focus on color for the majority of this lesson.





01 LIGHT



Sweeny Todd

Lighting Design plays an important role within a play, theatrical piece, or even a concert or show.

The way light is used or not used can portray many themes and be an effective tool for storytelling.

MJ the Musical



Carousel





There are many lighting positions and directions, all serving a specific effect.



Backlight



Down Light



Side Light



Up Light





INSTANT CHALLENGE – GOBO LIGHT

Your group will be given a set of materials and a flashlight.

You will have two minutes to create a “GOBO” design from the materials you have.
Then, your group will share your design with the class.



MATERIALS

- Pipe cleaners
 - Tulle
- Cotton Balls
- Feathers
- Paper
- Scissors
- Paper cups
- Plastic bag

Use any or all of these items!



Ready, Set, GO!

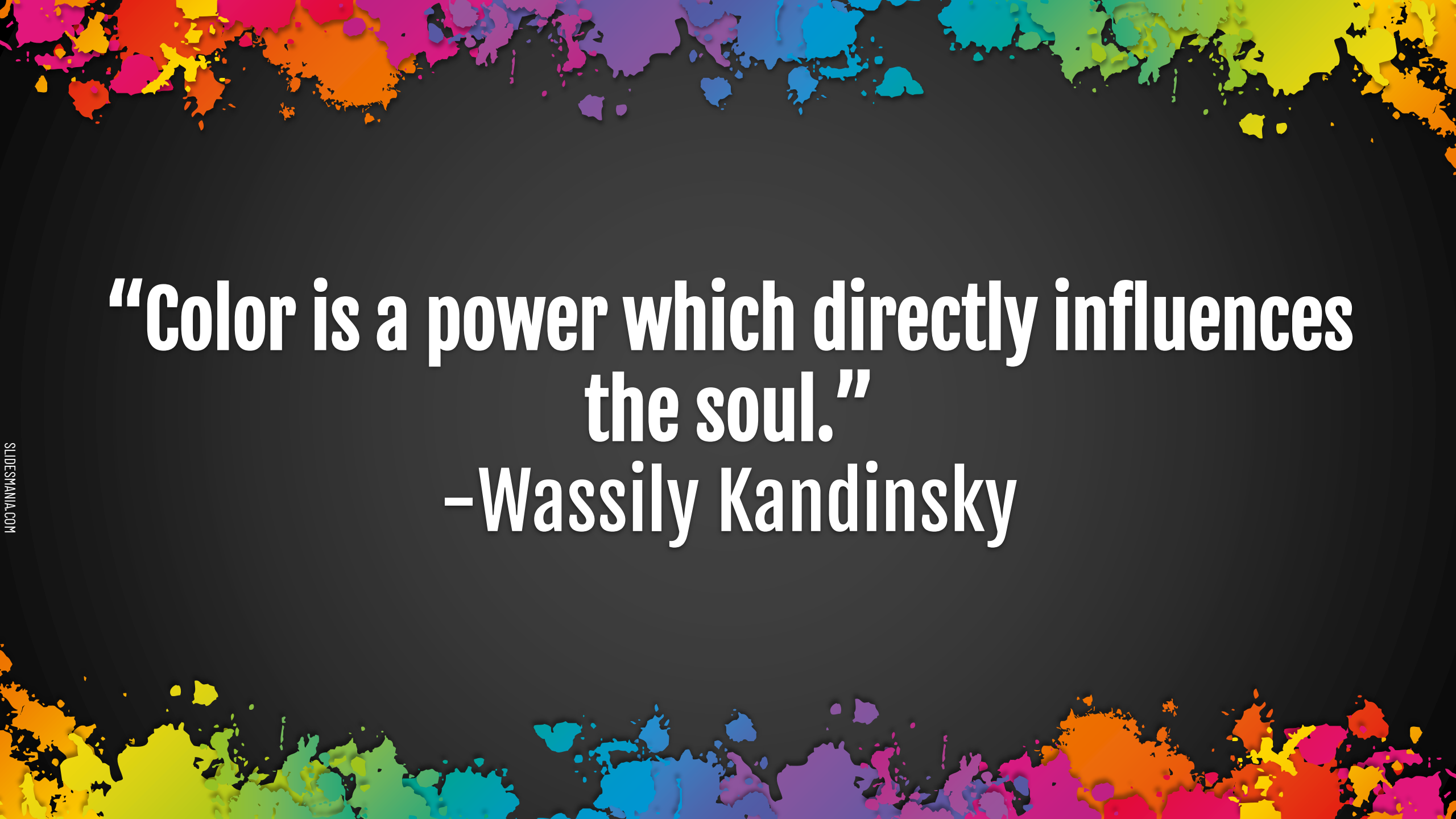
TIMER



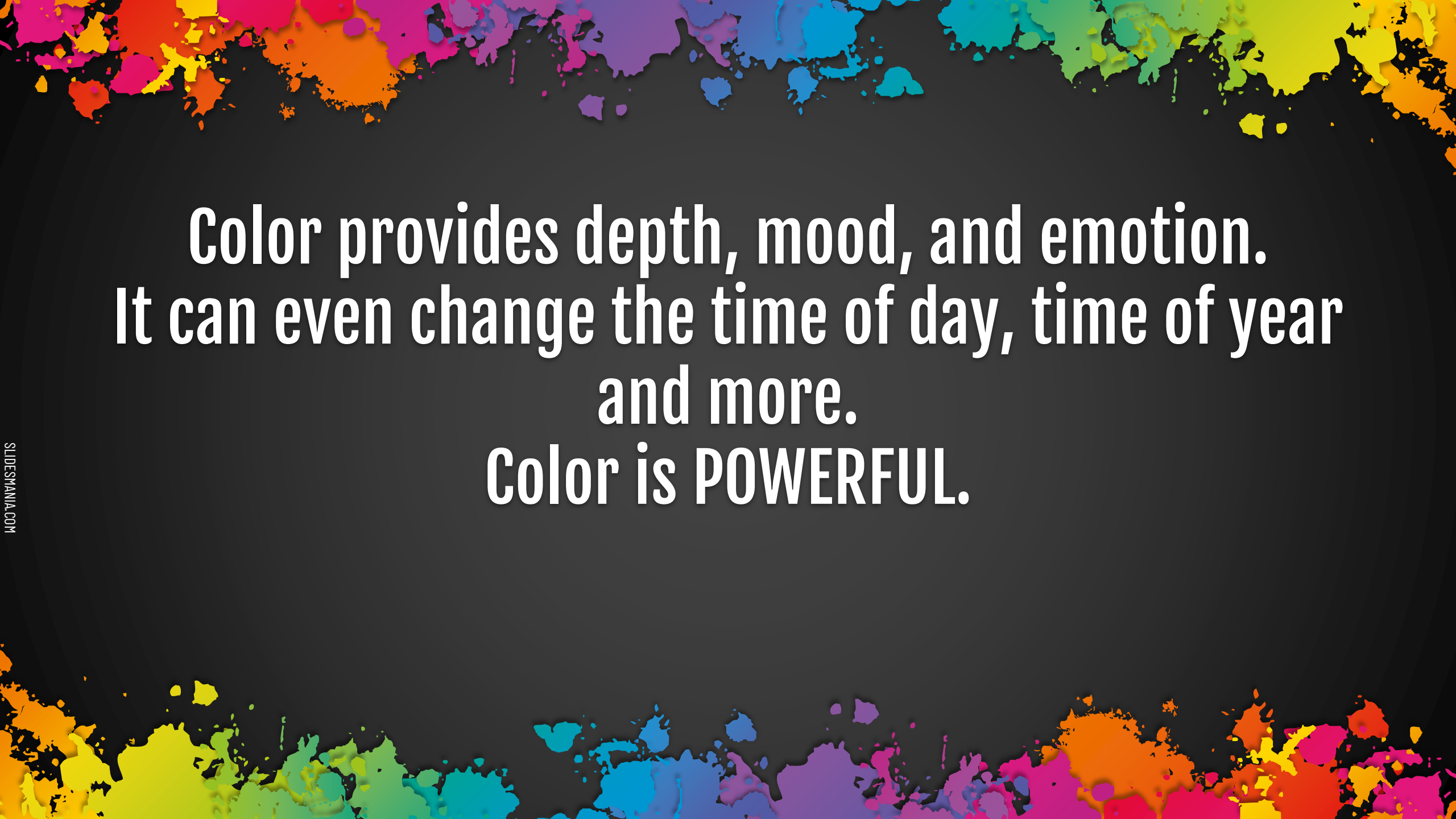
Let's Share!

The background features a black field with vibrant, multi-colored paint splatters. The colors include shades of red, orange, yellow, green, cyan, blue, and purple, scattered primarily along the top and bottom edges, framing the central text.

02 Color



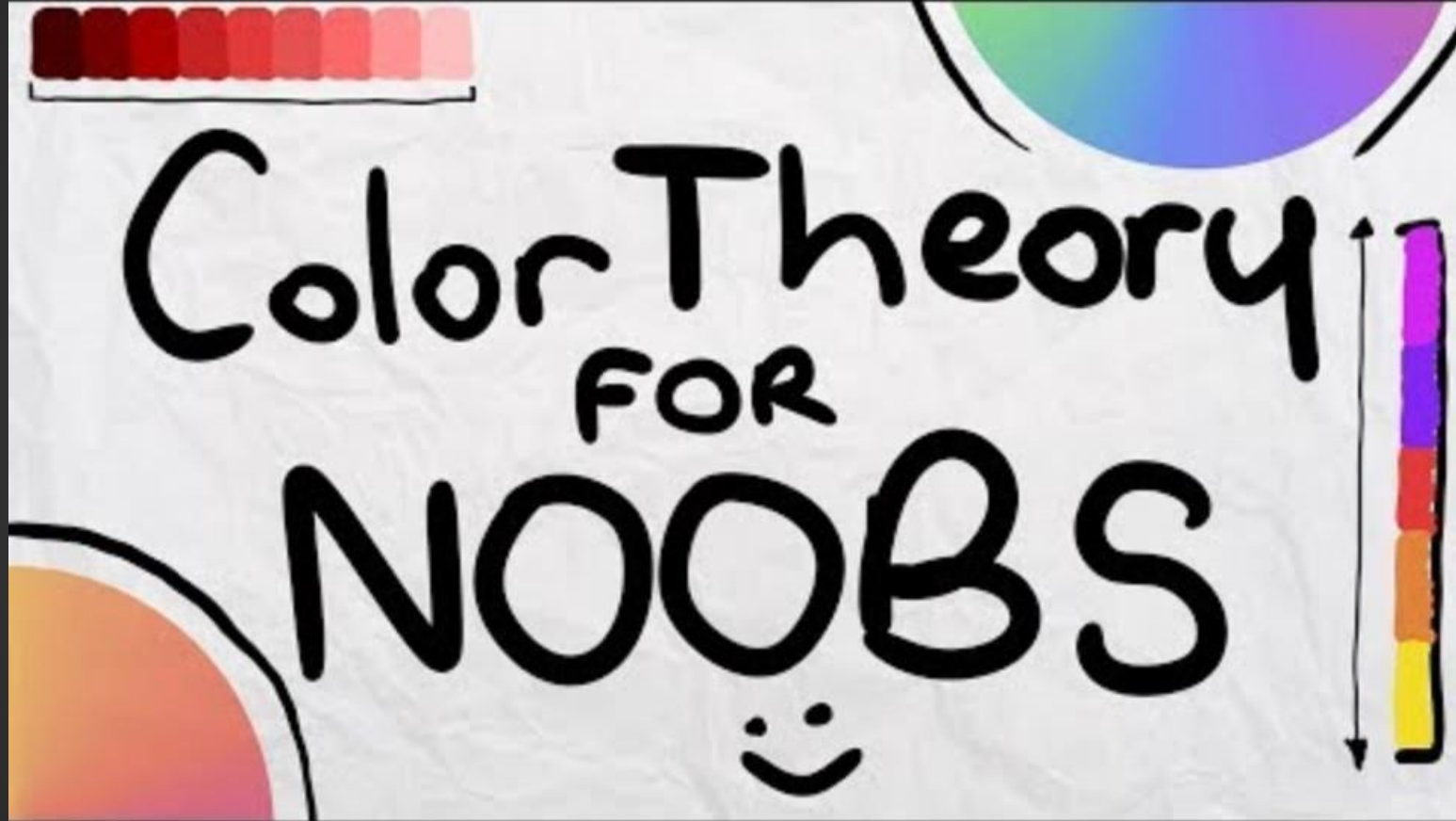
**“Color is a power which directly influences
the soul.”
–Wassily Kandinsky**



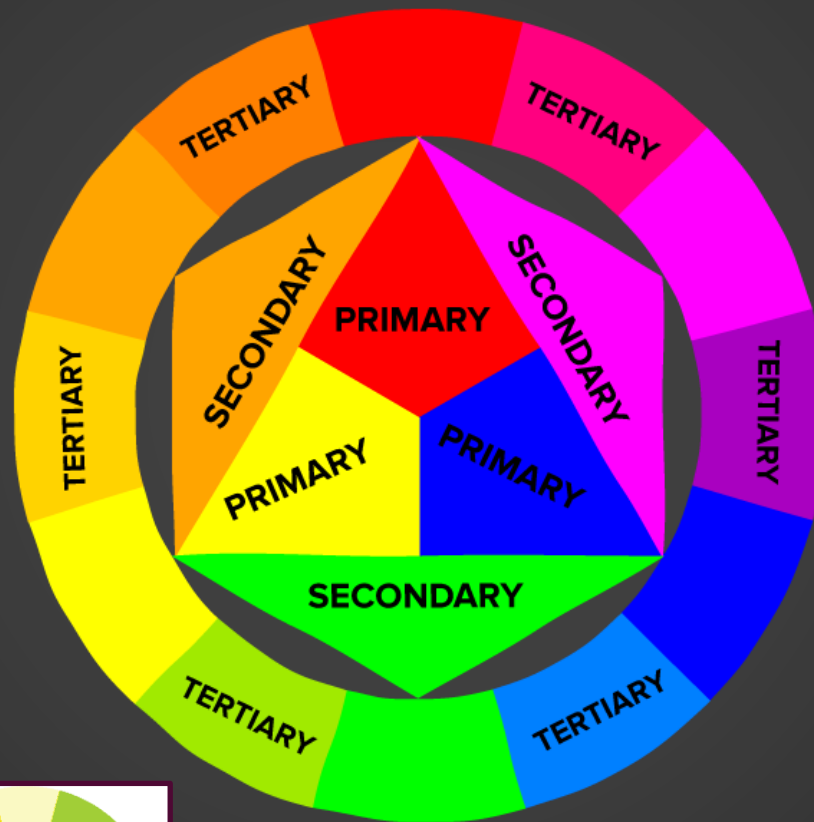
**Color provides depth, mood, and emotion.
It can even change the time of day, time of year
and more.
Color is POWERFUL.**

Video

Beginning to 5:20

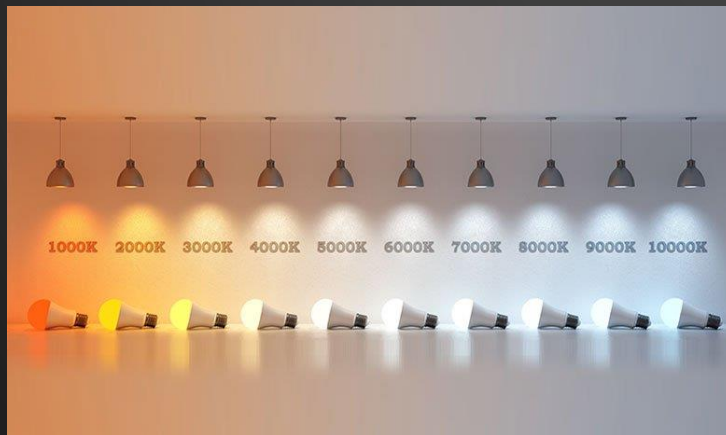


Colors – Wheels & Design



Storytelling with Color

- Warm Colors
- Cool Colors
- Psychology of Colors – What do they mean/represent?
- Themes of the play





VS.



Discuss in your groups:

- What does color mean to you?
- Do you classify certain colors with specific emotions and moods? If so, please share those thoughts.
- Have you ever attended a theatrical performance or concert that had memorable lighting? Share your experience.

Let's Identify Some Colors Schemes Together!



She Loves Me

What colors do you identify?

How does the lighting play a role in this scene?



Frankenstein

How is color telling a story here?

What lighting techniques can you identify?



Life of Pi

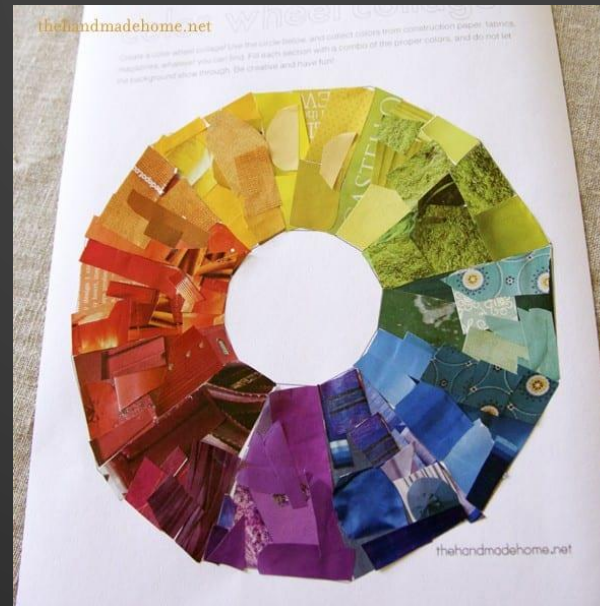
What makes this lighting and color design effective?

Identify what types of collaborations and research need to occur for lighting and color.

IN-CLASS ACTIVITY

Your own Color Wheel

Your group will create your own color wheel using magazines, art supplies, and other materials. Pick colors that would fit into your wheel to make a cohesive color wheel including primary, secondary, and tertiary colors!



PROJECT



Your group will pick a scene from any play or musical.

Using what you know about color and light, you will create a design using both lighting and color techniques. You may use Gobos too, as you see fit. Use Matt Kizer's Light Lab, inspiration photos, and other resources to create your design.



To throw in a fun twist, you will visit [Canva's Color Wheel](#) and pick a triadic or tetradic color combination to base your design from.

You will present your designs to the class!

Your Project Will Include:

Include 3-4 Colors

Use Canva's Color Wheel to decide your palette! Colors may refer to the lighting that you use, or colors of the scenery/props.

Interdisciplinary

Describe collaboration between other designers. Do costumes/fabrics affect your design? Did you find any inspiration from anywhere?

Explanation of the Scene + Mood

Provide a brief overview of what piece your scene is from, and what is happening in the scene.

Rationale

Provide rationale as to why your group chose the colors you did, and the psychology behind those colors in the scene.

2 Characters, 2 Objects

Pick a scene with at least two characters and incorporate at least two objects/set pieces.

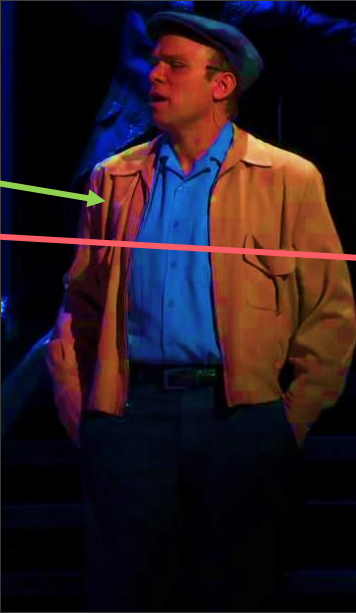
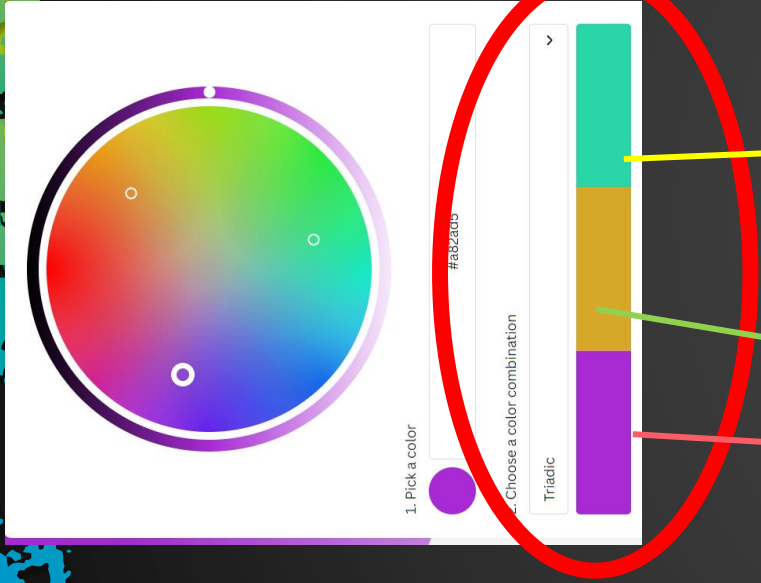
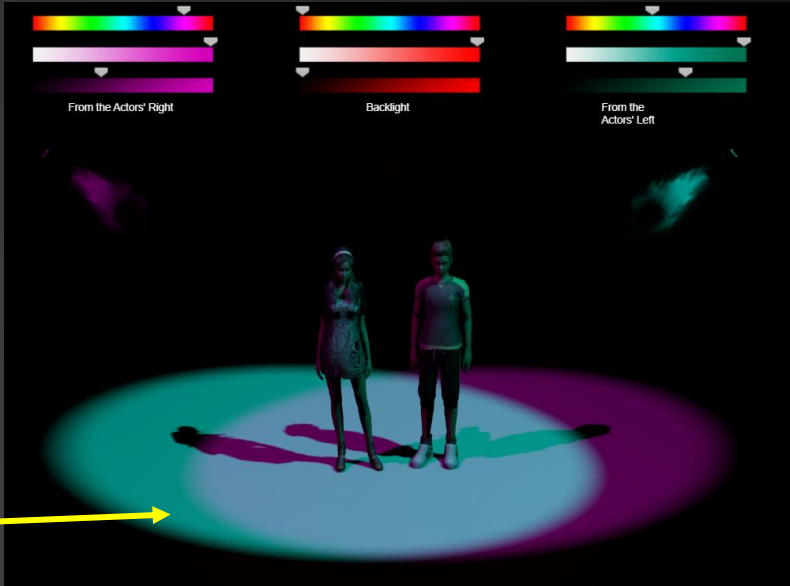
Conclusion

Provide a conclusion statement (3-5 sentences) as to what your group learned and what you the most proud of regarding your design.

EXAMPLE

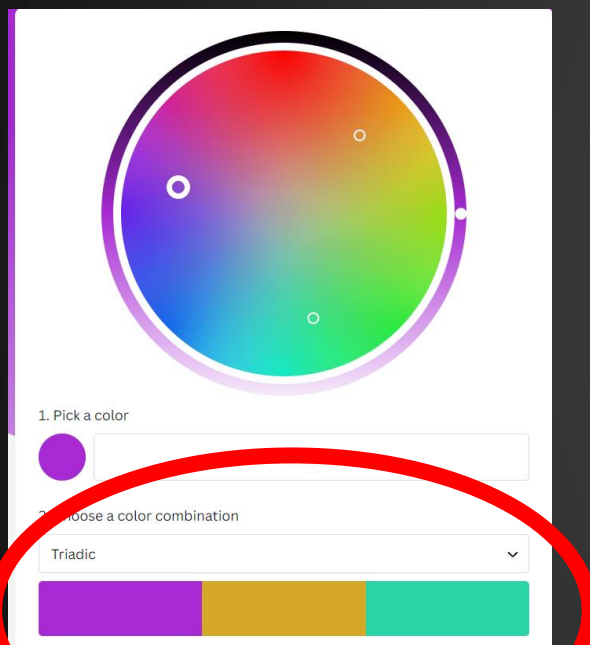
Scene: "Time Stops" from *Big Fish*

Color Palette



EXAMPLE – YOU DO!

Color Palette



“I’m Flying” scene from Peter Pan



Let's
brainstorm
ideas
together!

- Who is in the scene? Where are they located on stage?
- How can we use these colors?
- How will light play a role?
- What set pieces are in the scene?

Student Resources

Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/>

Rosco Gels

<https://setshop.com/317-rosco-roscolux-english-rose-diffusion-20x24-gels/>

**Rosco
GOBOS**

<https://us.rosco.com/en/products/catalog/gobos>

**Matt Kizer's
Light Lab**

<https://scenicandlighting.com/lightlabs/>

**Stage
Lighting for
Students
Information**

<https://www.stagelightingprimer.com/index.html?slfs-color.html&2>

AND

<https://thtr382.weebly.com/functions-of-stage-lighting.html>

*Not limited to, but worth checking out for your project.

WORKTIME

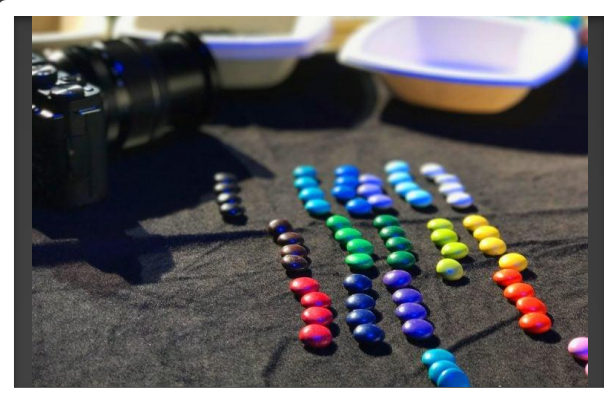
Any questions at this time? Let me know how I can help you be successful.

PRESENTATIONS

Enrichment Activity

M&M FUN!

I (the instructor) will give you colored M&Ms! You and your group members will "sort" the M&Ms into colors, but here's the catch: I will emit either a pure red, green, or blue light. It is your job to sort the candies by color the best you can. Here is an example:

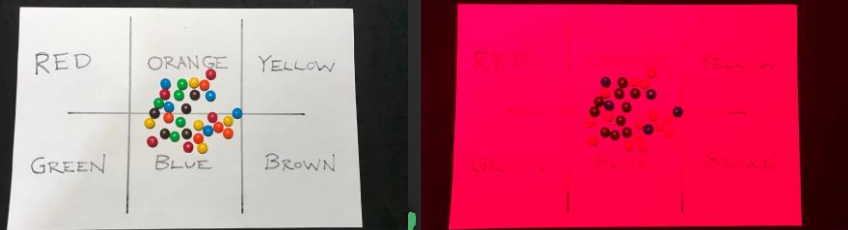


WE WILL NEED



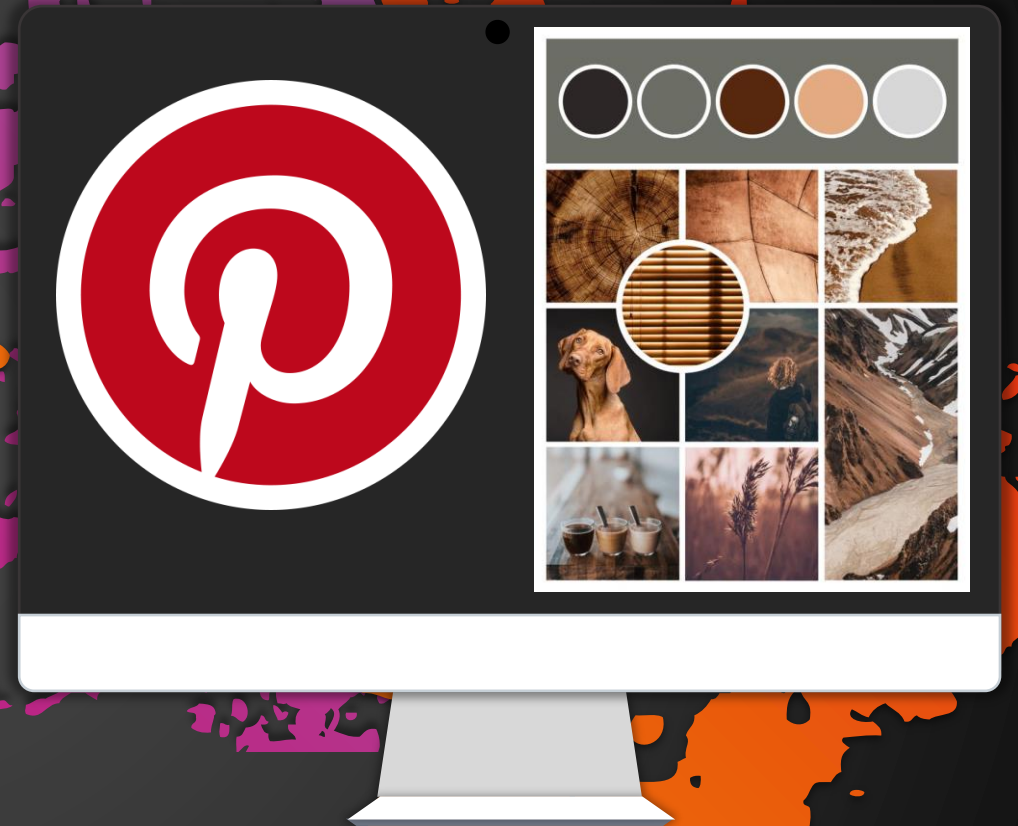
Discussion

- What did you learn?
- How does this apply to lighting theatre productions?
- What colors do you like to work with?
- How can we approach every piece with this much thought?



HOMWORK

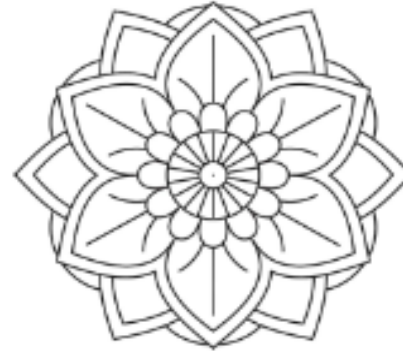
1. “Working With Color” worksheet – Yes, you get to color for homework! Color the worksheet with color tones as described.
2. Pinterest Board: Pick a color pallete and find images that “match” that scheme.
3. Create a brief storyline (8-10 sentences) of a potential play of your own creation inspired by your color Pinterest board.



WORKING WITH COLOR WORKSHEET

WORKING WITH COLOR

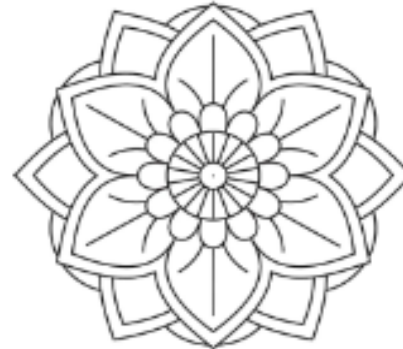
Monochromatic



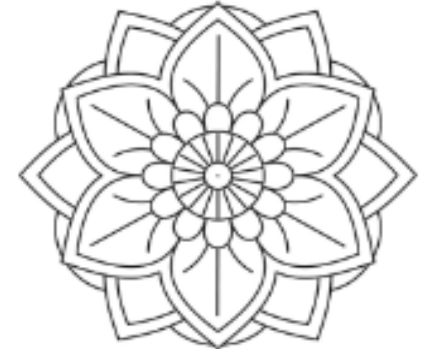
Complementary Colors



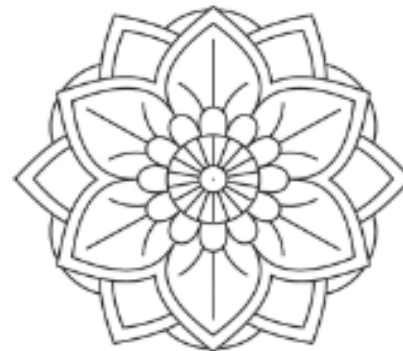
Analogous Colors



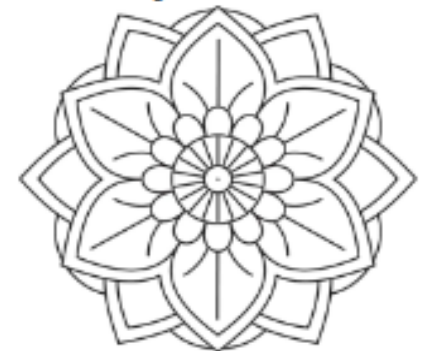
Warm Tones



Cool Tones



No Rhyme or Reason



CLOSING



Discussion

- How does this short clip reveal how design elements of theatre interact?
- What is the mood?
- What is your dream show to design?
- After today, how will you approach light and color moving forward?
- Feel free to write any other thoughts or inspirations from today in your journal.



Thank you!



Credits.

Presentation Template: [SlidesMania](#)

Images: [Unsplash](#)

Instant Challenge Inspired by: https://www.caldi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/practice_set_c_final.pdf, Destination Imagination

YouTube Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvgCkHrcj90>