

## Building a Class Composite

1. Create a new document to image size at 300 ppi.
2. Scan any logos and save as tif file
3. Copy and paste the logo file into your new document and size (Ctrl-T) as needed.
4. Type in name of organization (school name, years etc) and size and position (use school colors if possible).
5. Create a new blank layer.
6. Using the rectangular marquee tool draw a small rectangle to represent the first image.
7. Fill (edit fill) this rectangle with 50% gray.
8. Duplicate this layer (Ctrl-J) and move the new box beside the old one.
9. Repeat this process until you have created enough boxes.
10. Arrange these boxes. Use your guides to help line them up.
11. Link all of the “boxes” layers and merge them (layer/merged linked).
12. Add a stroke or drop shadow to the new “boxes” layer if you wish.
13. Open first student image (most composites are in alphabetical order last names first)
14. Select all (Ctrl-A), edit copy (Ctrl-C). Close this document.
15. Highlight the “boxes” layer in your composite (right-click on a box and choose the layer).
16. Select the magic wand tool (W) and click on the first box.
17. (Ctrl-Shift-V) to paste your first image into the box.
18. Press Ctrl-T, use a corner of the bounding box to resize the image as needed. Be sure to hold the shift key while resizing in order to maintain your ratio.
19. Open your next image and repeat steps 14-17, but select the next box in line.
20. Press Ctrl-Shift T to transform the size of the image the same as the last one.
21. Repeat these steps until all of the boxes are filled. Save frequently, you don't want to have to do this all over if you have a power outage.
22. Create a new guide below the first row of photos.
23. Press “T” for the text tool and type in the first student's name. (use an easy to read font such as times new roman)
24. Repeat until all names are typed (use the guides to line up the names properly).
25. Before flattening layers, save a layered version to cd to use as a template for future composites.

### Addition Ideas:

1. Use a script font for the school name or perhaps “Bliss” for an old English script look.
2. Use a gradient of the school colors on the background layer.
3. Incorporate a photo background (Flag for ROTC, Sheet music for Band) etc. (Be sure use the image on a layer just above the background so that you can drop the opacity of the layer and create a “ghosted” or faint look as not to interfere with your text).