



200 Projects to Strengthen Your Art Skills: For Aspiring Art Students (Aspire Series)

By Valerie Colston

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Creating shapes and relating them to other elements of composition
More than 200 color illustrations demonstrate art principles and practical
techniques, and show students how to apply what they are learning in a wide
range of media.

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Editorial Review From School Library Journal

Adult/High School—This fascinating book will appeal to serious students of art, casual hobbyists, and anyone curious about the how and why behind a variety of artistic techniques. Written with art students in mind, it includes a section on putting together a portfolio and examples of art-school applicants' sketchbooks and portfolios. The text takes a do-it-yourself approach to learning a full complement of basic and intermediate techniques. Colston gathers examples and prescribes an assortment of observation exercises and projects that explore such concepts as shadow, distortion, mood, and collage. Each mini lesson stands on its own, so readers can choose from projects that catch their interest. Instructions are clear and brief, and concepts are grouped around the themes of line, color, texture, and form. The author covers an assortment of media, but most of the techniques and exercises focus on drawing and painting. Readers looking for in-depth explanations of particular techniques won't find step-by-step guidelines in exhaustive detail, but Colston does a good job of providing an overview of the fundamentals and introducing a wide range of techniques. The dynamic layout is filled to the brim with illustrations, and the project ideas will stimulate creativity and encourage experimentation.—*Heidi Dolamore, San Mateo County Library, CA*

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Review "beautifully and profusely illustrated" It teaches serious beginners the fundamental skills of graphic design as an introduction to their formal study in fine art, illustration, computer game design, animation, and virtually all other avenues in the visual arts."

—*The Education Digest*, November 01, 2008

"This fascinating book will appeal to serious students of art, casual hobbyists, and anyone curious about the how and why behind a variety of artistic techniques. Written with art students in mind" The dynamic layout is filled to the brim with illustrations, and the project ideas will stimulate creativity and encourage experimentation."

—*Heidi Dolamore, School Library Journal*, February 2009

From the Inside Flap
(back cover)

Discover the artist within and unleash your creative abilities with this inspirational course in the visual arts. Explore the rich tradition of artistic conventions, increase your technical skills, and immerse yourself in a world of color, shape, and form.

Packed with challenging tutorials, practical projects, and tips from professional artists, this book helps you discover different approaches to art and learn how to develop your own style.

Experiment with a range of themes, styles, and media—from delicate watercolor sketches and Chinese brush-painting motifs to dynamic digital manga and bold geometric designs.

Understand the fundamental artistic principles and practical techniques; learn how to work with pencils, paint, and pixels; find out how to use color and create special effects.

Valerie Colston has taught art history and art studies to both adults and children at venues ranging from community colleges to military bases. She created a renowned art resource Web site for parents, teachers, and students, and has taught art history, humanities, and graphic design courses online at several schools across the United States. She has also written curricula, art reviews, and articles for numerous publications.

Users Review**From reader reviews:**

Emma Latshaw:The e-book with title 200 Projects to Strengthen Your Art Skills: For Aspiring Art Students (Aspire Series) contains a lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. This specific book exist new know-how the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world currently. That is important to yo7u to understand how the improvement of the world. This kind of book will bring you within new era of the globalization. You can read the e-book on your own smart phone, so you can read the item anywhere you want.

Tammy Lugo:Is it anyone who having spare time subsequently spend it whole day by simply watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This 200 Projects to Strengthen Your Art Skills: For Aspiring Art Students (Aspire Series) can be the response, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are consequently out of date, spending your time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a geek activity. So what these textbooks have than the others?

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