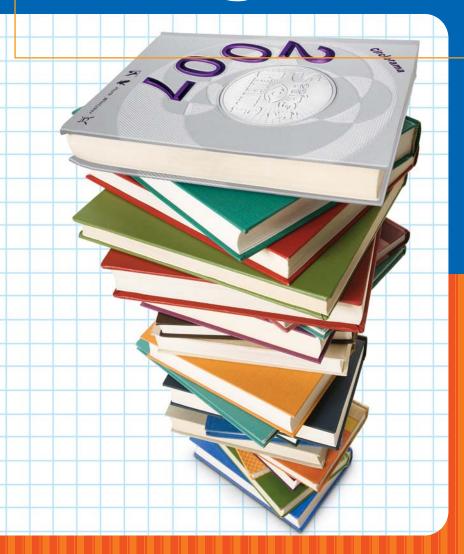
# Yearbook

# Design Trends





# Is this an experience everyone can relate to?

Fads come and go; trends stand the test of time. Great design that focuses on the reader's wants and needs will last the test of time. Incorporating fad-driven design choices can sometimes prematurely date your project.

# The designer's challenge is simple:

#### **Give context**

It is the designer's job to take the information collected and present it to the reader. Consider the concept, the tone and the mood being set.

#### **Inspire readers**

By carefully packaging the information a reader will be driven to dive into the details of the content. This step creates the visual components of the project.

#### **Create a vision**

Visual appeal is the hook that catches readers and ties the entire project together. Pulling it all together in one awesome piece is the creation aspect.



1996 Arrow, Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, OK

# Many of us look to prior yearbooks for creative direction

# Don't let someone else create your creative point of view.

The best designs are a perfect blending of your concept, design tools, creative ideas, content quality and most importantly the benefit to the audience.

Begin any project with a brainstorming session to determine who the audience is, what they want and need, and how to best relate your material to the reader.

Carefully plan your ladder so that it logically flows from spread to spread—taking into consideration deadlines and printing needs.

Set to know the audience at my school.

# **Reader traits**

fast readers

visually driven

trendy

high tech

not stuck on tradition

# **Students at Central High**





Old way — same quote/transition story with 6–7 photos



New way—many entry points for reader with variety of visuals, many photos and relevant interactive information

A designer has to understand what type of content is going to be used before a good design can begin.

Brainstorm the content for your spread by focusing on the people involved and what it is they do. Once you have exhausted your own frame of reference, you can get more detail through one-on-one interviewing and information gathering.

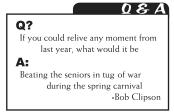
# **Story assignment: Vacations**

Who's involved What do they do? How will it look? too broke quotes-story students who don't go anywhere work too much <--- timelines-listing go to pool <-photos summer school < photos-quotes long trips — quotes-timeline family reunions quotes traveling with family camping — photos-listing the last family trip — photos-quotes camps - listing out of country - photos-survey traveling with friends dorm living quotes mission trips - timeline

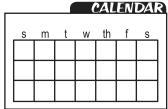
## Visual solutions

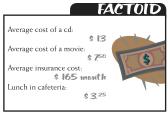
Today's readers rely on a variety of verbal and visual packaging solutions. Evaluate your content and determine what format should be used in order to present the information most accurately.

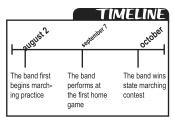


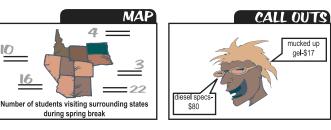




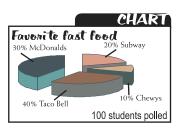




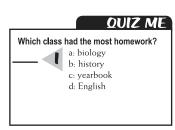














FAST FACTS
The marching band participated in the 'Food for Friends' project
■ Each band member donated \$10
■ Each band member worked 6 hours
■ The project helped 16 families
■ Sarah Smith volunteered 13 hours



# **Primary**

Use one time on the spread to directly tie the content of the photos to a verbal content module.

# **Tone and mood**

Creative graphics and visuals can help establish the tone and mood of your project as well as help the reader quickly move through the content.

Color can both help and hinder a reader trying to navigate the content of a spread. The color should always compliment the content of the spread. Color photos should be the first elements noticed on a page.

# Color 101

Process color, also called full-color or 4-color, is created by using 4 colors on the printing press (cyan, magenta, yellow and black). This varies from what you see on your computer screen which represents colors in RGB (red, green and blue). Spot color is a single color, sometimes Pantone, used on a black and white page.

A great trend in graphic design involves using analogous colors in design.

Analogous colors are those that sit



right next to
each other on
the color wheel.
Try this—
determine what
the dominant color
is in the photos
and use
analogous colors

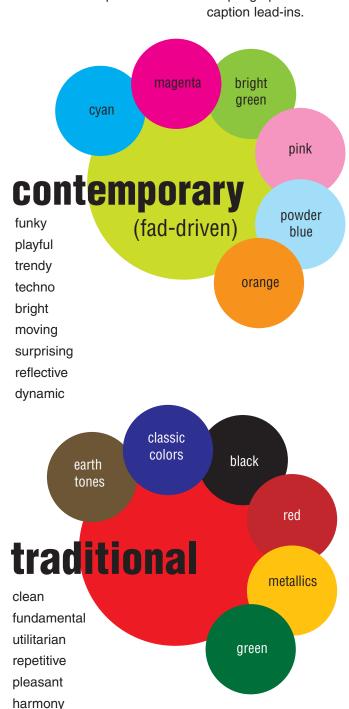
to accent the spread. Complimentary colors often create a clash that makes it tough for readers to quickly move through content.

# **Secondary**

Choose an analogous color to repeat 2-4 times on the spread.

# Accent

Use the color as an accent in simple graphics like lines and caption lead-ins.



symmetry

static

reliable

# **Choosing the right font**

Choosing the right typeface is important. Recently designers have moved toward humanist or handwritten fonts in their designs. These fonts add a sense of personality to designs. Another trend in graphic design is the use of one font family throughout a project. By choosing one type family, a designer can create a consistent look throughout the publication. Consider choosing a base font and an accent font. Many designers are using sans serif fonts in their designs.

## which Q r u?

Q

Q

Q

Q

Q

Times

AYT Olive Oil

**AYT Action** 

AYT Chelsea

Stencil

**serif** Times

Туре

\_\_\_

sans serif Helvetica

script

Type

Type

Type Family-light condensed
Type Family-light

Type Family-medium

Type Family-bold *Type Family-bold italic* 

Type Family-bold condensed

Type Family-heavy

Type Family-black

AYT Calypso Script

ornamental webdings



humanist

AYT Sleepwalker

Type

type mixing

graphic.

details

Helvetica Bold

AYT Calypso Script

Helvetica Light Condensed

## **Photo trends**

Hot visual trends in design revolve around photography.

# **Try this:**



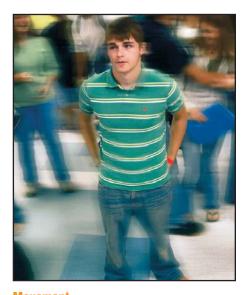
Extreme Crop
Enlarge a photo to highlight or
emphasize an area of the photo
creating emotion.



Color Mixing
For visual appeal use Adobe®
Photoshop to create a photo that
uses both color and black and white.



**Duotones**Create a unique look by adding a single color to a black and white photo.



Movement

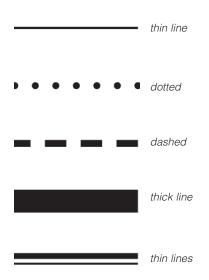
Slow the shutter on a camera or use Photoshop effects to create movement.



The transparency effect works well for including verbal content with a photo.

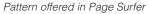
# **Supporting graphics**

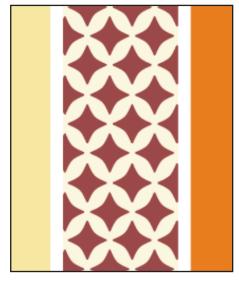
In addition to type, color and photos, supporting graphics include:



#### Lines

Variety of line sizes and styles. A hot fad in design uses thin lines.





#### Screens

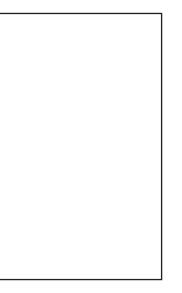
Patterns and screens are often used for the background in a content module.

Background found in Page Surfer Color Mods



#### **Backgrounds**

Some designers choose a pattern for the entire background of their page. A trend in design is to use a photo as a background and adjust its transparency so that it is "ghosted" in the background.



## **White space**

More designers are relying on white space to direct a reader around the spread.



thin lines

simple patterns

white as dominant color



dotted or dashed lines

complex pattern backgrounds

black page backgrounds



random lines placed on the spread

backgrounds with no visual link to content

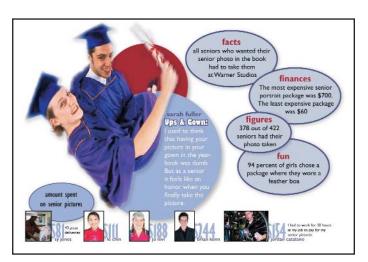
using many colors on the spread

# **Building a better spread**

Consider starting with a pre-designed layout, then redesign each area piece-by-piece based on your brainstorming of the spread content.



A basic spread shows 5-7 photographs and a basic copy block consisting of a quote/transition story.



Two single photos move into the photo collection which frees up room for a survey and 6 more photo opportunities



The dominant photo becomes a dominant collection providing for more photo coverage opportunities.



The redesigned spread has many entry points and contains 14 photos.

# **Building a better spread**

The term modular design relates to the different content areas on the page. Content areas include photos, text and graphics. By working with one module at a time, a designer can focus on relating relevant content. Consider each module its own mini-layout.



A calendar is used to collect content. For this spread a weekly timeline shows the events of students helping a public service project during their vacation.





Instead of redesigning many modules, a staff might choose to redesign and emphasize the copy module. This design includes a postcard with text.



# **Building a better spread**

Visual repeat theory suggests that a designer should repeat like elements at least 3 times on the spread. Notice how the colors are repeated consistently. The use of the cut out background photo (COB) adds to the design. By redesigning each content area, the designers have now included 18 photos on the spread as well as maintaining the traditional copy module.

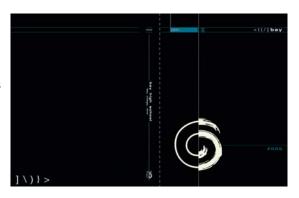
Many designers might include a drop cap letter. This spread highlights a drop word to lead in to the copy block.



## Bay High School, Bay Village, OH

Typographic icons such as punctuation marks have been popular for the last few years. Bay High School incorporates these graphics throughout the book.

The contrast created between clean and fringe graphics and fonts works to relate the theme of "Plan B."



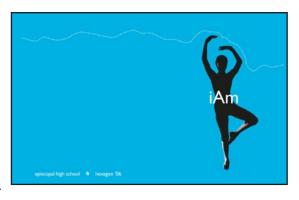




## **Episcopal High School, Bellaire, TX**

Students at Episcopal High School maximized the iPod fad by mimicking and personalizing the look of the commercials.

Using fad-driven colors cyan and magenta, the staff creates a cohesive theme look. The silhouette photos can be found in many advertisements in the past year. The bright green is a very fad-driven color.







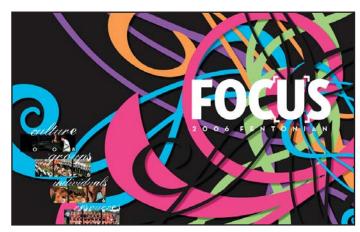
#### Fenton High School, Fenton, MI

Students at Fenton High School were inspired by the Microsoft advertising campaign. Instead of directly copying the look, the students embellished the background and brought in very fad-driven colors including cyan, magenta, orange, lime green and purple.

The staff chose a clean sans serif typeface that is easy to read on top of the busy graphics.

The type mixing effect creates incredible contrast. The black background adds to the impact of the color photos. Using 80% black on the black background creates subtle design effects.

The mix of color and black and white photos creates incredible design impact.







## Maize South Middle School, Wichita, KS

The students at Maize South Middle School use white space to effectively separate elements. The type mixing creates a great verbal/visual connection. The color red is used in multiple places to connect elements and draw the reader's interest.

Student designers repeat color accents throughout pages to link content areas. The use of quick reads such as surveys and polls are easy for readers.





#### Father Ryan High School, Nashville, TN

Father Ryan High School students broke tradition and created a chronological yearbook. The students used the school's calendar to set up their yearbook ladder and deadlines. Chronological coverage is great for deadline planning.

By keeping the color simple and using a gold color, the September spread remains readable. Throughout each spread and each section, the students used a timeline as a sidebar. The students realized there were thousands of coverage opportunities by focusing on what happened each day in their school.

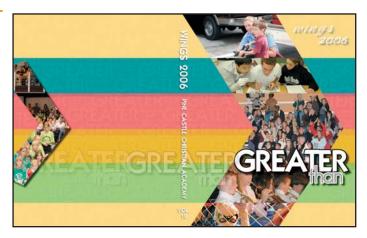




#### Pine Castle Christian Academy, Orlando, FL

Students at Pine Castle Christian
Academy found that the theme "Greater than" worked well with the visual element. The colors that are on the cover repeat throughout the book. The use of photos on the cover adds to the visual appeal. Using transparency, the theme is repeated across the cover.

The theme repeats verbally with sections like Bolder than, Closer than, Tougher than and Deeper than. The contrast between the typefaces adds to the visual appeal. The divider pages echo the graphics and color scheme created on the cover and endsheets.







## San Clemente High School, San Clemente, CA

San Clemente High School students focused on the location of their school, right on the San Diego and Orange County border, to create a theme of "On the Edge."

The dividers sample color out of the dominant photo and take the type off the baseline to create a sense of movement. A rail of white space opens the photo bar from the rest of the content.

Oversized numbers are used throughout the pages to develop the content.

