

Playing with Blending modes

Now we're going to play. But this play may (probably will) produce something really cool that we will want to use in a yearbook. Especially as a really cool headline treatment.



Directions for creating a type knockout using blending modes.

- 1) Open a photo that could be a background to a headline.
- 2) Add a Black and White Adjustment layer to the photo by clicking the Adjustment Layer icon at the bottom of the Layers palette and choosing Black and White. Play with the settings until you get the look you want. (Figure A)
- 3) Select the text tool (type a T) and type a word or two. In my case I chose a photo of students on stage during a Shakespearean festival so I typed Shakespeare as my title. Choose a bold or black face. If only one word, I like to use all caps.
- 4) Adjust the size and position of the type to fit the photo.
- 5) Double click the type layer in the Layers palette to open the Layer Styles for that layer. Select Blending Modes. (Figure B)
- 6) Under Advanced Blending Modes in the dialog box, choose knockout and pick shallow instead of none.
- 7) Then slide the Fill Opacity down until you get back color in the letters that you like.
- 8) Then start playing by adding other Layer Styles along the right hand side. My finished dominant photo/headline treatment for the Spring Drama production includes Drop Shadow, Outer Glow and Bevel & Emboss but you can play around to make it look any way you like.

