CREATING BUBBLE LETTERS

✽ On a 9" x 12" piece of white sulphite paper write your name large with pencil. Write lightly so that you can easily erase your lines later. When you are happy with how your name looks, the next step will be to take your regular letters and turn them into thick, puffy **BUBBLE LETTERS**.

✽ Make your letters thick by creating an outline around your letter. I used to tell my students that it is like your letter is trying to get away and you have to fence it in, but not touch it.

✽ **HERE'S HOW**: Start with your very first letter. Draw around the letter without touching it to make it thick and puffy. Remember to draw lightly so that you can erase and change anything easily.

✽ As you make bubble letters with your name, the letters should touch each other. When they touch each other they will **OVERLAP**. The first letter will be "on top" and each letter after it will be behind the previous letter.

✽ Your second letter will bump into your first letter, so when your bubble letter outline touches your first bubble letter outline, skip over the outline and continue the letter where it would reappear.

✽ Erase all of your inside lines with an eraser.

COLORING A GRADIENT

✱ The next step is adding color to your name. I chose to use neon oil pastels to make my name bright and bold, but crayons or regular oil pastels would work, too. Just choose the brightest colors you can from what you have.

✱ Graffiti artists often use spray paint to paint their art and frequently they paint a **GRADIENT** of color. Filling in an area using lines of multiple colors that **BLEND** between colors creates a gradient.

✱ Choose three oil pastels to use in your gradient.

✱ Use your first color to fill in the top third of your letters.

✱ Fill in the middle of your letters with the second color. Use your second color to lightly blend over the bottom of your first color. This creates a smooth transition between the colors.

✱ Color the bottom of your letters with the third color and blend up into the previous color.

✱ With a small round paintbrush and thinned black tempera paint, outline your letters. If you have center areas, such as in a "R" or A", fill them in with black.

✱ Use white tempera paint to add highlights to the tops and bottoms of your letters.