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Collaboratory Workshop
Adobe Photoshop

Make a flyer using masking and blend modes

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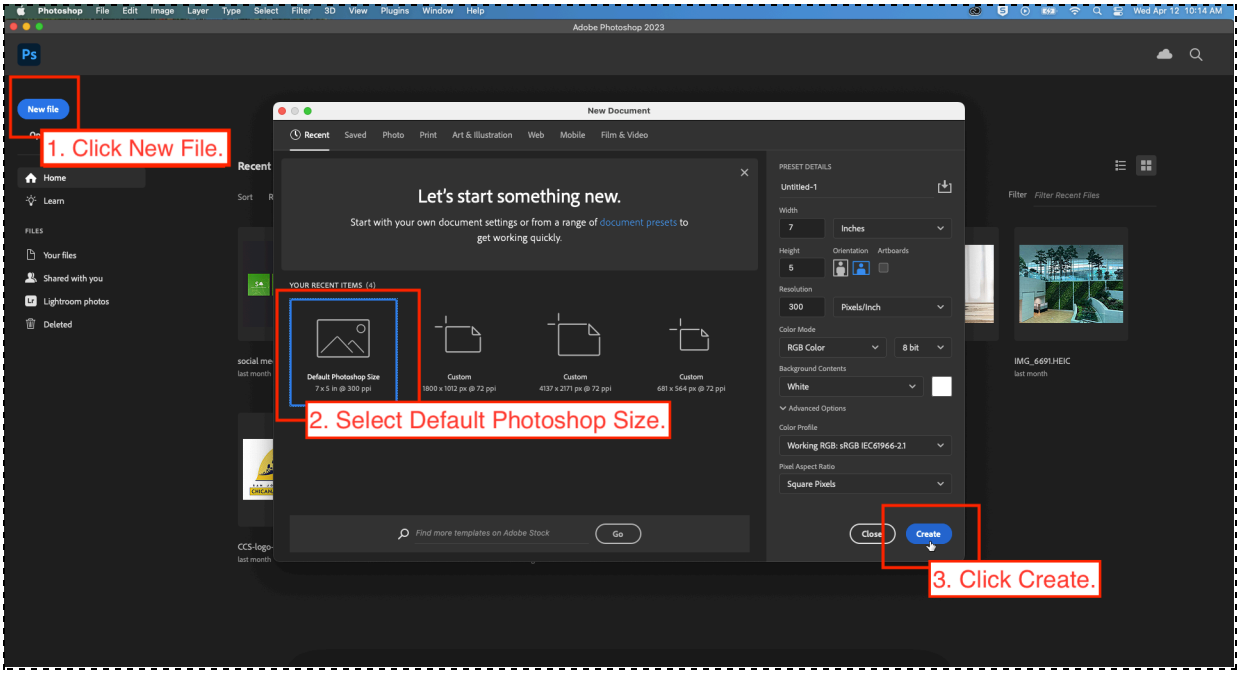
Intro to Adobe Photoshop

1. In this workshop, we will be covering the fundamentals of Photoshop's user interface, including its tools, panels, and layers.
2. In the process of doing so, we will be making a poster using some features unique to Photoshop.

Getting to know the user interface

Creating a new document

1. After launching Photoshop, click the New File button on the top left hand side of the window, then select Default Photoshop Size, and finally click Create to create your new file.

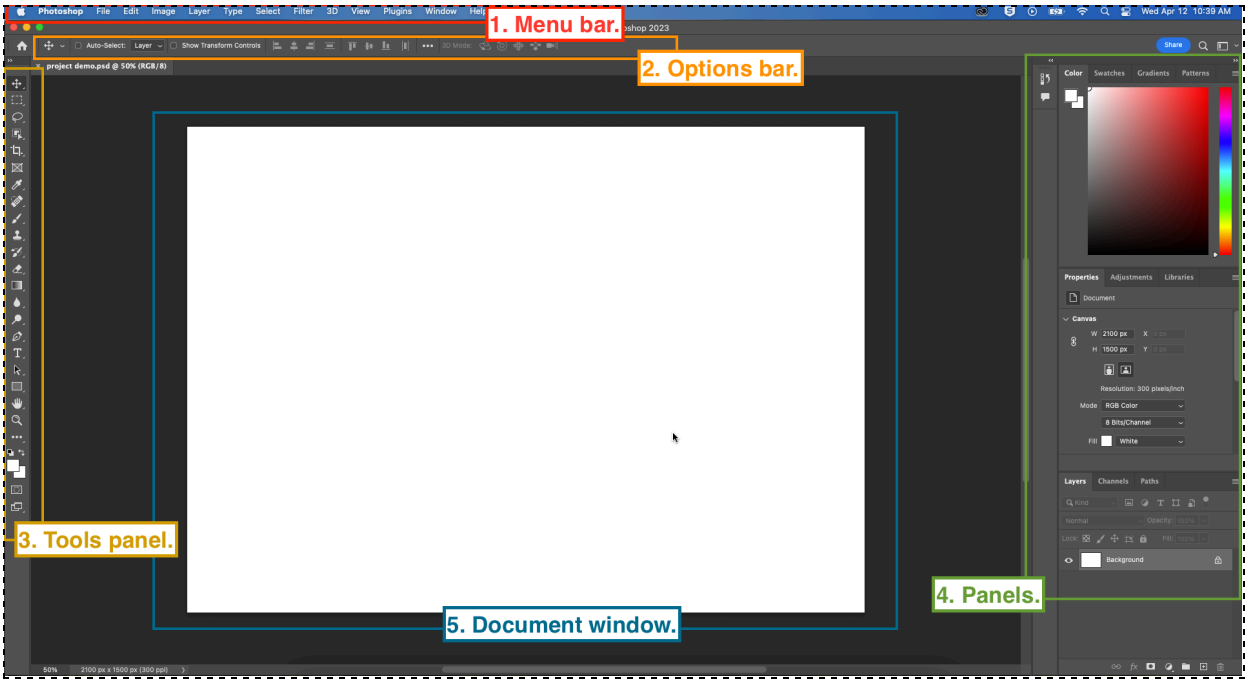


Saving your document

1. After creating your new document, open the File menu and click Save As… to save your new document.

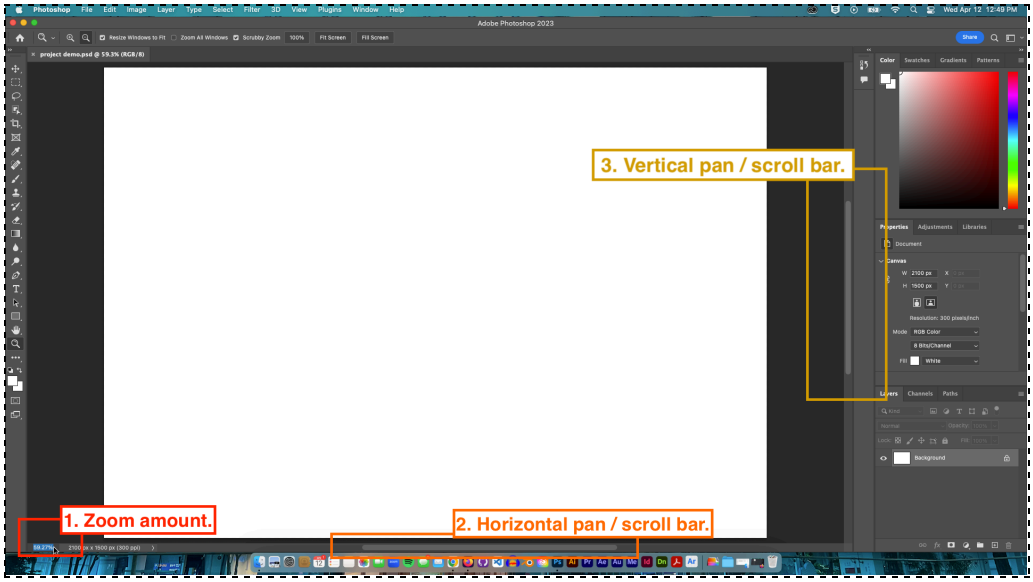
Getting to know the workspace

1. Menu bar (at the very top) shows File, Edit, Image, and other commands, adjustments, and panels.
2. Options bar (underneath the menu bar) displays options for the tool you are currently working with.
3. Tools panel (on the left) contains tools for editing images and creating artwork.
4. Panels (on the right) include Color, Layers, Properties, and other panels that contain a variety of controls for working with images.
5. Document window (in the middle) displays the file you're currently working on.



Zooming and panning

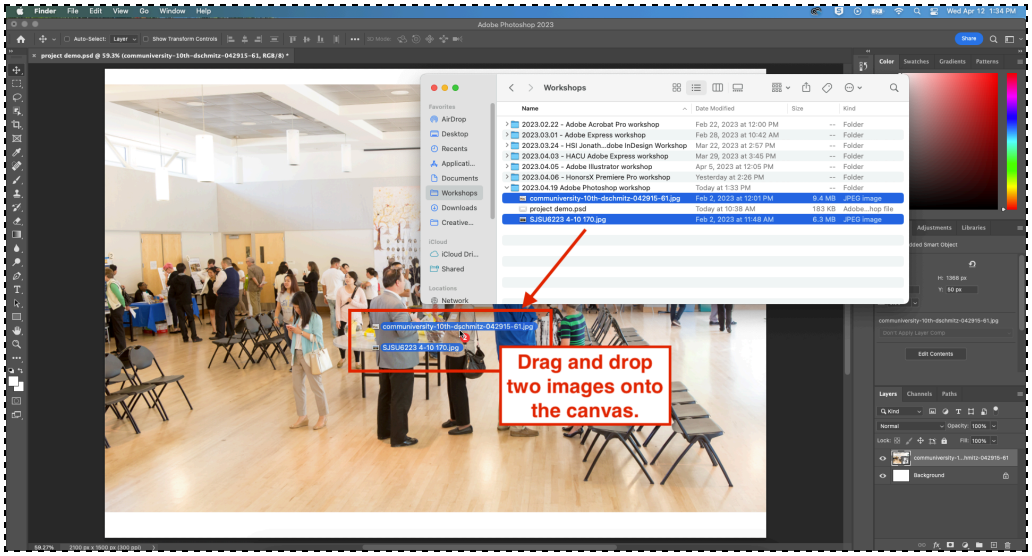
1. Zoom amount & zoom in and out of your document window by changing the zoom amount in the bottom left hand corner. You can use the Zoom tool [Z].
2. Horizontal pan left to right using the horizontal scroll bar found at the bottom of your workspace. You can use the Hand tool [H].
3. Vertical pan up and down using the vertical scroll bar found to the right of your workspace. You can also use the Hand tool [H].



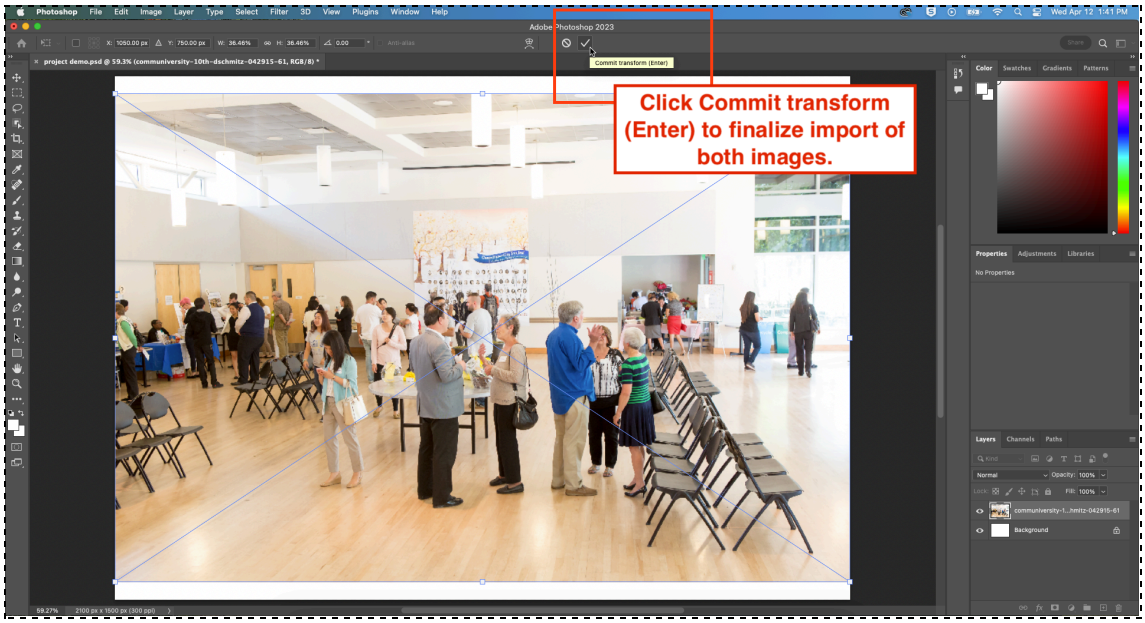
Working with layers

Adding an image to your project

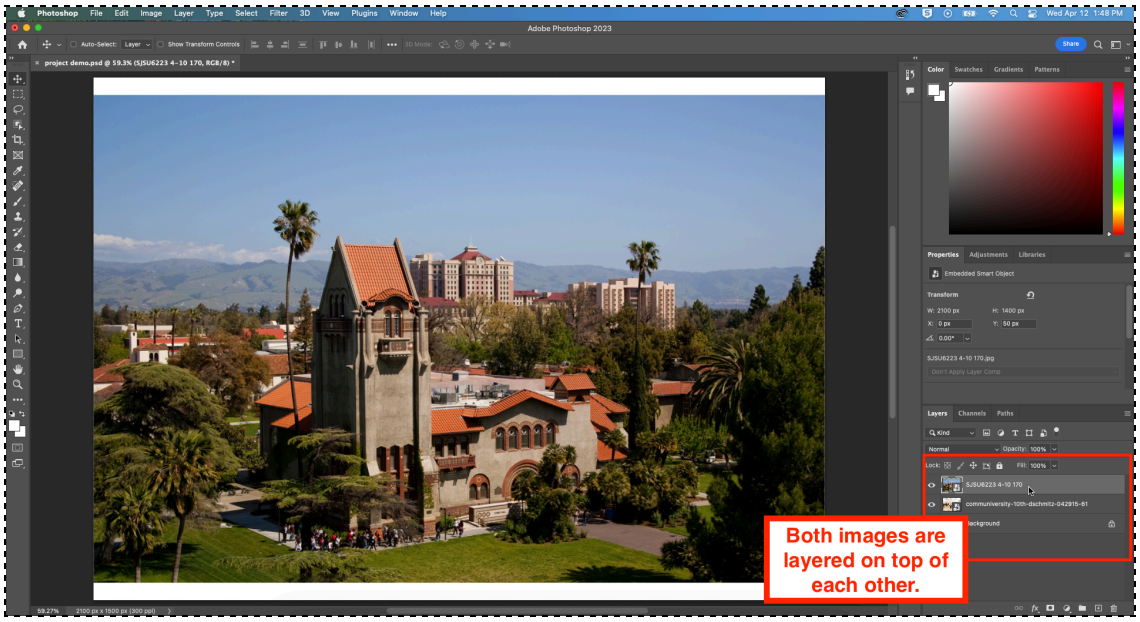
1. Drag and drop two images onto the canvas.



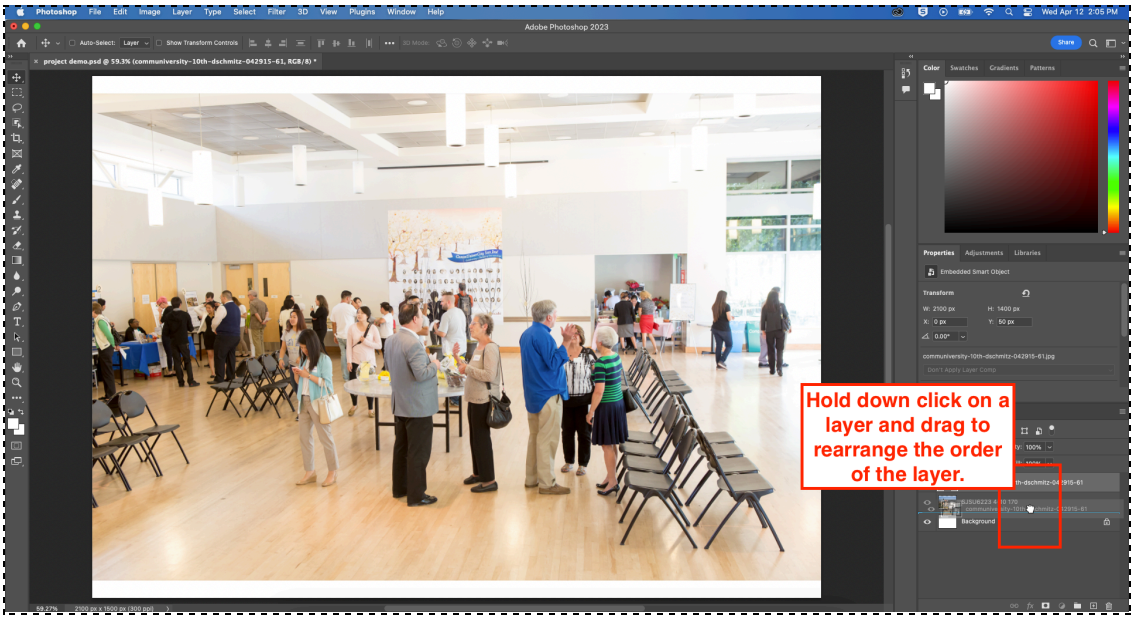
2. Click Commit transform (Enter) to finalize the dimensions on the imported images on the options bar. You can press [Enter] on your keyboard as well. Do so for the second image as well.



3. Both images are layered on top of each other.

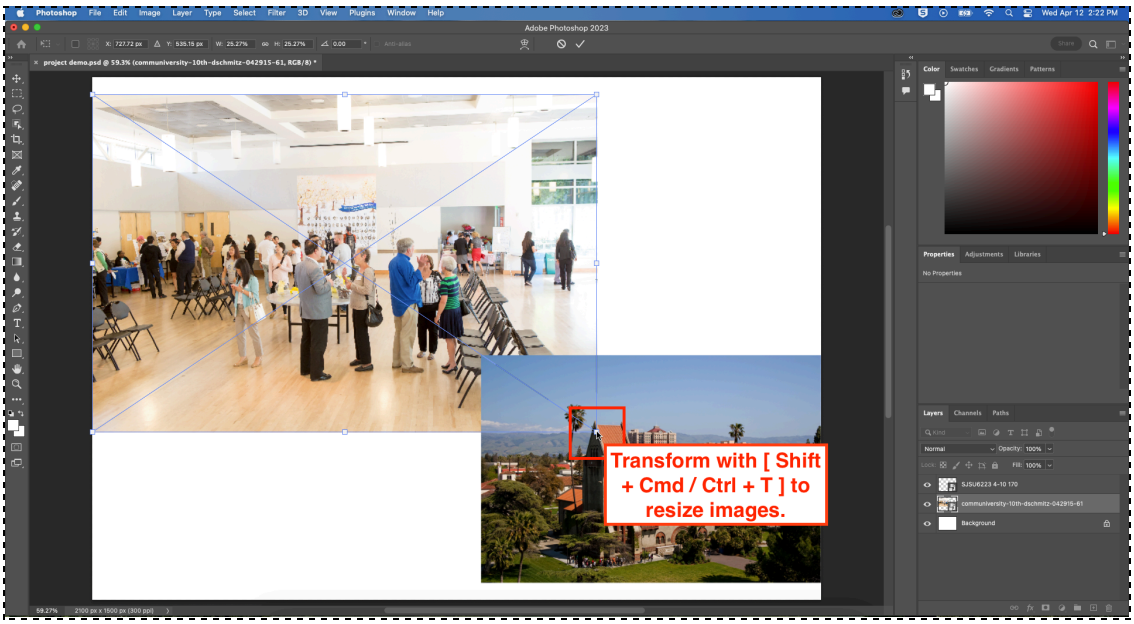


4. Layers can be arranged forward and backward by holding down click on the layer, and dragging it above, or underneath a different layer - then releasing click when a light blue line appears to indicate the layers new position.

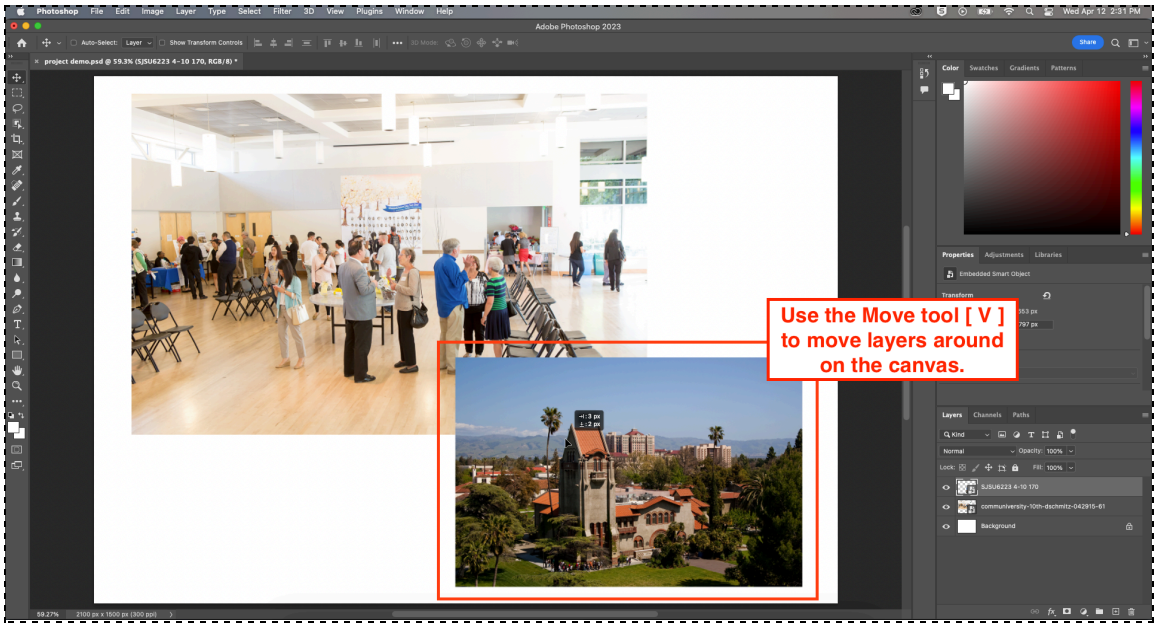


Resizing images and layers

1. Select the layer to resize inside the layers panel and Transform [Shift + Cmd / Ctrl + T] to resize the image using the blue handles. Commit transform (Enter) in the Options menu or press [Enter].

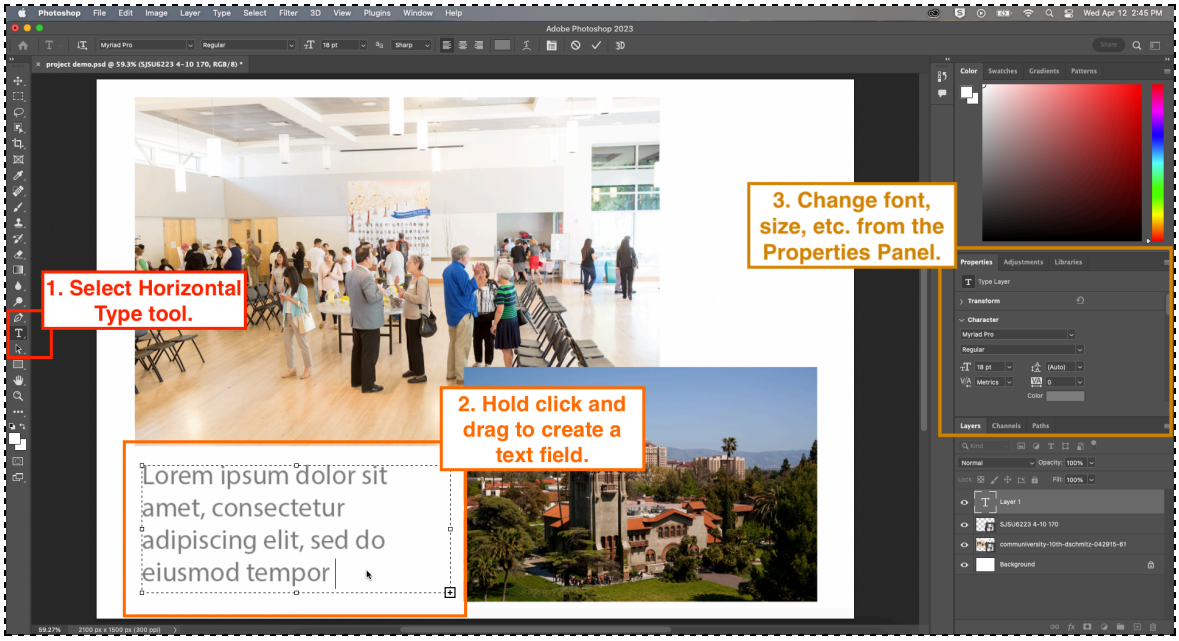


2. Select the layer to move inside the layers panel and use the Move tool [V] and move the layers around on the canvas.



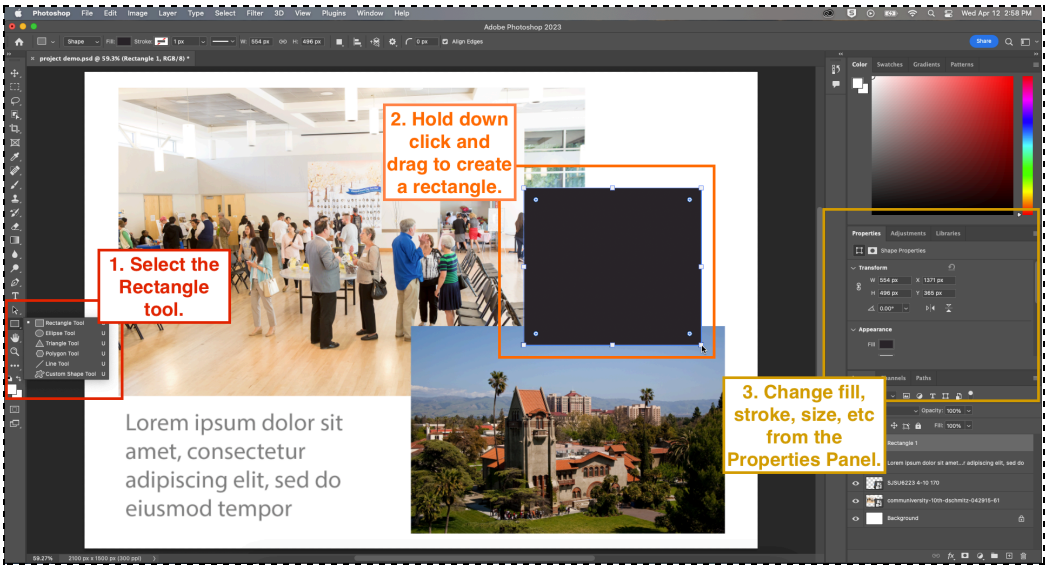
Adding and editing text.

1. Select the Horizontal Type tool from the Tools panel.
2. Hold down click and drag across an area to create a text field and layer.
3. Text properties can be found on the right side Properties Panel.



Adding and editing shapes.

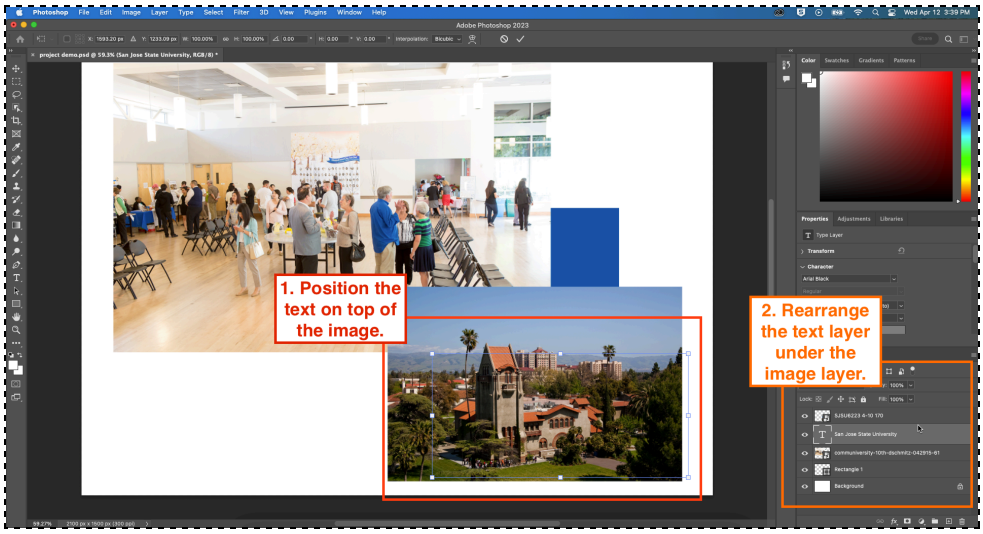
1. Select the Rectangle tool from the Tools panel. Hold down click on the tool to reveal nested tools.
2. Hold down click and drag across an area to create a rectangle and layer.
3. Change properties like fill, stroke, size, etc… on the right side Properties panel.



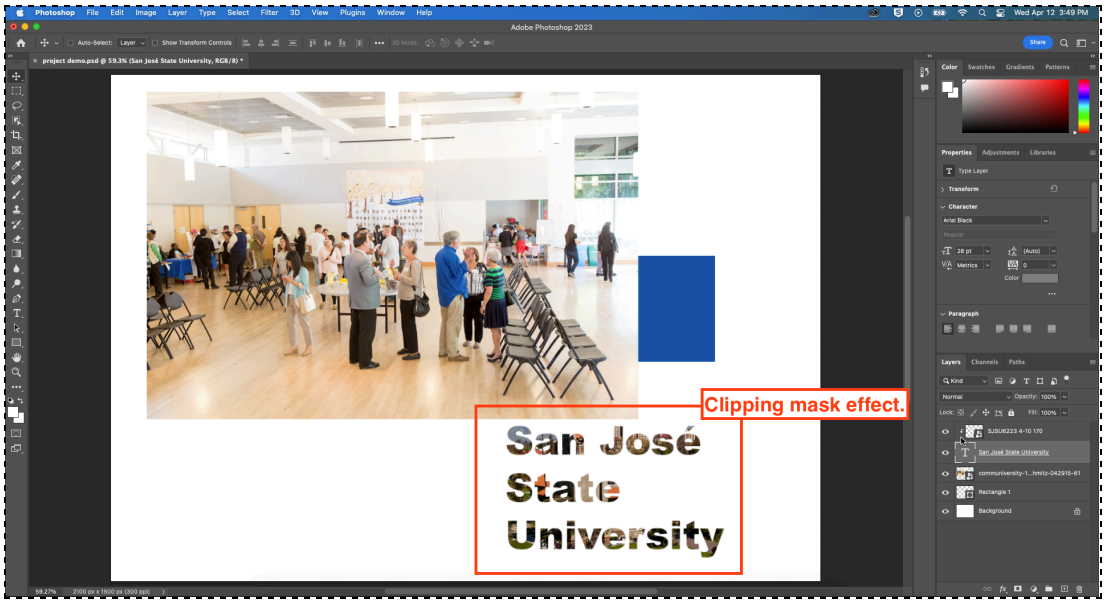
Masking and Blend Modes

Clipping masks

1. Clipping Masking involves a front layer and rear layer. When a front layer is clipping masked onto a rear layer, the front layer will be masked by the rear layer. Position the text above the image of Tower Hall.
2. Then move the text layer under the image layer of Tower Hall.

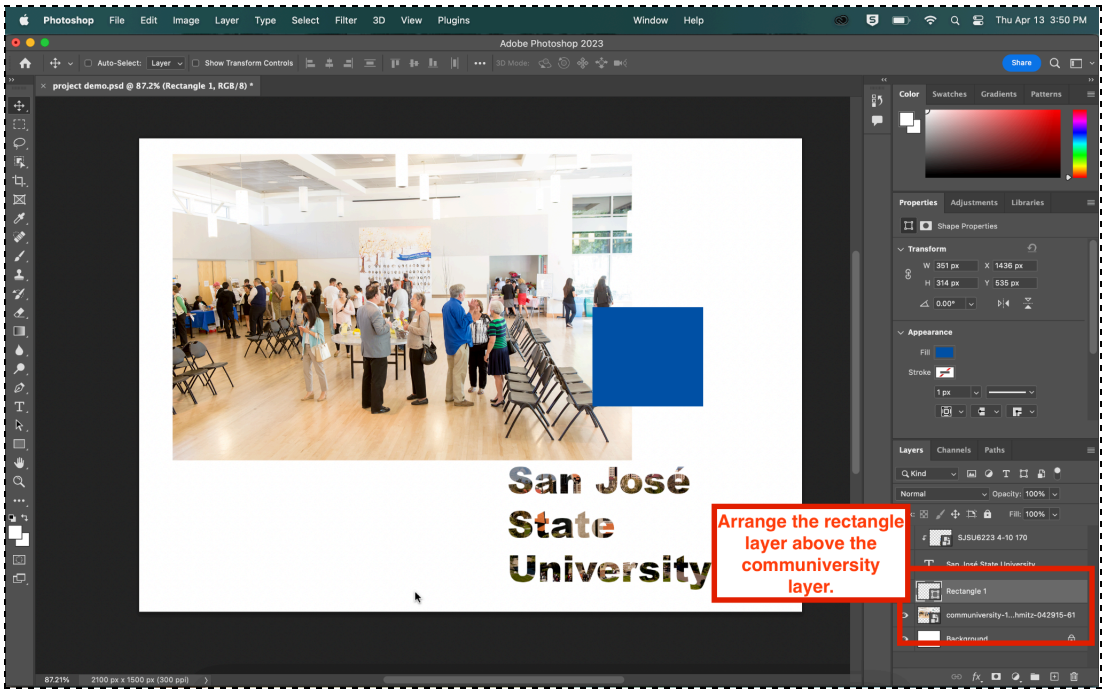


3. Right click the image layer of Tower hall and select Clipping Mask to reveal the text below.

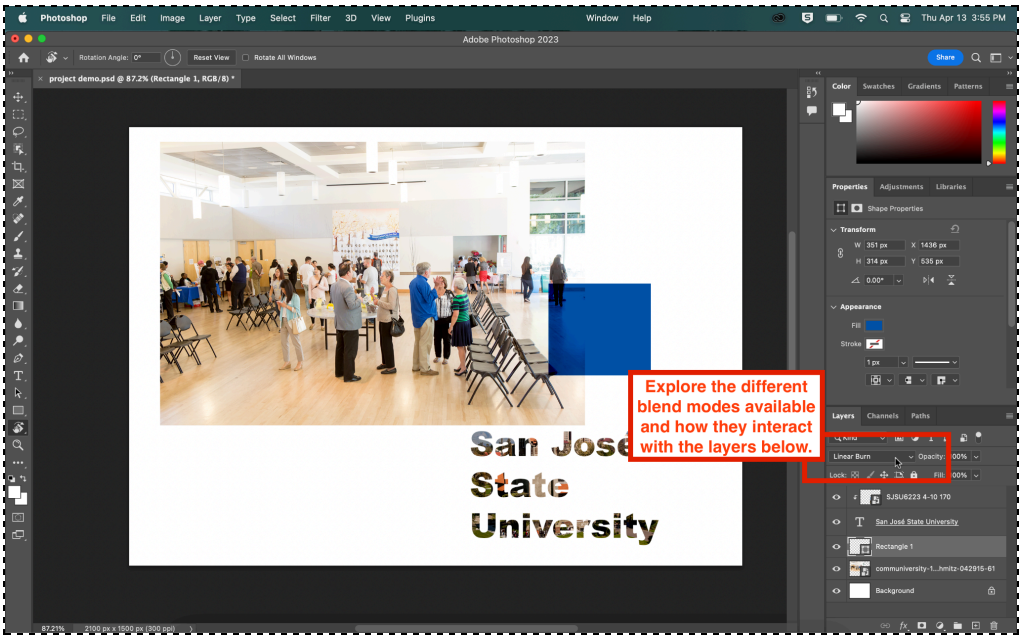


Blending modes

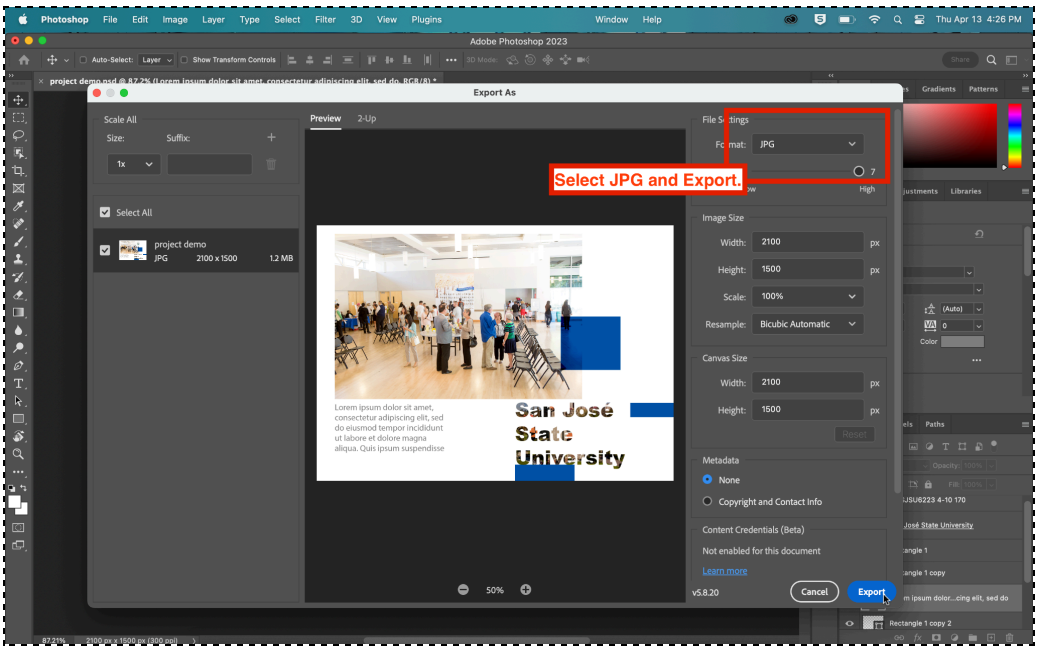
1. Blending modes allow a layer to interact with layers beneath, similar to adding a filter in applications like Instagram or a smartphone image editing mode.
2. To start, take the blue rectangle layer and arrange the layer ahead of the conference layer in the layers panel.



3. Explore the different blend modes available from the layers panel drop down menu. Linear burn gives the image a dark blue filter.



Exporting your project

Exporting as JPEG

1. To export your work as a JPEG, open the File, Export, Export As…
2. Select the format JPG and export.