



A dark, textured brick wall background, likely made of old, weathered bricks. The bricks are arranged in a traditional running bond pattern. The lighting is low, creating deep shadows and highlighting the rough, uneven surfaces of the bricks and mortar. The overall tone is somber and gritty.

WALLS!







Mr. Taylor

Artists: Mr. Taylor and Mede ,  
2012



# Vandalism vs. Graffiti Art

Taggers scribble



Artists create art

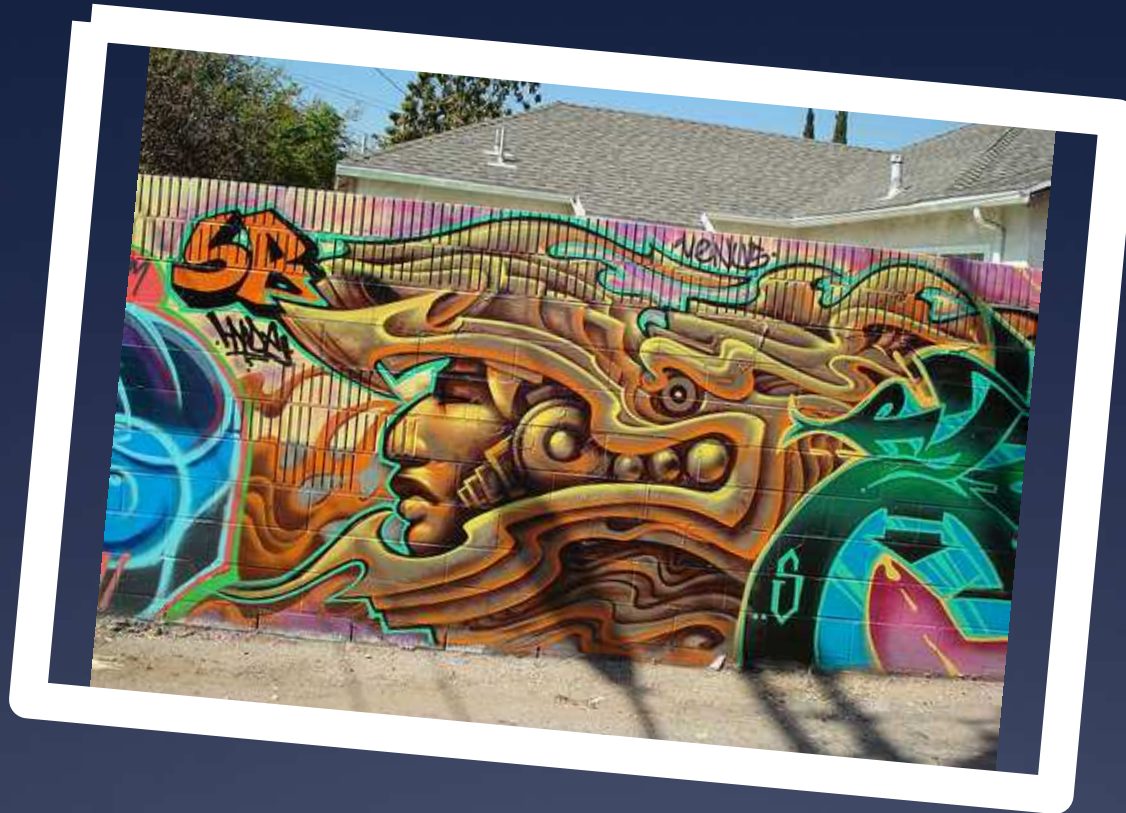




# What is the difference?



- \* **-Graffiti** is word-based and painted and usually painted illegally and is vandalism.
- Graffiti Art** is a form of Street Art where text, image and community meet.



# The Complexity of Graffiti Art

It is not a spontaneous activity like tagging in the form of fancy scribble. The completion of a piece or a production involves a great deal of imagination, planning, and effort.



How old is Graffiti Art?



The Caves of Lascaux, dated to c. 17,000 – c. 15,000 BCE





## Origins of Graffiti Art

Graffiti is not a new concept... It has been found in tombs of the Egyptians and the ruins of Pompeii.



Graffiti also known as Street-Art or Urban-Art has come a long way from the simple cave-paintings of our ancient past, to the amazing diversity of today's



Who are some important  
Graffiti Artists?

**Darryl McCray**, known by his tagging name, "Cornbread", is from Philadelphia and is credited with being the first modern graffiti artist.

During the late 1960s, he and a group of friends started "tagging" Philadelphia, by writing their nicknames on walls across the city. The movement spread to New York City and blossomed into the modern graffiti movement, which reached its peak in the U.S. in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and then spread to Europe.

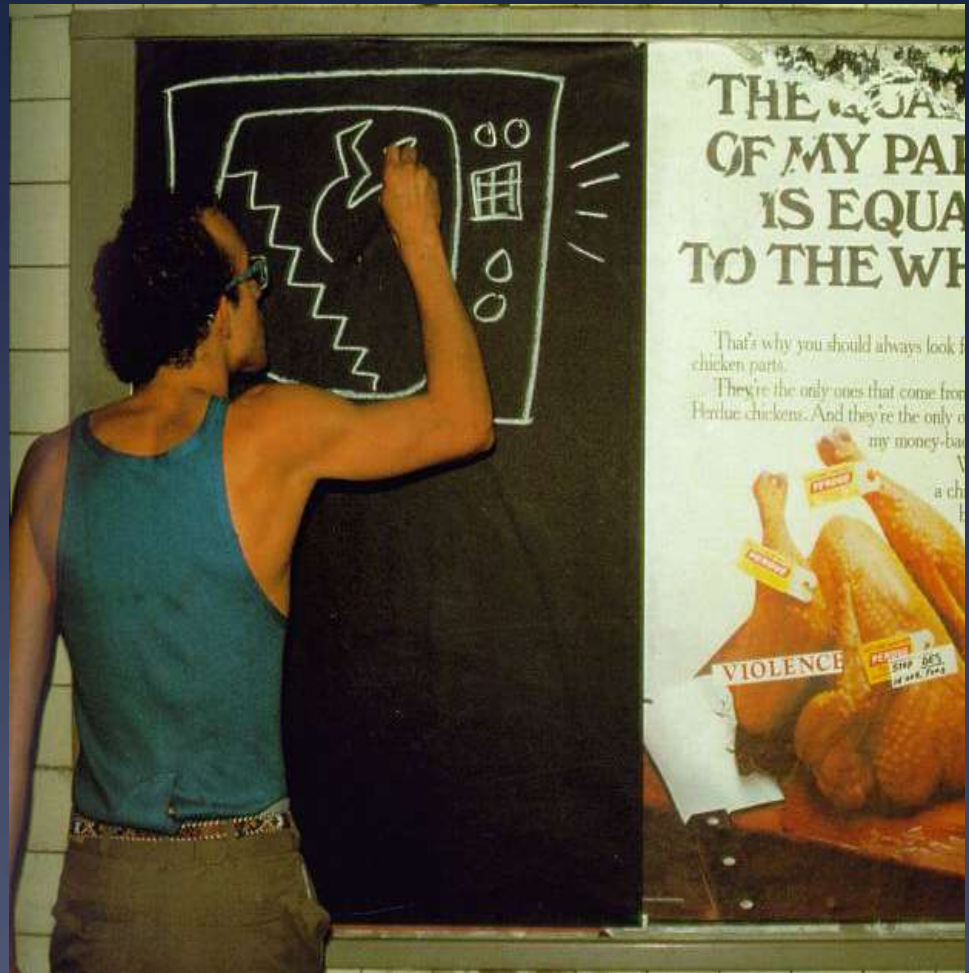




# Keith Haring

Keith Haring was an artist and social activist whose work responded to the New York City street culture of the 1980s. He started making his art in subway stations.

His bold lines, vivid colors, and active figures carry strong messages of life and unity.



Keith Haring  
drawing in subway  
ca. 1981





Keith Haring

Walker Art Center

1986



# JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT

Jean-Michel Basquiat was an American artist. His career in art began as a graffiti artist in New York City in the late 1970s, and in the 1980s.





Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Man from Naples*, 1982. Acrylic and collage on wood, 122 x 244.5 cm. Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. © The Estate of Jean-Michel Basquiat





Jean-Michel Basquiat

*Hollywood Africans*

1983



# JOSE PARLA

Jose Parla was born to Cuban parents in exile in Miami, Florida. He started painting in 1983 at age 10. In 1988 he began painting on city walls using the name "Ease," following the tradition of New York subway art.

His paintings incorporate calligraphy into pictures that resemble distressed city walls.





Jose Parla





Jose Parla



Jose Parla

*Los Angeles, CA*



# Commissioned Work

- \* Today Graffiti artists are now **commissioned** to do work.
- \* Today YOU are one of those artists!
- \* You are hired to make your own GRAFFITI ART WORD to paint on urban wall in downtown Toledo.



Commissioned: when an artist is paid to make a specific purpose



Mr. Taylor

Artists: Mr. Taylor and Mede ,  
2012







# LETTERING TECHNIQUES

Not only are there different types of graffiti; there are also plenty of different lettering styles used by graffiti writers



## Bubble Letters

A lot of graffiti lettering is done with bubble letters. Bubble letters can take many different forms, but basically they are fat rounded letters, with or without a differently-colored outline, usually overlapping each other. They're normally easy to read and don't have too many stylistic flourishes.





## **Block Letters**

Block letters are basically the same as bubble, but without the fat rounded appearance.

Shadow letters are commonly found on throw-ups and in more complicated pieces. They use either block letters or bubble letters and feature a shadow behind each letter, making the lettering appear 3D.



## Wildstyle

It's hard to classify most types of graffiti lettering. The styles develop organically, with only loose foundations. Lettering styles can sometimes be traced back to the person who originally developed them.

*Wildstyle* graffiti is complex and often difficult to read for people who aren't familiar with graffiti lettering. The style has taken off all over the world and has evolved as it's been passed from continent to continent.



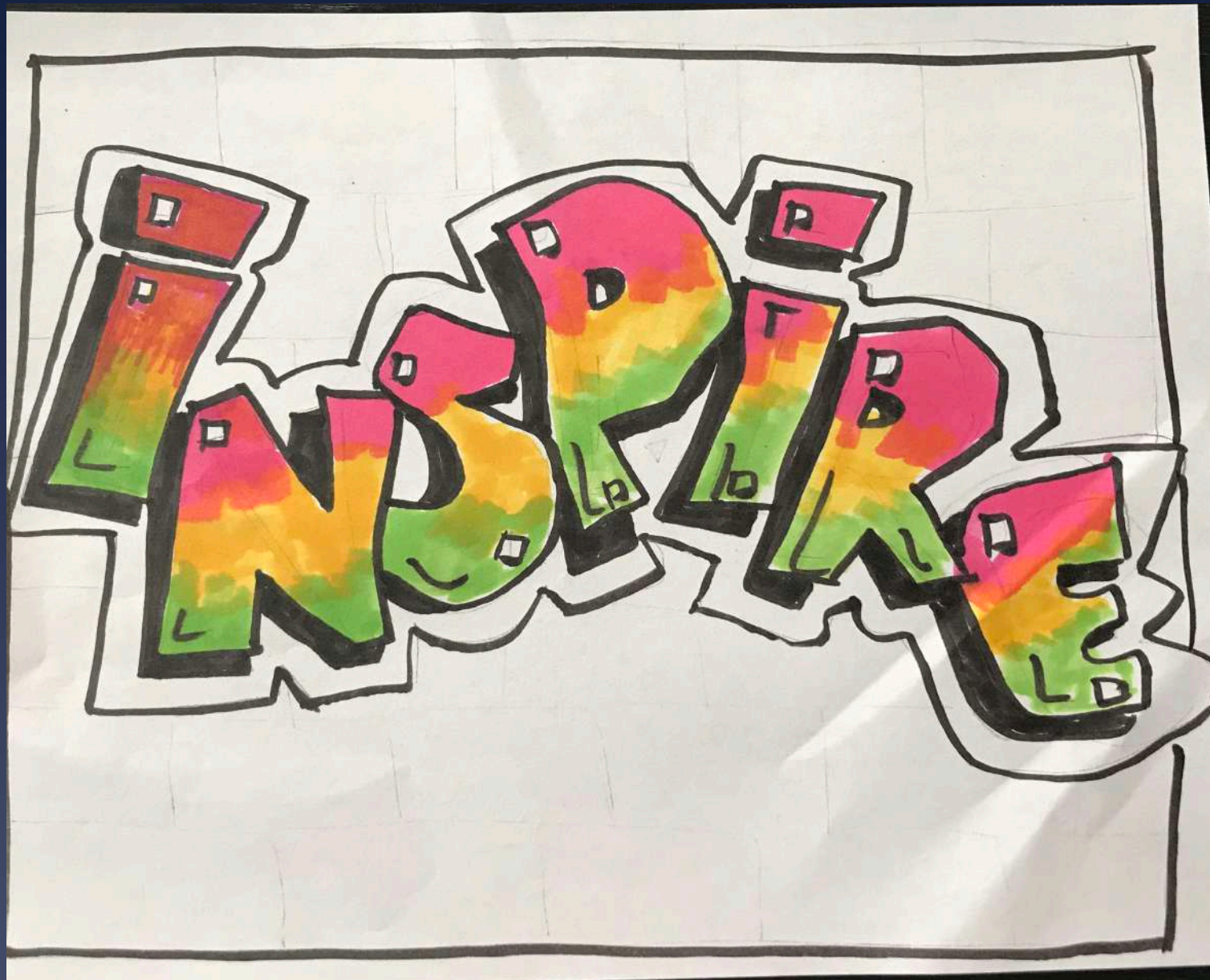
## Calligraffiti

Calligraffiti is a combination of calligraphy and graffiti invented by Amsterdam graffiti artist Shoe. It's a somewhat stylized but still easy-to-read lettering style. It brings together the best parts of calligraphy and graffiti by putting beautiful and artful letters into an urban setting.



# Are there “Rules” For Graffiti Art?

- There are no strict rules to creating graffiti art, but there are distinct characteristics that make graffiti art appear stylish.
  - Loose Forms
  - Subjects overlap
  - Highlights applied to letters or image
  - 3D impression
  - Colourful and Bright - colors like red, orange, yellow, green and blue are preferred



INSPIRe



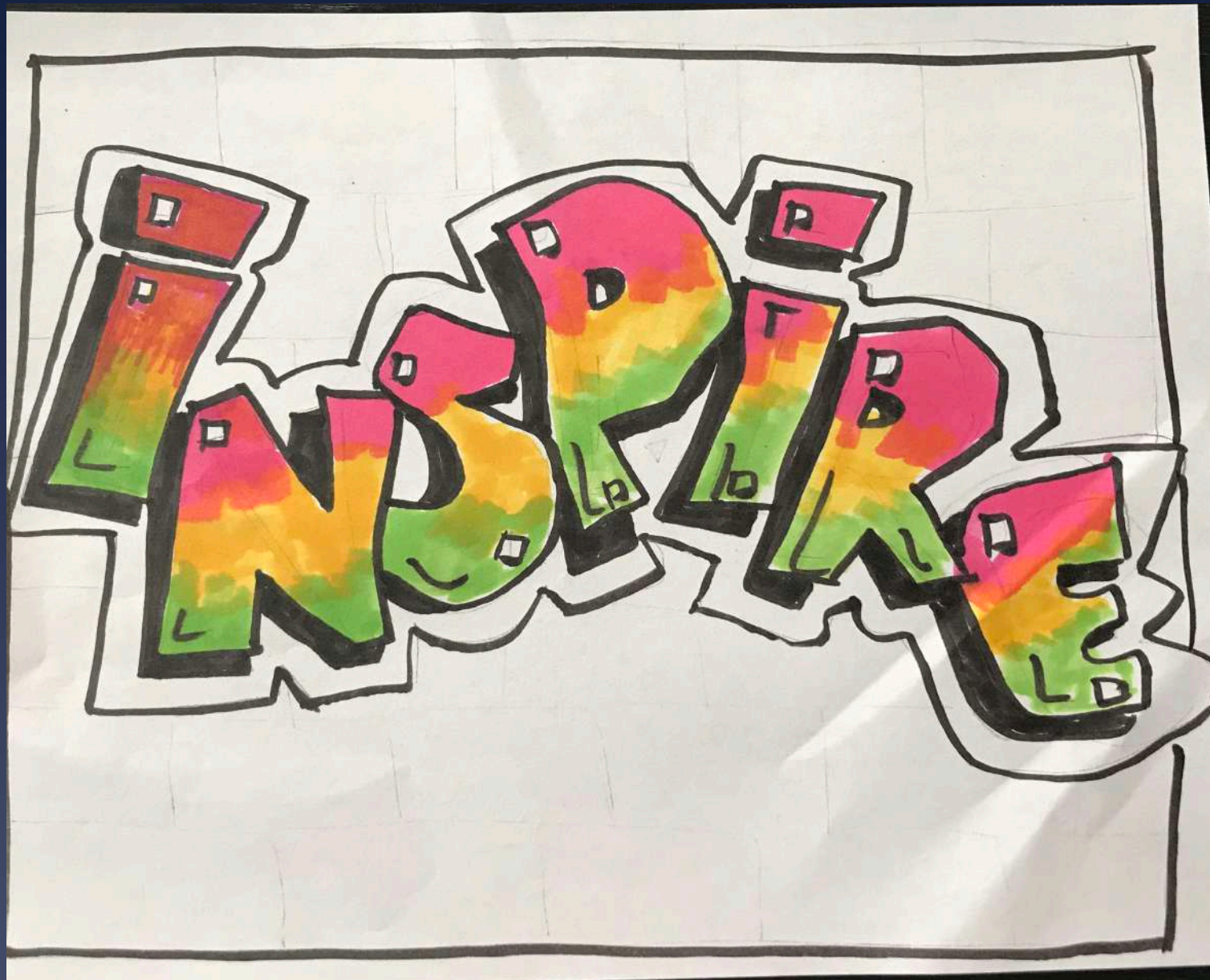
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NOIR











# Things to consider:

- 1. What word will you choose and how can it represent you or what you want to say?(Complete your handout.)**
- 2. What style of type do you want and how does it represent you?**
- 3. Be sure you are centering your wording on the paper. Are you adding serifs or shadows?**
- 4. What colors are you using and why?**
- 5. How can you embellish your design with accents, outlines, textures, etc.**



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WIPRO

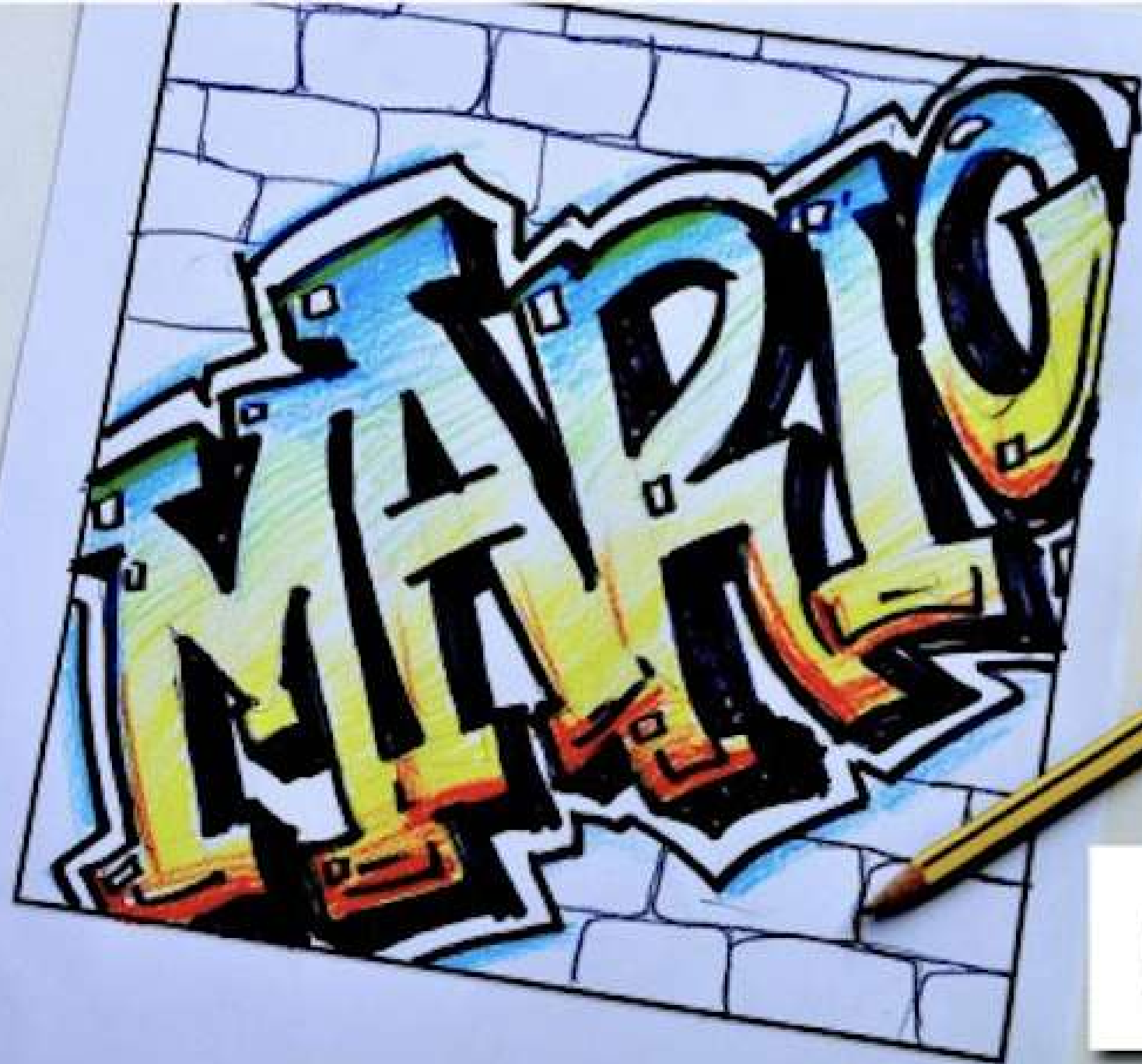
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# A BRIEF HISTORY

The American History of Graffiti:  
From subway to gallery

<http://video.pbs.org/video/1864784580>

[https://www.graffitcreator.n](https://www.graffitcreator.net/)

[et/](https://www.graffitcreator.net/)



[Link to process video](#)

