Vector Self Portrait- Photoshop

- Go to File>Open and open your self portrait pic.
- Click on the Pen Tool (make sure it's JUST the pen tool and not a specialized pen tool!)
- Unlock your background layer by double clicking on the lock in the layers palette.
- Make a copy of your background (self portrait original) and Posterize it
- To Posterize: go to Image>Adjustments>Channel Mixer> Gray Scale> Posterize
  Move the sliders around so you have 4-5 values- you will use this as a guide for your shape layers.

On the Pen Tool Palette bar Select "Shape Layers" and NOT the middle icon that says "Paths" (or the one on the right). Otherwise you won't be able to fill what you trace with a color.

- Using your pen tool, click on the top of your head. You are going to outline your hair. The vector tool should be set on shape layers and NOT paths or fill pixels.
- Before you start, double click on the foreground color square. Choose a color for your hair using the color picker. (You will be able to change this later, so don't worry about it too much yet!). For a very realistic portrait use the color sampler tool to select a base hair color(medium value) on your original photo.
- Working with Transparency of Layers:
  - Go over to the right in the layers palette and change the opacity to 40%. This will allow you to SEE what you are doing as you trace. After finishing tracing the shape, you may change it to 100%. If you want to change the color, you can by clicking on the color picker and using the paint bucket.
  - You can click on the eyeball to the left of the face layer to make it invisible. When you can't see the eyeball, the layer will become invisible and you will be able to see to trace. Just click there again at the end of your project and all of the layers will show up. You can always move the layers around into order where you can see all your shapes. Just click and drag into the correct position.
- **Begin tracing by clicking at the top of your head**. Carefully click around each shape using the handles to control the curves. **Try to trace as closely as possible to the shapes in your photograph. Make sure you complete the shapes**.
- **Be sure you think ahead about your layers.** You'll be doing the layers in the following order: Organize them just above the 'background' layer:
  - Face Layer
  - Hair Layer
  - Hair Highlights
  - Hair Shadows
  - Eyes (the sclera, or white of the eye…the whole shape)
  - Eyes (the iris of both eyes)
  - Pupil (the black center of both eyes)
  - Highlight in the Eyes
  - Upper Eyelid Layer
  - Eyebrows Layer
  - Nose (you can outline along one side and the bottom and then trace closely back around and then meet the first point…make the color a bit darker than the face layer
  - Teeth Layer
  - Upper Lip
  - Lower Lip
  - Neck Layer
  - Clothing Layer

Your Goals:
- ACCURACY in tracing
- Multiple Layers so the image all shows as you want it to in the end
- The finished portrait looks like you
- The background is interesting to the viewer
- Your name appears in the piece
- Look at the Grading Sheet to make sure you're following all of the directions!