In Class Exercise: Strokes and custom brushes

The Stroke Panel allows you to customize the look of your paths.

1. The **Stroke Panel** allows you to customize the look of your paths.
2. Draw a circle with the default stroke and no fill selected. Remember that you will be using the **Ellipse Tool + Shift** to constrain your shape to a circle.
3. Make sure the circle is selected (changes in the **Stroke Panel** apply only to selected paths.)
4. Change the **Stroke** point size to 40 and the color of the stroke to anything that will contrast with black.
5. Click on the **Dashed Line** check box.
   a. Note: If you don't see this box, it's because you don't have Options showing in the panel. Go to the arrow at the top right corner of the panel and choose **Show Options**.
6. Type is 5, 15, 2, 25, 9, 5 in the six fields under the check box.
7. If your stroke path hasn't changed, hit Return.
8. Now make a copy of the stroked line.
9. Hit D for default on your keyboard. Your line will change to a 1 pt black stroke.
10. Change the point size of the line to 40.
11. In the Layers panel, push the black line under the colored dashed line. Your stroke should look like the image to the right.
12. If you want to save the stroke as a **Custom Brush**, first group the two paths (the dashed one and the black one).
13. Now click on the arrow in the top right corner of the **Brushes Panel** and choose **New Brush**. The grouped line will be saved as a brush that can be applied to any other path.
14. You can also save the custom stroke as a style in the **Styles Panel**. Just select the stroke and drag it into the **Styles Panel**. If you want to give it a special name, just double click its thumbnail in the **Styles Panel** and type in a name of your choice when the dialogue box appears.
15. Practice!! There are many ways to customize the end points of your strokes. Using the **Cap, Join, and Miter Limit** options in the **Stroke Panel**. Be sure to se your stroke weight to at least a minimum of 10 pts on the lines, or you won't be able to see much difference in these settings.

Turning IN

1. Save file as an Ai file. Label them "lastname_firstintial_strokes".
2. Go to Laulima > Drop Box > In Class Exercises.
3. Place it here to receive credit for this exercise.