



# Northstar Glassworks, Inc.

## Boro News Newsletter

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### Exploration into the Transparent Strikers

Greetings Boro Artists! This is the third issue in a nine part series taking a close look at the Northstar color palette. These newsletters are designed to provide you, the artist with the working knowledge of how to more fully utilize Northstar Borocolour®. In this issue the group that is showcased are some of the transparent striking colors that Northstar produces. The group is made up of: NS-09 Yellow, NS-14 Irrid, NS-15 Turquesa, NS-34 Extra Light Yellow, and NS-38 Blue-Green. These colors are easy to work, and when combined with other Northstar colors they can produce scintillating new effects.

#### A Vast Range of Colors

The workability of this color group and the wide array of effects that can be produced make these colors indispensable to the artist's color palette. The group can be subjected to varying flame settings to yield many brilliant colors. To produce the vast range of colors this family has to offer, work the glass as follows: NS-09 Yellow, use an oxidizing flame for a transparent yellow or a reducing flame for an opaque yellow. As for NS-14 Irrid and NS-15 Turquesa, use an oxidizing flame for blues and use a reducing flame to achieve opaque greens. NS-34 Extra Light Yellow is not atmospherically sensitive, but when heated it yields a hazy glow. For NS-38 Blue-Green, use an oxidizing flame for metallic blues and a reducing flame for a deep sea green.

#### Creating New Effects

To maximize the potential of this color family try mixing several colors together, or build multiple layers for vibrant new effects. In general, for the transparent colors such as NS-34 Extra Light Yellow, NS-14 Irrid, and NS-15 Turquesa, you can use them to overlay colors, which compliment the transparent colors and create new effects. A good example is to overlay NS-14 Irrid over NS-55 Periwinkle to achieve a bright neon blue color.

#### More Fascinating Effects

For the more intense colors such as NS-09 Yellow and NS-38 Blue-Green, it is ideal to back them with a layer of NS-54 Star White. Due to their intensity they can be thinned out greatly by blowing out or stretching the piece. When you want to create deep purples, try layering a thin coating of NS-09 Yellow over NS-33 Turbo Cobalt, or try layering NS-07 Ruby over NS-14 Irrid and then encase in clear.

Always, a sure way to go for a pleasing effect is to layer these colors over an opaque backing or try encasing them in clear for new vibrant color effects.



*Figure 1*

Pictured in *figure 1* are three bottles that represent some of the many effects that can be achieved with this color group. The leftmost vessel was made by layering NS-15 Turquesa over NS-54 Star White. It was striped with NS-13 Amber/Purple and dotted with NS-07 Ruby. The central bottle in the photo was created by layering NS-14 Irrid over NS-55 Periwinkle. It was striped with NS-38 Blue-Green, and dotted with clear. The streaks on the neck of the vessel were produced by NS-44 Caramel. This coloration is a great way to get vibrant neon blue. Layering NS-38 Blue Green over NS-54 Star White created the final vessel. It was striped with NS-13 Amber/Purple and dotted with NS-26 Double Amber/Purple.



*Figure 2*

Pictured in *figure 2* is a vessel created by layering NS-07L Light Ruby over NS-54 Star White, encased in NS-09 Yellow and striped with NS-13 Amber/Purple. NS-38 Blue-Green was used on the neck of the vessel. This is a prime example of how layering multiple colors together can produce a vast range of existing colors. Depending on the striking, the color combination used in this piece can create many beautiful effects. The range of colors that this combination can yield runs the full spectrum of reds to deep purples and vermilions.

Remember to stay adventuresome and keep trying new color combinations on your own. New color layering techniques are waiting to be discovered.