

Stitch-at-Home Challenge

Deadline: **August 15, 2018**

What is the Stitch-at-Home Challenge?

We have created the Stitch-at-Home Challenge as a way to encourage and inspire people to stitch. This is not a competition but a challenge. For each challenge we will provide you with an inspiration, and you may use any needlework technique or combination of techniques in order to make a piece of textile art. Anyone at any level of stitching expertise may participate.

Who can enter?

Anyone! We know that many of you live far away. If you can't come and visit us here in San Francisco, this is a great opportunity for you to join our stitching community. If you live close by, we encourage you to join us for our free weekly Stitch-Ins to work on your piece and also to come in and see your work on display during our Challenge Exhibition!

What do I do with my finished piece?

Your finished piece of art belongs to you, but for each challenge there will be a deadline for you to submit either a photograph of your piece or the actual piece itself for display in an exhibition. The Challenge Exhibition will be up for a month at SNAD and it is a great opportunity to showcase your work. With your permission, we will also display your work in an online gallery on our website.

THIS CHALLENGE'S INSPIRATION:

Burlesque

Bur-lesque, *noun*: An absurd or comically exaggerated imitation of something, especially in a literary or dramatic work; a parody.

Kreinik, maker of sparkly, metallic threads, inspired this theme and they have graciously donated threads for all of you to use on your Challenge pieces.

This Stitch-at-Home Challenge is intended to pull out the whimsical, the subversive, and the exaggerated parts of ourselves and our world. Throughout time, people have been responding to experiences that bump up against their sensibilities, that provoke a feeling of ridiculousness, frustration, or celebration. How do we reframe, exaggerate, or explode these feelings? Where do we find outrageous joy? Just like these Kreinik threads, we create contrast and we react boldly.

Contemporary and historical precedents are varied, fascinating, and provocative. We hope you'll look at our inspiration page for ideas and entertain us.

Let's have a ball!

RULES:

1. You must create a new piece for this challenge. Old artworks created before the announcement of this challenge will not be included in the exhibit.
2. This challenge has been generously sponsored by Kreinik. Each participant will be receiving Kreinik threads to include in their piece. Participants must include at least some of the donated Kreinik thread in their creation.
3. You may use any needlework technique you like. Examples include: embroidery, appliqué, quilting, or goldwork. You may also include mediums other than needlework if you wish (e.g. paint, woodwork) but your piece must include some needlework.
4. Size: Your piece may be any size you choose; however, if it is extremely large we may not be able to hang your piece in our exhibit due to size restraints.
5. Each Participant needs to fill out a **two-part entry form**. See entry form section below for details.
6. Your piece needs no special finishing or framing.
7. The deadlines and information on submitting your piece are detailed below. You can either mail us your original submission **or** email us a photo of your completed piece.
8. Have fun!

ENTRY FORM:

All participants must fill out a two-part online entry form.

Before you begin stitching, please fill out Part 1. This is a short form that helps us to keep track of how many participants we should be expecting, and to assure you get your Kreinik thread in time to finish your Challenge submission. **To access Part 1**, copy and paste this link into your browser:

<https://goo.gl/forms/zbxMPITBRMuHY9Ep2>

After your piece is completed and you are ready to submit (whether you are submitting a photo or the actual piece), **please fill out Part 2.** This part of the entry form asks questions about your piece (title, description, etc.) and needs to be completed if you want to be included in our exhibition. **To access Part 2** - copy and paste this link into your browser:

<https://goo.gl/forms/P1RnIWvrrTYzXLe72>

DEADLINE: ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY **August 15, 2018.**

We will be mailing out threads in three separate shipments:

- Register (fill out Part 1) by end of day May 14th to have your thread shipped on May 16th.
- Register by end of day June 5th to have your thread shipped on June 7th.

-Register by end of day June 25th to have your thread shipped on June 27th.

Please note: June 25th is the final deadline for registration!

The deadline for completing your piece is August 15th. If you are mailing in your piece, **it must arrive by August 15th** and if you are submitting a photo entry, the photo must be emailed to us by August 15th.

MAILING YOUR SUBMISSION:

If you plan on mailing your submission:

1. Fill out **Part 2 of our Entry Form** once you have completed your piece.
2. Please make a label with your name and contact information and attach it to the back of your piece.
3. If possible, please take a digital photo of your piece and email it to **snadchallenge@gmail.com** with “Original to come” in the subject line.
4. Mail your piece to the address listed below. Please **include return postage and packaging** for returning your piece after the exhibit. Please send your piece with an appropriate amount of packaging, noting that extra large boxes are difficult for us to store. Please also avoid using packing peanuts when you box up your piece; these are very messy!
5. Your original submission must **arrive** by **August 15**.

Mail your submissions to:
SFSNAD
360 Post St #604
San Francisco, CA 94108

PHOTO SUBMISSIONS:

If you send us a photo submission, we will display a print-out or digital image of your photo at our exhibit.

1. Fill out **Part 2 of our Entry Form** once you have completed your piece.
2. Please email us **photos of your submission** by **August 15, 2018**. Email the photos to **snadchallenge@gmail.com** with “Photo” in the subject line. Be sure to include your full name in the email so we can match your submission to your online entry form. See tips below for photographing your work.

Tips for photographing your work

Prepare your piece for photographing. If your work has folds or wrinkles, you may want to carefully iron or steam the piece. Have a close look for stray threads. You can cut these off or gently remove them with tape.

Photograph before you frame. If you plan on framing your piece, photograph your piece before you frame it. It is hard to take a good photograph through glass after the piece has been framed.

Use natural light. Try taking your piece outside on a cloudy day to photograph it. This will minimize shadows in the photo and help you to get the truest colors.

Think about the background. Set your piece on a large blank piece of paper or hang a sheet behind it to create a clean backdrop. You don't want the viewer to be distracted by the surroundings. Your work is the main event!

Take a photo of the whole piece plus some detail shots. Try to take one overall photo of the piece so the viewer can get a sense of the whole picture. Make sure to leave a border around the piece to ensure the edges of your piece aren't cut off in the photograph. It can always be cropped a little smaller later. Then take some detail shots, everyone likes to see stitching up close! If your piece is 3-d, take photos of the different sides of the piece as well as some detail shots.

Make sure to take a high-resolution photo. Most digital cameras have the ability to take photos at different resolutions. Make sure to set your camera to a high resolution in order to take the best quality photo.