



# Stitch-at-Home Challenge

Deadline: **January 17, 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:**

### **Mixed-media Self-portrait**

The history of self-portraits is long and varied. From Leonardo da Vinci's likeness in red chalk, to court painters such as Velázquez painting their own image into commissioned portraits of others, to Janine Antoni's busts made of chocolate and soap, each artist has devised their own unique way to depict themselves. Only, often it is not just a likeness that is depicted, but a state of mind, of how one sees oneself, or of how one is imagined to be seen by others. A self-portrait is more than a portrait of the self, it can be a portrait of one's relationships, and one's place in the world. It may represent your best self, or your worst self. How you are, or how you wish to be.

For this Challenge, we want you to create a self-portrait. Show us who you are and how you fit into this world. For an extra challenge, not only do we want you to create a self-portrait but we ask to see a *mixed-media* self-portrait. Embroidery on paper or a photograph? Crewelwork collage? Stumpwork and ceramic sculpture? We can't wait to see what you come up with.

Frida Kahlo said, "I paint self-portraits because I am so often alone, because I am the person I know best." Yet, perhaps, if we all were to look upon each other's self-portraits, we would realize that we are not alone, and how much it is that we have in common with others.

## 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. Your piece must be designed with our inspiration in mind. Artworks that do not take inspiration from our theme will not be exhibited.
3. You may use any needlework technique you like. Examples include; embroidery, appliqué, quilting, or goldwork.
4. This is a **Mixed-media** challenge, meaning, **in addition to needlework, you must include at least one other medium.** Your second medium should *not* be another type of needlework. Examples of a second medium include; basketry, painting, photography, collage or video. A mixed-media piece could be as simple as embroidery on a photograph or as complicated as a stop motion animation made from clay and thread. Get creative and try to think outside the box! Did I just say box? Maybe you can incorporate one of those.
5. 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.
6. Each Participant needs to fill out a **two-part entry form**. See entry form section below for details.
7. Your piece needs no special finishing or framing.
8. 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.
9. 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. **To access Part 1**, copy and paste this link into your browser:

<https://goo.gl/forms/6yMFsQDI0XhuaUo23>

**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/MzHkdX2SXRI9dkPd2>

## DEADLINE:

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY **January 17, 2018.**

## **MAILING YOUR SUBMISSION:** (see recent updates in blue-updated Dec. 9)

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. [If you are willing, please also email us a photograph of you for us to display next to your self-portrait.](#)
5. 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!
6. Your original submission must **arrive** by **January 17, 2018**.

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

## **PHOTO SUBMISSIONS:** (see recent updates in blue-updated Dec. 9)

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 **January 17, 2018**. Email the photos to **snadchallenge@gmail.com** with “Challenge 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.
3. [If you are willing, please also email us a photograph of you for us to display next to your self-portrait.](#)