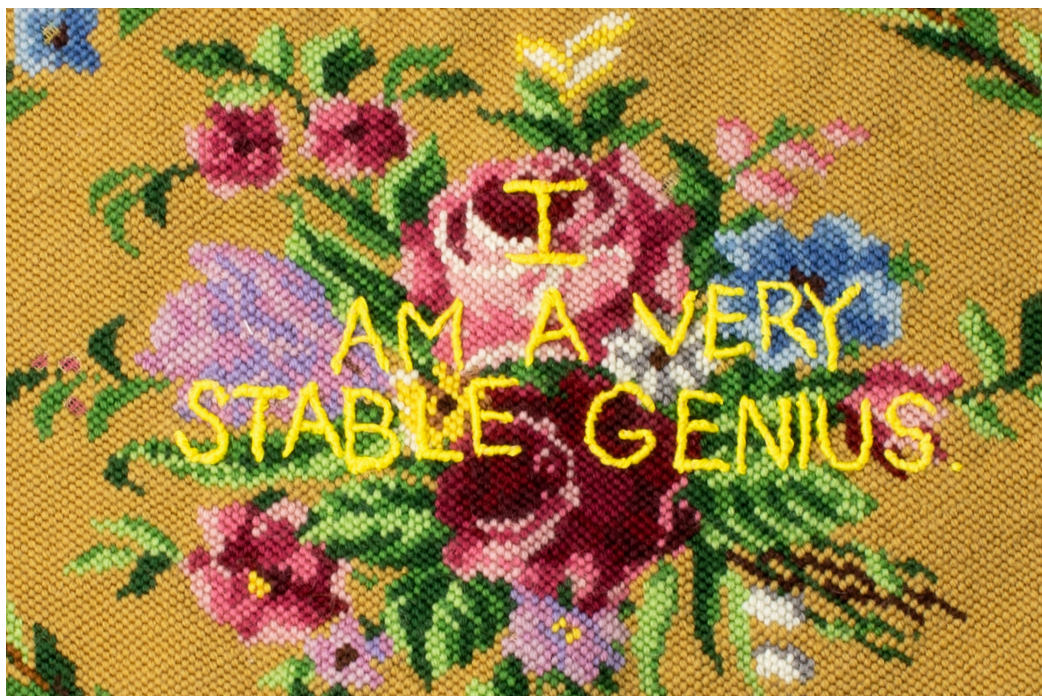


tiny pricks project
LINGUA FRANCA

Tiny Pricks Project Submission Guide: Notes from Diana Weymar



Diana Weymar, *I Am A Very Stable Genius* #TinyPricks1

Why Join Tiny Pricks?

Like so many others, I am trying to process this presidency in a way that doesn't involve withdrawing from following politics. This project is about witnessing, recording, taking note in thread, and paying attention. Paying attention to his words. The devil is in the details. This series holds a creative space in a tumultuous political climate. Tiny Pricks Project counterbalances the impermanence of Twitter, other social media, and Trump's statements by using textiles symbolic of warmth, comfort, craft, civility, care, and a shared history. Desperate times, creative measures.

You Can Make a Tiny Prick too (Please Do)

First step, if you're on Instagram, check out [@tinypricksproject](https://www.instagram.com/tinypricksproject) to see completed pieces, what kind of quotes are stitched & textiles used, and how they are documented when posted.

If you have stitching experience, you can skip some of the steps below. If stitching is new to you, as it has been to many participants, I hope these steps are helpful. If you have questions, contact me and I'll gladly answer them. You're welcome to make as many as you like! (A participant from New Hampshire has made 25!)

Step One: Pick a quote. I generally use the current "Presidential" Twitter as a source for quotes but also stitch statements from his decades of celebrity. I try to use the entire quote if I have time. A quick search on the internet comes up with unlimited possibilities. He's creating new material on a daily basis!

Step Two: Pick a textile. I use vintage textiles inherited from my grandparents and donated by friends of the project, and iconic textiles relating to the content of the piece (see the images at the end of this document).

Things to consider:

- How easy is it to stitch into?
- Will the text be easy to read once stitched?
- Can it be ironed?
- If not using a hoop, is it thick/stiff enough to easily stitch into?
- Can a washable fabric marker or pencil be used on it to map out the quote? (Fabric markers often use blue ink.)
- Is it the right size for the quote? Can it fit the entire quote? How much “blank space” is left for designs/additional details if wanted?
- Can I enhance or alter an existing design? For some reason, a lot of people pick textiles with chickens and add orange hair to them.

Step Three: Map out your quote. I use washable transfer markers (available at craft stores), but you can also use a pencil or pen. There are many ways to map out your piece. You can trace the shape of your textile onto a piece of paper to practice the spacing and style of your quote. Outline the final version with a sharpie, lay textile over it, and trace the text onto the textile with a washable marker or pencil. Or you can write it freehand!

Step Four: Pick thread. I use very basic cotton thread, but you can also use metallic or silk. The darker the thread, the easier it is to read on Instagram. In addition to picking a color, you decide how many strands to use. Each piece of thread comes in 6 strands. I often use 2-4. If the textile is very fine or my working space tight, I use one. 2-4 strands are the easiest to read. To blend colors, pick two different colored strands the same length and thread them through the needle together.

Step Five: Get started. I generally stitch through all the layers of the textile if it is folded. Don't worry about the back! If the textile is delicate, I use a hoop to hold it straight and firm while I stitch.

Step Six: Remove fabric marker. [Stitch Floral](#) has a great tutorial for removing the fabric marker. In my experience, it has to really be “soaked” out of the material. If blue marker reappears, apply more water. You can also leave the marker, and I can remove it when it arrives in the mail.

Congratulations! You're done! Now what?

Please email me at diana@tinypricksproject.com a photo of the piece so I have your email address and a photo on record before you mail or drop it off. I'll respond with how to mail or drop off your piece.

Titles/Documentation/Posting

You're welcome to post and share your piece as you're making it. Your piece becomes officially part of the collection when I receive it, it is given a number & title, and recorded in my spreadsheet. If you would like to write something about your piece (documentation), include photos of yourself or related to your piece, provide additional information etc ... all welcome! Some pieces come with a detailed story and others do not. It's entirely up to you!

After Posting

[@tinypricksproject](#) is a public account and occasionally someone comments who seems to want to start a discussion but actually wants to engage in a conflict. I monitor all comments and block followers who are using a fake accounts. Please contact me if you have any concerns at any point.

Ownership/Authorship

I am working on a release for participants to sign. ***By sending or giving your piece to me, you are permanently donating it to the project.*** It will not be returned and becomes the property of the project. I will always do my best to contact you if your piece will be used for additional forms of exhibition.

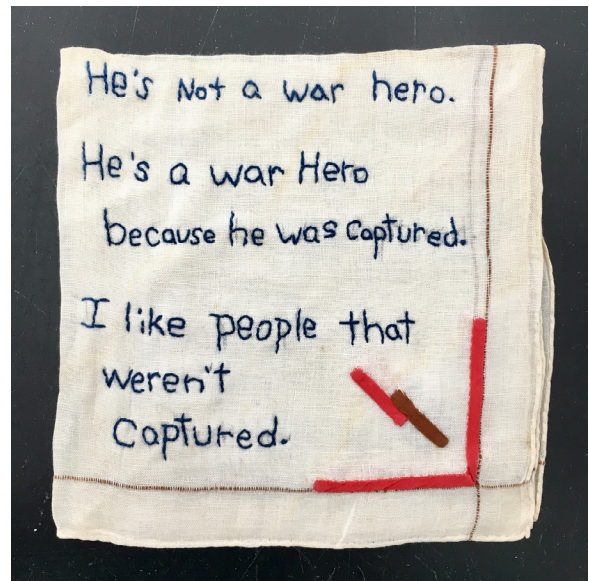
Tips on Posting Your Piece

- **TITLE:** I often use song lyrics. This is a chance to express your sense of humor and/or perspective. I include lyrics that cheer me up while delving into the world of Trump.
- **CREDIT:** Please let me know how you would like to be tagged or given credit for your piece. You're also welcome to submit anonymously.
- **TAGGING:** I always tag [@realdonaldtrump](#). I tag anyone related to the piece and use hashtags that comes to mind. When you post or share, please include [@tinypricksproject](#), [@dianaweymar](#), [#tinypricks](#), and [#tinypricksproject](#). Feel free to invite others to participate.
- **NUMBER:** Tiny Pricks number in the series. (I assign this and it can always be added later if you post before I do.)
- **OTHER:** If there is anything else you would like to say about the piece, please let me know.

Here Are Two Examples By Guest Participants:



[@mimisfabulousjunk](#), **Lonesome Loser**
#TinyPricks62, thread, heroic statements, 2018.



[@deborahosborn](#), **Wind Beneath My Wings**
#TinyPricks61, [@senjonmccain](#) [@realdonaldtrump](#)
"Did you ever known that you're my hero?" [@bettemilder](#) & "Sit down, take a look at yourself/ Don't you want to be somebody/Someday somebody's gonna see inside" [@littleriverband](#) [#onlywinners](#)
[#winnertaksitall](#) [#heroes](#)

Questions?

Can I use the same quote as someone else? Yes. If the quote resonates for you, please use it even if someone else already has. Consider it “viral stitching.”

Can I really not keep my piece? Sadly, no. The piece becomes a permanent part of the collection. Part of the methodology is to “let go” of the pieces so that they can be gathered in one place as material evidence of this presidency.

Can I illustrate my piece with images? Yes. As long as you include the quote, you are welcome to add embellishments, marginalia, and stitched details.

Can I make more than one? Yes. Please.

Can I use a quote by someone else about Trump? Yes. I have made pieces with quotes by James Comey, Melania’s jacket, Nikki Haley, and Stormy Daniels. If you’re not sure about it, please email me.

Can a Trump supporter participate? Yes.

What if people I know want to make one? Great! Please share this document with them.

Is there a deadline? Not really. The sooner the better, but it’s up to you.

When do you post the pieces? I have a “Waitlist” and I generally post in the order in which they are received, but if there is a reason to post earlier, I do. Sometimes I post in reaction to a political event. You’re welcome to work on a piece with someone else!



More Tiny Pricks. The “Stormy” piece is an example of form and content synergy. The doily must be spun to be read. “I Look Very Much Forward” by Andrea Kinsley is an example of an older quote and a detailing element of orange hair on the bird.

Happy stitching and thank you for being part of #tinypricksproject.

2020 Tiny Pricks by 2020!