

The year 2017 will be Canada's sesquicentennial year – the 150th! Let's celebrate as only embroiderers can do!

The Canadian Embroiderers' Guild 150th Challenge for our members is a 6 inch x 6 inch piece which will be displayed at our 2017 Open House. Can we get 150 pieces from our 75 members?

We plan to display them strung out as if on a clothesline so it will help if they have a bit of body to them. Here is the Challenge:

- 6 inch x 6 inch square
- embroider the top layer on the theme "What Canada means to me"
- the middle layer should be heavy interfacing or thin quilt batting (see the back of this sheet)
- back it with the Canadian-themed fabric (supplied by CEGG)
- finish the edges as you see fit

Suggestions

- use any technique that works for you cross stitch, needle felting, appliqué, blackwork, machine embroidery, whatever
- ideas: use your own garden, the house where you were born, famous landmarks such as Niagara Falls, CN Tower, beaver, moose, igloo, mittens, etc.

Canada is all about diversity and inclusiveness so these guidelines have been kept to a minimum.

Artist Statement

Please include a brief explanation of why you chose this particular image. This project is about snapshots of what Canada means to you. Here is a sample artist statement from Laura Dobrindt for her snowman piece:

Growing up in Sudbury in the 50's, kids played outside year round. I have many happy memories of outdoor skating rinks, tobogganing, broomball, building snowmen, snowforts, snowball fights – girls against boys, walking home from school at lunch time for a hot meal. I remember these times with great fondness.

My Canada Workshop

We will be holding a free workshop day on Tuesday January 31, 2017 (between classes 2 & 3). That could be a day for you to finish your project, start on your project, get advice on your project, or simply work on it with others.

After Open House 2017

These pieces will be kept by CEGG and, in future years, displayed in a binder along with the artist statements for each piece.





Stabilizers

There are a variety of stabilizers that can be used.

Quilt batting can be used. 100% cotton would work the best and is easy to stitch through. Warm and Natural or Quilter's Dream Select would work the best for this project. Do not use the fluffy poly batting, but a flat poly like Quilter's Dream would work.

Heavy duty machine embroidery stabilizer will work. It has no glue so will have to basted or fused.

Peltex 72F is a fusible product with glue on both sides. Very easy to use and is activated with steam from your iron.

Peltex 71F is a fusible product with glue on one side only and is activated with steam from your iron. You would need to sew it to the other layers or use Wonder Under or a similar product to fuse something to the other side.

Timtex is a good stable product, but it has no glue. To mount the piece you would have to sew it between the layers or use Wonder Under or a similar product on both sides.

-Judy Eckhardt