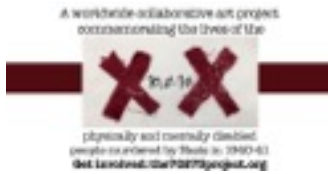




The 70273 Project™: A Backstage Pass
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The 70273 Project, Inc.



BACKGROUND INFO

Between January 1940 and August 1941, 70,273 people of all ages were murdered by the Nazis. Without ever laying eyes on the disabled person they were evaluating, the assessing doctors read the medical files and, if from the words on the page, the person was deemed “unfit” or an “economic burden on society” or “a useless eater”, a red X was placed at the bottom of the form. Three

doctors read each medical file, and when two of them made a red X on the page, the disabled person’s fate was sealed.

We can’t unring this bell of history, but we can make sure that these individuals are remembered. To commemorate these 70,273 people who were so callously and casually murdered, Jeanne Hewell-Chambers is gathering 70,273 quilt blocks of white fabric (representing innocence and the paper the doctors read), each bearing two red X’s (representing one person and the death sentence). These blocks will then be stitched together with blocks from around the world to make quilts - perhaps as many as 1200 of them - that will travel to every corner of the world, commemorating the disabled people who died and educating all who will listen about this atrocity known as Aktion T4 and about the barriers to inclusion and participation in society that’s still experienced by disabled people today.

QUILT BLOCKS

Guidelines are few and important:

- ~ Block bases are white fabric cut in one of these three sizes: 3.5” x 6.5” (9 cm x 16.5cm) or 6.5” x 9.5” (16.5 cm x 24.2 cm) or 9.5” x 12.5” (24.x cm x 31.8 cm).
- ~ Two (no more, no less) red X’s are placed on the base. No words, numbers, names, or drawings, only the pair of red X’s.
- ~ A Provenance Form that can be downloaded from the web site must be completed, signed, and sent with the blocks.



THE FOUNDER

Jeanne Hewell-Chambers, BS, MA/TLA sat stitching the drawings of her 57 year old mentally disabled sister-in-law when the idea of The 70273 Project came and whispered itself to her. Though she usually gives her big, fat, crazy ideas to some fictional woman and writes a story about her, this time Jeanne decided to roll up her sleeves and live this idea into existence, and oh what a grand decision that has proven to be.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

- ~ Make blocks. Each block commemorates one of the 70,273 victims.
- ~ Make quilts from blocks made by others or blocks made by you and yours.
- ~ Arrange for Jeanne to do a presentation, workshop, and/or block drive on your campus or for your conference, group, or organization.
- ~ Donate. As a 501(c)(3) corporation, your financial donations help us ship blocks and quilts around the world; purchase insurance, provide storage, buy office supplies; pay annual fees; and a whole lot more.
- ~ Tell others.

For more information, visit: www.The70273Project.org

The 70273 Project, Inc. Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When did you launch The 70273 Project?

A: February 14, 2016 . . . 10 days after the big, fat, crazy idea came to call (and before I had time to think myself out of it).

Q: What's the significance of February 14?

A: It's my birthday, and that year, I gave myself something to do.

Q: Is The 70273 Project, Inc. a non-profit organization?

A: Yes, The 70273 Project, Inc. is an official 501(c)(3) organization.

Q: What are the guidelines for making blocks?

A: The guidelines are few and simple:

1. Block bases must be white or slightly off white.
2. Cut size for block base fabric: 3.5" x 6.5" OR 6.5" x 9.5" OR 9.5" x 12.5".
3. On each block base are placed two (no more, no less) red X's. No words, numbers, letters, or images, please.
4. Each person who makes at least one block must complete, sign, and submit a Provenance Form (a release) giving us permission to use your block in quilts and send them around the world.

Q: Why are the block bases always white or slightly off white?

A: The color of the block bases represents the paper of the questionnaires - the only information assessing physicians sought in making their life or death decisions.

Q: Why two red X's?

A: When the questionnaires were returned to Aktion T4, three assessing physicians read them, and when 2 of the 3 physicians placed a red X at the bottom of the form, the person was murdered.

Q: I don't sew. Can I still make a block?

A: Absolutely. We have a way to make a block that requires ironing and takes less than a minute. Really.

Q: Can I make more than one block?

A: Oh heck yes.

Q: Are all quilts the same size?

A: The block quilts are varied in size, and there's no maximum or minimum size requirement. We want to have a quilt to fit any space.

Q: If you hold a Block Drive for my class, organization, school, or family what happens to those blocks?

A: Blocks from a group become a quilt from that group. The name of the organization along with the names of each person who made a block, pieced, quilted, and finished the quilt will be on the label that's permanently attached to the quilt. The quilt belongs to The 70273 Project and will be sent to exhibits around the world. If you want to exhibit it on your campus, at your office, in your class, etc., contact me and we'll arrange it.

Q: How many quilts will you have when all have been commemorated?

A: Because every quilt contains a different number of blocks and is a different finished size, there's no way to know. Guesstimates are, however, that there will be between 1000 and 1200 quilts.

Q: What will you do if you receive more than 70,273 blocks?

A: I don't know. Yet.

Q: What will happen to the quilts when all 70,273 people are commemorated?

A: The quilts will do what they're already doing: travel the world, telling their stories in exhibits near and far, large and small.

Q: How can we find out how many people have been commemorated?

A: You can visit The 70273 Project web site and do a Keyword search for "70273 Block Count Update" or scroll to the bottom of the home screen and look at the graph on the right.

Q: What are your plans when all have been commemorated and all quilts are finished?

A: The next phase includes

~ QR codes for each quilt that, when scanned, will whisk viewers to a multi media treasure chest of stories associated with each specific quilt.

~ Printed, braille, and audible guides that can accompany exhibits.

~ An online searchable database where Makers can find which quilt their blocks are in and where in the world each quilt is on any given day.

~ Books. Many books.

Q: How can I get you to do a Presentation, Workshop, and/or Block Drive on my campus or for my class or organization?

A: Email me: jeanne@The70273Project.org.

The 70273 Project

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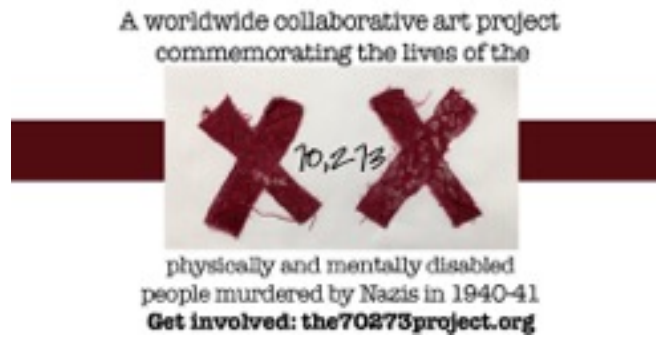
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For more information about The 70273 Project, visit:

Web site: www.The70273Project.org

Subscribe to the blog: <http://eepurl.com/CkEZz>

Subscribe to The 70273 Project **XX**tra monthly newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/dckoRH>

Facebook group (a.k.a. our digital campfire where we sit on digital logs and eat digital s'mores):: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/the70273project/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/the70723project/?fref=ts>

French Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1718088081785776/>

You Tube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/the70273project>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/whollyjeanne> Use #the70273project

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/whollyjeanne>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/whollyjeanne/the-70273-project/>

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