

## How I Became an Artista // Community Art Labs Beading with Sam Fresquez

### ARTIST INTRO:

Sam Frésquez is a Phoenix-based interdisciplinary artist whose work explores how we present ourselves, or how we see ourselves represented (or not represented) in the mainstream. Frésquez utilizes culturally and historically significant materials including hair, jewelry, found footage, and text in her artwork. In addition to having her work on view at Phoenix Art Museum, the artist has exhibited at institutions such as the Tucson Museum of Contemporary Art, the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, and has been the recipient of artist residencies at Xico Galeria, the Haystack Mountain School, New York Arts Practicum, Vermont Studio Center, and MASS MoCA. Frésquez is represented by Lisa Sette Gallery.

### ARTWORK:



## WORKSHOP

### Step 1

Have all of your materials ready. Begin by cutting and preparing your thread. Cut a piece of thread about an arm's width long and thread it through the eye of a beading needle. Secure the thread by tying a small knot at the end of the string.



### Step 2

Begin by choosing the exact location where you want to start beading and threading the needle. You will then insert the needle underneath or at the back of the fabric you are using. You will insert the needle in your exact location and pull the thread all the way through until it reaches the knot.



### Step 3

With your needle, pick up however many beads you would like to use. You can choose 4-5 beads or more, depending on what you are working on. After they have been inserted through the needle and thread, you will lay them down where you want them to be on your fabric. To secure the beads you just added, you will insert the needle next to your last bead or the end of your line of beads, and pull the needle and thread back down through the fabric.



### Step 4

Lastly, in order to secure the line of beads you just added, you will need to stitch every other bead in your line. To do this, you will bring the needle back up from the bottom and stitch in between each bead that you just laid down. Once you have the first row of beads laid out and secured in the position you want, you can then begin a second row or create different patterns.



## MATERIALS

- Glass beads
- Needle
- Thread
- Miniature flag or desired fabric

## **Objectives:**

Participants will learn the artist's beading techniques to create their own beaded piece

Participants will learn hands stitching basics

Participants will explore materials and their relation to gender

## **Reflection Questions:**

Are you familiar with these materials?

What are your associations with beading?

What kind of patterns are you drawn to?

Is there another uniform you identify with? If so, why that uniform?

What have you learned from the artist?

**Key Terms to consider:** Identity, Identity politics, gender, NASCAR