

SEWING SPOTS TOGETHER

A migrating, recycled, mixed-media, social & environmental art project that features the jaguar & the fantastic biodiversity around us. This broad-ranging community art-piece will grow as loooooooooooooooooong as we make it & then be displayed throughout Arizona and *beyond*. Sewing Spots Together was initiated by the Tucson office of Defenders of Wildlife and local artist and educator, Stephanie Bowman.



**The finished head and tail with the first body piece ready for the first group to add their creative biodiversity appliques!
(Each panel is about 8 feet long & the possible total length of the jaguar is infinite...)**

This is a *free* project that anyone and everyone can join !

Goal

- **To get people together who live within the jaguar's native range to have fun learning, discussing, and artistically expressing the grand diversity of all life that enchants us and supports Arizona's other native, wild cat as it stretches and roams from the Sonoran Desert to the Amazon Rain Forest and *beyond*.**

Objectives

- **For you or your group to create a mid-body section of the project and display it with the rest of the panels and their creators on January 7th at the top of "A"-Mountain as we ourselves go *Beyond*!**
- **For you or your group to recognize the jaguar as an endangered native cat and to celebrate the great diversity of life that is found around us and throughout the jaguar's range.**

Directions / How-To:

The idea here is to use as much OLD JUNK as possible to avoid spending money on new Stuff, and to HAVE FUN making your group's panel using your own particular *style & flair* !

1. **Contact me, Stephanie, the project instigator, at 520-904-2364 or e-mail me at Stephanie@bowmansart.com to let me know you want to make a panel. I may even be able to create the basic background for you (steps 2-5 below)**
2. **Dig up one TWIN-SIZED, flat bed-sheet. Any color will do, but the darker the better. This will be your background.**
Note: The size of twin sheets can vary a bit, but that is OK, as long as it is somewhere between 57" – 65" wide. The length (longer side) does not matter.
3. **Round up a piece of cat-colored fabric (gold, beige, brown, tan, yellow, orange and the like) and cut its length to fit the loooooong length of your flat, background sheet and then cut it to EXACTLY 22" WIDE. If this sounds confusing, see the pattern included here. . . heck, just see it anyway.**
4. **Create your jaguar's rosette pattern of spots on the 22" wide piece of fabric using your choice of one of these permanent methods:**
 - **Use black spray paint or [black fabric spray paint](#) and the stencil included here to spray rosettes (rotating the stencil in different positions) all over your 22" wide body fabric...or try it free-hand if you like.**
 - **(This one is for the seamster or seamstress who does not like to get messy but LOVES to sew.) Yep, you guessed it: Cut splotches out of black fabric and sew them on in rosette patterns all over your 22" wide fabric piece. Then, go get a job as a dress maker already!**
 - **(This one is for the artist or control freaks among us.) Use a brush or sponge or your fingers and the black fabric or acrylic paint to individually paint or dab the rosette-patterned spots on by hand.**
5. **Sew the spotted jaguar body to the center of your sheet. See the pattern included below!**
6. **Study the biodiversity found within the jaguar's native range from Arizona to the Amazon as it suits you. Let yourself be inspired by the**

many plants, animals, landscapes, etc. from both desert and jungle, and come up with a design for your panel.

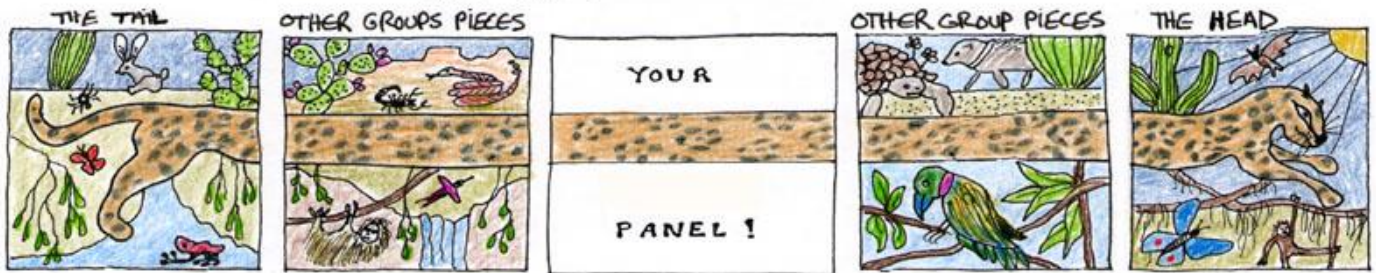
- 7. Collect scrap fabric (including old clothes) & lightweight junk (like buttons, sequins, silk flowers, ribbon, stuffing, etc.), scissors that will cut fabric, and embroidery floss and have folks creatively cut and sew to re-create your design on your jaguar background panel. Let your imaginations SOAR!**

FOR EXAMPLE, you can make 3-D, puffy things and securely attach them with the embroidery floss, overlap things, and even use found items to represent something else. For example, look closely at the eye of our jaguar in the photo above... it is actually a sewing-machine bobbin-thread spool!

NOTE: Ideally, Arizonan / Sonoran life should be represented in the space above the jaguar body, and Amazonan / tropical life should be represented in the space below the jaguar body! But, if you have a different idea in mind: **Go For It!**

- 8. When all sewing is complete, you can use a variety of [squeezable fabric paints](#), permanent markers such as “sharpies”, or fun [pastel dye sticks](#) to enhance your appliquéd designs and/or add words. You may want to add your names, the names of what you created, or the name of your group for others to see as it migrates all over!**
- 9. Use a permanent fabric marker or “sharpie” to write your group’s name and mailing address on the back of your creation somewhere it won’t bleed through. This way, after it has toured the world with the rest of the panels, your piece can be returned to you!**
- 10. E-mail a photo of your contribution and perhaps the creators to me to share on our Social-Art Blog. My e-mail is: stephanie@bowmansart.com**
- 11. Contact me at #520-904-2364 or via the above e-mail to arrange my getting the panel back for display on January 7th, and to make plans for you to join the display that day!**
- 12. Continue to follow the path of our jaguar as it migrates around Arizona and *beyond* by subscribing to [your social-art blog](#).**

A BASIC CONCEPT SKETCH JUST TO SHOW YOU HOW
THE PROJECT WILL GROW :



IMAGINE HOW LONG THIS THING CAN BE!... EVERY PANEL A GROUP MAKES GROWS THE
JAGUAR ABOUT 8 FEET LONGER!

Helpful Hints & Other Random Ideas

- **Should your group like a personal workshop given by me, Stephanie, please contact me at stephanie@bowmansart.com or call me at 520-904-2364 and we will arrange it to suit you.**
- **So, you don't want to sew a lot or don't have the time by January 7th? Consider using [double-sided adhesive sheets](#) or a permanent, heavy-duty fabric glue.**
- **If you are a reluctant artist who loves to write prose or poetry, you could use the [squeezeable fabric paints](#) to share your words about the jaguar and the biodiversity that surrounds it instead of or in addition to the imagery.**
- **You might want to choose one type of life form that is found in many varieties throughout the jaguar's range and focus on it. For example, you could create an all-bird or all-insect or all-reptile or all-aquatic panel!**
- **No matter what: Have Fun!**

⊙ THE PATTERN FOR YOUR GROUP'S PANEL ⊙

IT WILL BE ADDED WITH OTHERS BETWEEN THE JAGUAR'S HEAD AND TAIL!

TWIN-SIZED FLAT SHEET ⊙ SHORT SIDE ⊙ ABOUT 60"-70" WIDE

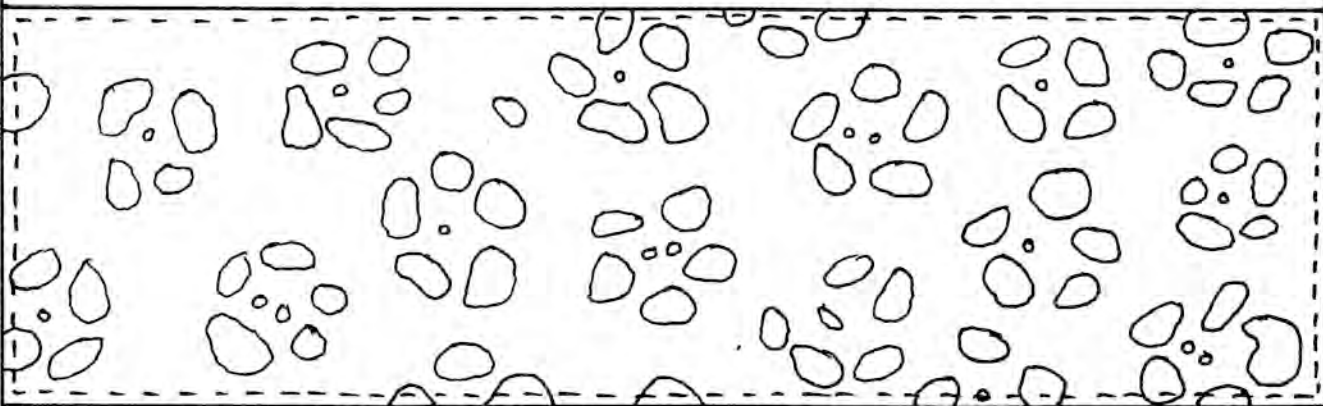
This is where
you'll add your own
Arizona - Biodiversity
images !!!

Have!
Fun!

!go wild!

! ADD YOUR GROUP/SCHOOL!
NAME SOMEWHERE BIG!

JAGUAR BODY 22" !!!
⊙ CENTERED ⊙



Do it
! YOUR!
Way

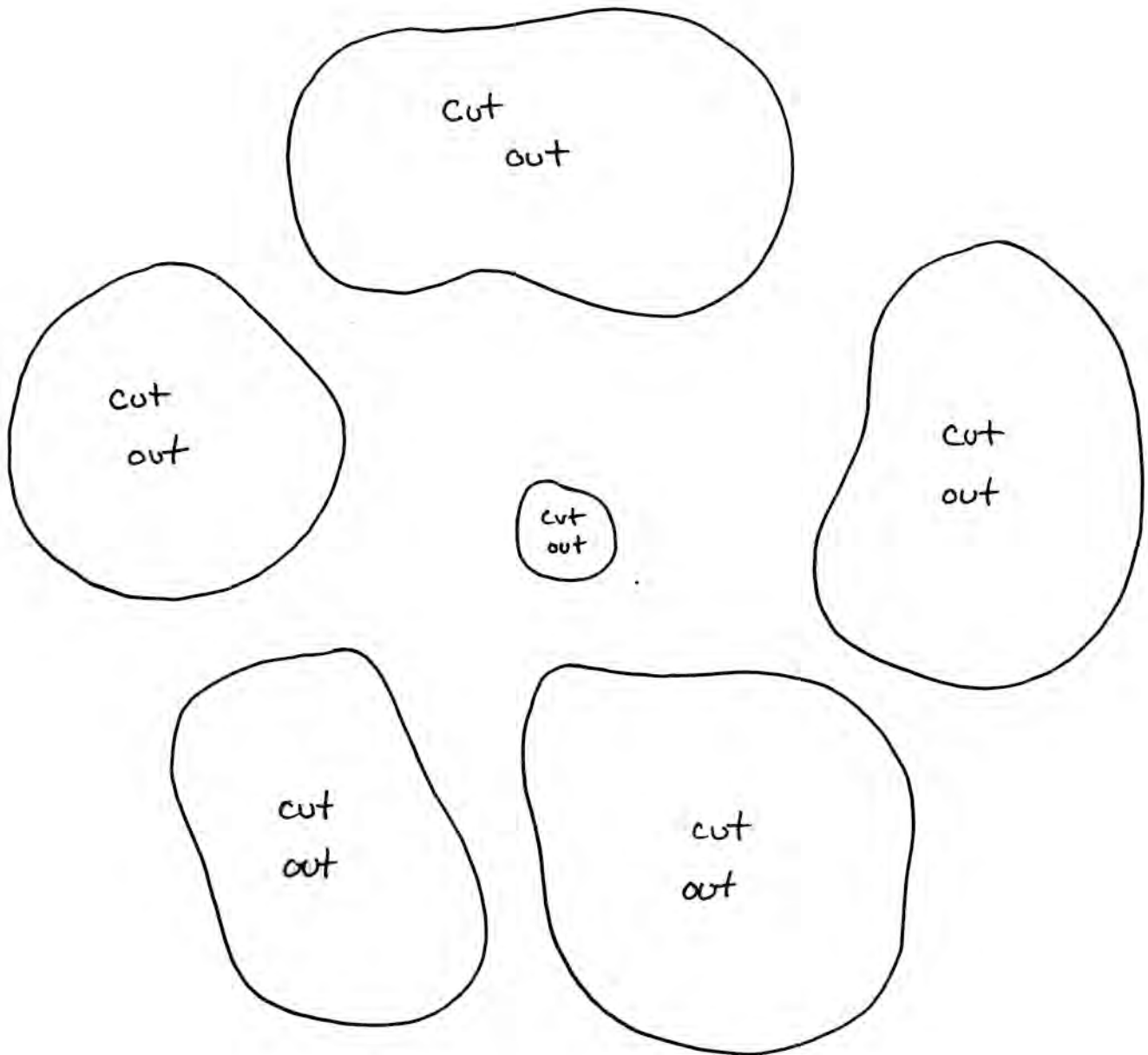
This is where you'll add on
your Mexican, Central-
American or South-
American Biodiversity
images !!!

MAKE IT
! YOUR!
OWN!

TWIN-SIZED FLAT SHEET ⊙ LONG SIDE ⊙ ABOUT 90"-100" WIDE

OPTIONAL

STENCIL FOR APPLICATION OF JAGUAR'S ROSETTE PATTERN.
USE BLACK FABRIC PAINT OR REGULAR ACRYLIC PAINT
TO APPLY SPOTS IN CUT-OUT SPACES.



IF YOU CHOOSE TO USE THIS INSTEAD OF CREATING YOUR
OWN SPOTS, JUST REMEMBER TO ROTATE THE
STENCIL AS YOU PLACE IT IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS
ON THE FABRIC SO IT LOOKS MORE NATURAL.