

R|A|M

Cynthia Toops Inspired Paper Mosaic Pins

Take inspiration from the micro-mosaic polymer art of Cynthia Toops. Cynthia's wearable art is done in a mosaic style patterned after Huichol Indian seed beads and ancient Roman mosaics. Her work is full of illustration and intricate designs.



Cynthia Toops

She Saves the Day (Ring), 2000

Silver, polymer, crystal, glass, and Life Savers® candy

1 1/4 x 1 1/4 x 1 1/16 inches

Racine Art Museum, Gift of Gail M. Brow



Cynthia Toops

Story Time, 2007

Polymer

2 9/16 x 2 9/16 inches

Racine Art Museum, Gift of the Artist

Photography: Penina Meisels

Paper Mosaic Pins Project



Supplies

- An Assortment of Paper in Many Colors
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- Cardstock or Cardboard
- Optional: Mod Podge



Start with a simple shape base cut from heavy paper or cardboard: a heart, a circle, a square, a star, etc.



Draw a simple design on your cardboard shape. Create a pattern that is easy to follow or block out sections in a design that is easy to fill in.



Find all sorts of colorful paper. You can use construction paper, decorative paper, or paper from the recycling bin such as mailers, post cards, and magazines. You could even paint paper in lots of colors, and let it dry.

Cut the paper into long strips. Then, cut the strips into small rectangular or square pieces. Feel free to cut sizes as you go, as the design dictates. Keep your colors in separate piles.



Put glue down on one section of your design. Lay your pieces of colorful mosaic paper onto your design as desired. It's okay if they go off the edges. You'll trim those off later.



Once all pieces are glued in place, let it dry for a bit and then trim around the edges.

Optional: if you have Mod Podge or liquid glue, add a layer on top of the paper to give it a sheen.



Hot glue a pin back to the back to make your art wearable.



Enjoy wearing your artist made paper mosaic pin and feel free to share your creation with us on the Racine Art Museum Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/ramartmuseum>