

**Beachplum Challenge Quilt for 2024 Show
Saturday, April 13 and Sunday, April 14**

COLORING WONDERLAND

“Wonderland is a place where sights, sounds, colors, and beauty thrill you at every turn.” Donna DeAngelis, Guild President

When you really think about it, color is a wonder. Everywhere we go, a myriad of colors surrounds us. And, because color is everywhere, sometimes we take the richness it gives our lives for granted. Color truly can be thrilling! Think for a moment of the initial excitement one feels upon entering a well-stocked quilt shop, seeing bolts of color lined up against the walls. Remember your first impressions of gardens you’ve visited (or even your own). Call up a memory or two of all the special things that color a holiday or other important event. Any of us could probably stand still for a moment, then slowly twirl 360 degrees and come up with countless colors surrounding us.

The Challenge Materials:

~ Each participant will select a paper bag filled with the following: 3* Crayola crayons, a fat quarter of a Riley Blake white and black focus fabric**, and printed instructions for the challenge. The colors of the crayons in your bag will determine the colors of your quilt.

* A third crayon allows for some flexibility in decision-making. You must use any 2 of the colors, but add in the third if it makes creating easier or more enjoyable. ** You may supplement the black and white focus fabric with a small piece or pieces of any additional black and white fabric of your choosing. Again, the supplemental fabric may add to the piece, making construction more manageable and enjoyable.

* **Please note: a minimum of 25% of the focus fabric, which is equivalent to a 10-inch piece, is to be used on the front of your entry. The challenge fabric cannot be used only in the binding or border; some must be used in the theme of your quilt.**

The Challenge Task:

~ Use the tools in your paper bag to **create your own version of wonderland**. If you are an Alice in Wonderland fan, let your colors be your passport down the rabbit hole. From there, you'll be limited only by your imagination! If the Alice story isn't for you, perhaps you'll use your colors to create your own version of love or joy or peace or youth or....

Maybe you'll take a word, a poem, or a line from a song and work it into something concrete through your colors.

Your options are limitless as long as your entry illustrates your colorful concept of wonderland.

~ You can use any technique(s) you like, including piecing, paper piecing, appliqué, collage, etc. Use any fabrics you think will work, as long as they are in your crayon colors and/or black and white fabrics. Maybe you can find them all in your stash. Feel free to add embellishments if you wish.

~ Size requirements: 100" to 120" perimeter.

~ All entries must be complete—no quilt tops or unbound entries accepted.

~ Only one entry per Beachplum member.

Prep Details:

~ Attach a label to the back of the quilt. The label must include your name, the names of your 2-3 crayon colors, and the date you finished the piece. Please cover your label by basting a piece of fabric on top.

~ Attach a sleeve to the back of the quilt, as all entries will be displayed at our April quilt show. You can find instructions for making an add-on quilt sleeve under "Free patterns" on our website

How to submit your quilt entry:

~ Bring your challenge quilt to the March 15, 2024, Beachplum meeting in a pillowcase. Do not use a paper or plastic bag. Please label the outside of the pillowcase with your name and phone number. Inside the bag place your registration form, a picture of your challenge quilt, and your story card. You may want to give your wonderland entry a title, and, in that case, it can head your story card. PLEASE NOTE: Both forms can be found on our website under the 2024 Quilts in Wonderland show information.

Membership Voting:

~ Voting for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will take place at the March 15, 2024, guild meeting. Each member will receive one ballot and be asked to vote for her/his favorite quilt. There will be prizes and ribbons for the 3 place winners.

~ Entries will be voted on for creativity, workmanship, and adherence to size and criteria.

~ For maximum fun, nobody should peek at anyone else’s until after the voting takes place.



Inspiration for creating this spring’s challenge is everywhere! Let your crayons and your fat quarter map your way to your own wonderland of color! We can’t wait to see what you make.

Dixie Moore and Dianne Werner are coordinating the 2024 show challenge.

FYI- Riley Blake Focus Fabric is “Queen of We’een, White Starry Night.” We purchased yardage at the Fat Quarter Shop.

COLORING WONDERLAND CHALLENGE QUILT CHECK LIST

Did I do the following:

- **Use my 2-3 crayon colors in my quilt**
- **Use 25% of the focus fabric, not only in binding and/or border, but also in the quilt's theme**
- **Adhere to size requirement of 100"-120" perimeter**
- **Sandwich the quilt (batting and backing) and quilt it**
- **Attach a label to the back and then baste a cover over it**
- **Attach a sleeve to the back**
- **Put my entry in a pillow case with a label attached to the outside, stating name and phone number**
- **Fill out a registration form, include a picture of the quilt, and complete the story card (put these items in the pillow case, along with the entry)**

"The secret, Alice, is to surround yourself with people who make your heart smile. It's then, only then, that you'll find wonderland."

Lewis Carroll

