

Challenges: 2020 Continued and 2021

2020 Challenge, continued: We are continuing the 2020 “Twenty Something” Challenge into 2021. This challenge memorializes the guild’s 20th anniversary that happened in 2020. The 2020 Challenge continuation is open to all current members of the guild. Starting the Challenge in 2020 is not a requirement for participation in this continuing Challenge. For information on specifics for the “Twenty Something” Challenge, please go to www.Washingtonstarsquiltguild.com. Click on Challenges. Click on 2020 Challenge.

Pieces for the “Twenty Something” Challenge will be due at the July Business meeting. We hope we will be able to meet in person to show off the pieces and draw the winning gift cards. If that isn’t possible due to continuing concerns about the COVID crisis, pieces will be shown on line via Zoom and drawing for the gift cards will be done on line as well.

2021 Challenge, new: “Here’s Looking at You, Kid”, a portrait challenge, reflects suggestions made by guild members after the November program meeting. We wanted to build on the program speaker’s guidance to recapture our creativity by making a portrait.

Unlike the speaker, however, we are not limiting the portrait(s) you make to self-portraits. There are no restrictions on who or what you make a portrait of. Feel free to honor a family member, your favorite teacher, a pet, or a figment of your imagination in the creation of your portrait. And you can always do a self-portrait.

The Challenge is open to all current members of the guild regardless of skill level. Any technique can be used to fulfill your design approach. Pieces should be no bigger than 16” x 24” (portrait orientation). There is no minimum size. You need to include a recognizable amount of the color purple somewhere in the piece. And, of course, please attach a sleeve and label on the back.

Completed pieces will be due at the December, 2021 meeting. We will be awarding four gift cards of \$25 each to four lucky winners of the Challenge gift card drawing. Again, we hope to be able to do this “live” and in person, but are sage enough not to guarantee it.

Here are a number of resources if you need some additional inspiration about making portraits: Two useful books are: “People and Portraits: Profiles of Major Artists Galleries of Inspiring Works” by Martha Sielman, Lark Crafts, 2013, and “Making Faces in Fabric” by Melissa Averinos. The Internet is also a rich resource. For example, Luke Haynes is a renowned textile artist and designer famous for his portraiture. See his award-winning work at www.lukehaynes.com Also, Google images of faces made by Freddy Moran and her Etsy site for imaginative faces to inspire you.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any of us: Betty Bird, Lana Russ, Jerri Thomas, Diane Weeden (our contact information is in the guild directory)