

Thirty years ago, I took a quilting class with my sister and sister in law, and we have been quilting together ever since. Quilting weekends are one of the ways that I maintain connection with my family. Some of us quilt, others needlepoint; sometimes it's just my mom, sisters, and me, while other times aunts and cousins join the gathering. Over the years, we have picked a pattern and all worked on our own version of the same quilt design, each expressing our own style. Other times we work together on a single quilt to mark a wedding, graduation, or birth. More often, we work on our own project, but enjoy kibitzing as we sew. There is always a lot of chatter, a bit of artistic critique, and lots of good food to power the creative process.

This king-size quilt is based on the Square Dance pattern by Gigi's Thimble, and modified to highlight the beautiful Kaffe Fassett focus fabric. I love the warm golden yellow fabric, which made me think of a sunny day, even when the view from my sewing machine was a thick blanket of coastal fog. I accentuated the focus fabric with pops of yellow, orange, raspberry, and coral, surrounded by bright white. The set includes one king-size bolster pillow, as well as a small accent pillow.

My husband and I have been members of the Arena Theater for many years, and value having access to a variety of cultural events on the coast. While COVID-19 has kept us from enjoying the beautiful building, the Theater continues to provide a center for the community, and I want to help ensure its financial viability during this very challenging year.