

Lethbridge Festival of Quilts 2019 – Featured Quilter: Effie Brandt

The Lethbridge Centennial Quilters' Guild is proud to honour **Effie Brandt** as a one of two *Featured Quilters* at the **Lethbridge Festival of Quilts 2019**.



Effie's quilting story began on the golf course, when a friend convinced her to take a 'Learn to Quilt' class at Thistledown (Lethbridge) in 1999. She didn't even have a sewing machine. Her husband soon remedied that problem by bringing home a used Pfaff from a Hutterite colony. She joined the Quilt Guild shortly after and has served on several committees throughout the years. Her first quilt was a king size *Trip Around The World*, which her mother taught her to tie. Knowing this wasn't for her, Effie forced herself to start free motion quilting and made many table runners so that she could practice her machine work and fell in love with it. Being a bit of a rebel, Effie found following patterns was not her gig. She made her first art quilt from a picture she had taken many years prior, of an elevator that her paternal grandfather had built on his farm. The quilt was auctioned off at her family reunion. The rest is history. Making her own art quilts was what she wanted to do!

Through the years Effie has had the privilege of taking many classes from some of the best in the quilting art world and has been taught by both Canadian and American teachers, attending workshops in Canmore and Vancouver, taking on-line classes, and even inviting master quilters to her studio.

The first quilt Effie ever entered was at the local quilt show in Lethbridge in 2006, and it won Viewer's Choice. Since then she has won several Viewer's Choice Awards at the local quilt shows over the years. Effie has also been accepted to the Canadian Quilter's Association's National Juried Show the two times she has entered.

Effie's greatest influence was her mother, who instilled the importance creativity can make in one's life. Whenever she gets to her studio she passes by her favorite quote: *"unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow"*.

Join us at the **Lethbridge Festival of Quilts 2019** on June 14 and 15, 2019 at Lethbridge College Gym to meet Effie and see her inspiring works of art.

