

BOONESLICK TRAIL QUILTERS' GUILD

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION QUILT SHOW – 2026

Quilt Challenge: My Favorite Book

The 2026 Freedom of Expression Quilt Show Challenge will be just a bit different than those in the past. For the 2026 quilt show there will be no focus fabric; rather than fabric, the focus will be your favorite book. Maybe it is a current novel, maybe it was a book you read some years ago, or even a book you read as a child. Maybe it is Gone With the Wind. I first think of the beautiful emerald-green dress made of the curtains; the setting, the story, the place in time all inspires me to see a crazy quilt design with emerald-green in it. Can you think of a quilt block design to symbolize the story of your favorite book? Did the story involve an attorney?—Courthouse Steps Quilt Block; a winery?—Grape Basket Quilt Block; was a lake involved?—Lady of the Lake Quilt Block; what country or state did the story take place...maybe in California?—Rocky Road to California Quilt Block; perhaps it is simply the colors used on the book cover that inspires you. What sparks your imagination is your magic--so have fun remembering your favorite book with this little quilt and make this project something you enjoy that speaks of you.

Quilt Challenge 2026 Rules:

1. You must follow traditional 3-layer quilt construction: a backing, a top, and batting, and quilted either with hand or machine quilting.
2. Dimensions should be no more than 24 inches on any side, and no less than 12 inches on any side.
3. Include at least one hand stitching technique in the design: hand piecing, hand quilting (including big stitch quilting), embroidery, applique.
4. You're welcome to use Crayola, paint, beads, or other embellishments—but these embellishments will not count toward hand stitching.

This challenge is for all levels of quilters from beginners to advanced. It is intended to encourage the artist in you and spark a desire to design and develop your ideas with fabric and thread! We cannot wait to see what you do!

Mindy Smith, Coordinator
Freedom of Expression Quilt Challenge 2026