



Sonoran Desert Inn and Conference Center

The not-for-profit Sonoran Desert Inn and Conference Center in Ajo, Arizona is an ideal arts space for individual and group residencies, workshops, retreats, and special events. With our proximity to the Curley School Artisan Apartments right next door, we benefit from a diverse community of working artists right in the neighborhood. In addition to 21 private guest rooms, a courtyard farm, and commercial kitchen, the Center boasts the following amenities for artists:

Spaces to Work and Create

*Spacious, light-filled **studio and workspaces**, perfect for visual artists and writers. There is also a large central courtyard with space for outdoor classes, demonstrations, and individual work.*



*Three unique, historic **rehearsal and performance venues**: the Curley School Auditorium, the Curley School Outdoor Theater, and the school's original, free-standing cafeteria, now called the Learning Center. They can accommodate performances and gatherings for up to 250 people.*



*A **clay studio and wood shop** outfitted with supplies and equipment for ceramic, mosaic, woodworking, and other media. The spaces can be used by individual artists or booked for groups.*



*An inspiring setting for **plein air photography, drawing and painting**, with remarkable scenery and natural light in the surrounding Sonoran Desert and Ajo's historic town center.*



Opportunities to display and sell your work

Authentically Ajo Farmers Market: this farmers and crafts market takes place in the Ajo Plaza on Saturdays or Thursdays, depending on the season. Vendors include growers, bakers, artists, artisans, and craftspeople, and draws locals and visitors.



Weekend Festivals and Annual Events: Ajo hosts an event virtually every weekend in the high season (January-March). Scheduled throughout the year are larger festivals including International Day of Peace (September), Day of the Dead (November), the Fiddlers' Festival (February), Play it Forward (March), and Cinco de Mayo (May). These events present opportunities for artists to demonstrate, display, perform, and sell their work.



Gallery and Retail Spaces: there are multiple gallery and retail spaces in Ajo, including Art Under the Arches and the Copper News Gallery. The Conference Center also has its own small retail shop featuring local art

and handmade goods, as well as rotating display spaces in our guest lounge and dining room for painting and photography.

“Art Alley” and Public Art: the streets and alleys of Ajo are covered with murals and peppered with sculpture. Public and community artists – especially muralists – will find tremendous opportunities here for installations and public art projects.

For more information visit our website at www.sonorancc.com

Call us to plan your next retreat, workshop or arts event: 520-775-2565

