



Historic Art Barn Circa 1962
Bob Bradshaw - Photographer

Our Story

Sedona Arts Center ~ Founded in 1958.



"Peace" by Nassan Gobran

Inspired by the natural beauty of Sedona, Egyptian sculptor, Nassan Gobran, and a group of local visionaries recognized the need for a place where artists could work, teach, and learn together. In 1958, they established Sedona's

first art center,

"Canyon Kiva." They purchased the old Jordan Apple Packing Barn, now known as the Art Barn, which quickly became the community's creative and social hub.

During the early 60's Sedona was populated by an eclectic group of characters – artists, big city refugees, and entrepreneurs who foresaw the area's potential and participated in its development. Through all the dramatic growth and demographic changes, the Arts Center remained one of the cultural constants, even though it experienced its own series of changes.

In 1961, the name was changed to the Sedona Arts Center and officially re-opened with a celebration attended by 300 guests.

1994 was the year of expansion with the addition of a new building to house an art gallery, classroom space, and a community theatre, which had a successful run until 2001. At that time, the mission was redefined to focus primarily on the development of creative talents through the School of the Arts and gallery exhibitions of the visual arts.

Sedona Arts Center's Mission

The Sedona Arts Center's mission is to provide diverse art experiences for individuals and the community through classes, exhibitions, special events and community outreach programs.

The Nassan Gobran School of the Arts has become a catalyst for creative development for students of all ages – from the very young through the golden years of life. The essence of all art is to have pleasure in giving pleasure – a pleasure that many students enjoy as they find their artistic voice through classes at the Arts Center.

Today the Sedona Arts Center is a rich legacy of the founders' vision. Not only does it continue to be a gathering place where artists and those who love art can explore, teach and exhibit; but has grown into an arts organization with international presence, providing outstanding artistic educational programming, nationally recognized art workshops, art events, and galleries.



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