



## Creative Placemaking: Continuing the Conversation

Ajo, AZ

April 6-8, 2016

On April 6-8, 2016 (immediately following the ArtPlace Grantee Summit in Phoenix) the [International Sonoran Desert Alliance](#) will be hosting a gathering for ArtPlace grantees and other creative placemaking leaders in Ajo, Arizona, two hours south of Phoenix. This will be a unique opportunity for practitioners to **continue conversations begun at the Summit, see ISDA's work on the ground in Ajo, and explore the beautiful Sonoran Desert.** The topics explored will be relevant to both rural and urban creative placemaking, including:

- *Authenticity: What is it? How do you keep it – or lose it?*
- *Funding: How can we thread together multiple funding sources?*
- *Sustainability: What does it mean to “finish” a project?*

### Location

The gathering will take place at the new [Sonoran Desert Conference Center](#), an historic elementary school that ISDA has renovated and repurposed with ArtPlace funding. The Center is located in Ajo’s historic district, a short walk from other ISDA placemaking projects including the Curley School Artisan Apartments and the Ajo Plaza.



*Farm-to-table event in the Ajo Plaza*



*Sonoran Desert Conference Center*



*Curley School Artisan Apartments*

### Agenda Highlights (under development)

<b>Wednesday April 6th</b>	Travel from Downtown Phoenix to Ajo Opening Night reception, dinner, and keynote address (invited: James and Deborah Fallows from <a href="#">The Atlantic’s “American Futures”</a> series)
<b>Thursday April 7th</b>	Ajo walking tours/case study, breakout sessions, evening performance/dinner
<b>Friday April 8th</b>	Travel from Ajo to Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport OR optional excursion to <a href="#">Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument</a> , a desert gem ~30 minutes south of Ajo



## Cost

**\$150 (double occupancy); \$250 (single occupancy)**

This rate includes:

- 2 nights lodging
- 5 meals (2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch)
- All programming on Wednesday 4/6 and Thursday 4/7
- For ArtPlace grantees, transportation will be provided to Ajo from Phoenix shortly after the conclusion of the Summit on the afternoon of 4/6, and from Ajo to Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport on the morning of 4/8. *See registration survey for more information about transportation, please.*

Those opting to visit Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument and stay through Saturday are responsible for meals after breakfast on Friday (variable cost), an additional night of lodging (\$50 double occupancy; \$100 single occupancy), and their own transportation back to Phoenix from Ajo.

## Registration and Updated Information

Please visit [www.sonorandesertconferencecenter.com/placemaking.html](http://www.sonorandesertconferencecenter.com/placemaking.html) to register. Registration deadline is February 26, 2016, and space is limited; we anticipate space for 35 participants.

Please email Sonoran Desert Conference Center Co-Director Emily Siegel at [emily@sonorancc.com](mailto:emily@sonorancc.com) with any questions.

