



The Big Pictures:
RED ROCK COUNTRY

A PORTFOLIO EDITED BY JEFF KIDA

A sandstone alcove frames a view of Oak Creek Canyon just north of Sedona. The sandstone formation in the middle ground is Steamboat Rock; behind it is 7,096-foot Wilson Mountain. State Route 89A, which runs through the canyon, is also visible. *Shane McDermott*



LEFT: The calm water of Oak Creek reflects Oak Creek Canyon's autumn foliage and red-rock cliffs. Late September through mid-October is the best time of year to see the canyon's fall color. *Peter Coskun*
ABOVE: Pine needles hang from the branch of a maple displaying its autumn hues at Oak Creek Canyon's Harding Springs Wash. The wash is on the east side of State Route 89A, across from Cave Springs Campground and about 10 miles north of Sedona. *Derek von Briesen*



Wispy clouds and a dusting of snow shroud Sedona's sandstone buttes at sunset. The area's iconic red rocks formed between 200 million and 300 million years ago, according to the Arizona Geological Survey.
Joel Hazelton



Oak Creek flows over a section of rocks in autumn. The creek is accessible via several trails that begin near State Route 89A.
Guy Schmickle



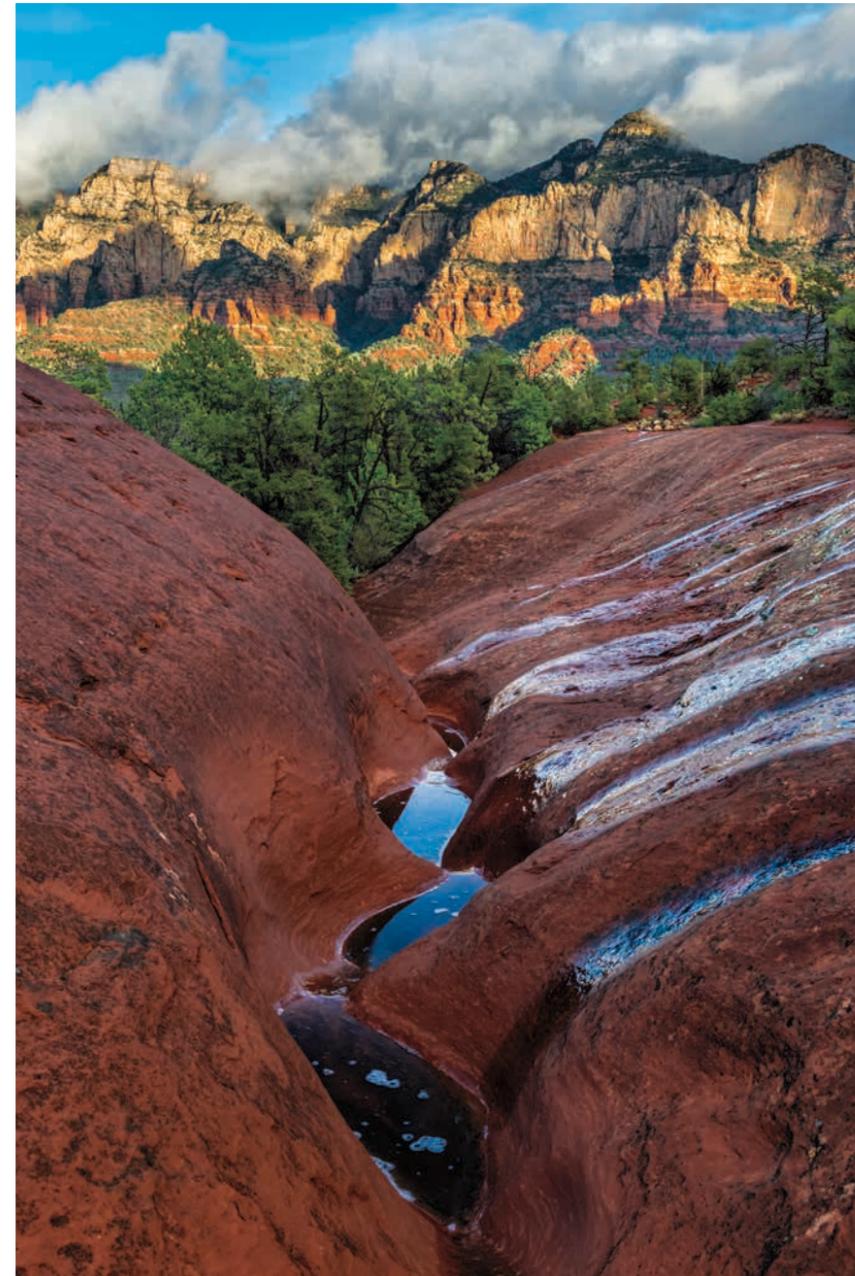
Sedona Arts Center

In May 1959, we published a story on what was then a new arts center in Sedona. "Every once in a while," Ed Ellinger wrote, "nature or a universal intelligence, if you will, hits the jackpot. In the Summer Art Center at Sedona she has come up with an unbeatable combination of an inspirational scenic backdrop, a dedicated faculty and a zealous student body from all walks of life." The facility got its start in 1958 with Canyon Kiva, an organization formed to solicit support for a cultural center. In 1961, Canyon Kiva took over the old Jordan apple-packing barn and reorganized as the Sedona Arts Center, and in 2001, its mission was redefined to focus primarily on education through the center's School of the Arts. Today, the nonprofit center is an internationally acclaimed educational institution dedicated to nurturing creative discovery, arts education and artistic development. "Its appeal is broad in scope," Mr. Ellinger wrote in 1959. "It brings people together on friendly terms and with a common objective. We can't have too much of that sort of thing in our country. The field of art can open some vistas which may both surprise and gratify."

For more information or to become a member, call 888-954-4442 or visit www.sedonaartscenter.org.

— Robert Stieve

LEFT: Autumn storm clouds loom over Schnebly Hill, named for Sedona founders T.C. and Sedona Schnebly. *Guy Schmickle*
ABOVE: Artists work outside the original Sedona Arts Center in the 1960s. This structure, known as the Art Barn, remains the facility's centerpiece. *Sedona Heritage Museum*



LEFT: Water pools in James Canyon amid autumn-hued trees. The canyon is east of State Route 89A; it's a popular canyoneering destination. *Mark Frank*
ABOVE: A storm clears from Munds Mountain, located just southeast of uptown Sedona. The mountain is part of the Munds Mountain Wilderness, one of three wilderness areas near Sedona (the others are Red Rock-Secret Mountain and Sycamore Canyon). *Guy Schmickle* [AH](#)