

## HIDDEN IN THE HILLS ~ HOST STUDIO TENET

While there have been multiple rules put in place for Hidden in the Hills Studio Tour participants over the past 27 years ~ out of necessity for either the safety or integrity of the tour ~ there have only been a few key tenets that have kept the Tour in line with the original intent. That being to provide a space for our visitors to see actual permanent working studios of **local artists** (within the map boundaries), and no more than 5 local (Arizona) guest artists able to demonstrate their process and willing to engage with the public.

The most key tenet is that each host studio location must be where the local host artist resides and creates their art. The primary intent of this tenet has always been, and still is, to both educate and instill art appreciation in the visitors looking for this unique experience which they cannot find in any other form of displayed art ~ be it a gallery, a street fair, or a tent show.

We have always determined that a commercial gallery, a "mother-in-law arrangement"\* or any other venue (commercial or residential) that is not the primary studio of the host artist is not suitable for Hidden in the Hills Studio Tour status. It has sometimes been difficult to handle these requests, but the committee has steadfastly kept this tenet in force. And the visitor survey has reinforced the value of this tenet many times over as they compliment us on keeping the tour intimate and small (In fact, all requests for a size change ask that we make it even smaller!), and with complete integrity that all participants are working artists presenting only original pieces of their art.

\*Mother-in-law arrangement: anyone other than the working artist offering a space as a HITH host studio.

Signed:

Jane Boggs & Gail Haire, Hidden in the Hills Co-chairs, Carole Perry, Marketing Chair, The full Hidden in the Hills committee

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