

Events at HD South

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Finding the perfect event space can be tricky. Budget, location, décor, access to amenities, and size are all important factors in determining what kind of space will work for your event. The Neely Community Room at HD SOUTH is a certain hidden gem in Gilbert that can comfortably accommodate 100 guests theatre style for meetings or presentations, or up to 80 people seated at tables for parties, dinners or wedding receptions. If you include the courtyard, there is room for up to 300 guests.

My husband, Will, and I were planning our 15th wedding anniversary and we wanted to celebrate! We threw a party at HD South and it was more fun than we could have ever imagined! We hired event planner Jamila Watson of Parties on Purpose and she was an incredible force of creativity and energy. She orchestrated our vision for a Moroccan inspired party. We wanted the rich colors of Morocco to fill the space.



For décor we used what was then called Classic Party Rentals to provide the draping, linens, dishes, glassware, and cutlery. We also hired Souphanh McNamara to create exquisite fruit carvings.







We chose HD South for its beautiful courtyard, affordable rates, easy access, and its cool vibe as the arts and culture center for the community. The Neely Community Room has its own entrance via the property courtyard and has a fully equipped kitchen; tables, chairs and a podium are on hand if required, and WIFI is available. AV Equipment (screen, projector, microphone, & receiver) can also be rented for an additional fee. We had scrolling photos from Moroccan inspired scenes playing on the screen. We also played a video toast from my brother stationed overseas at the time. We used the microphones for the in-person toasts and for the song our kids sang to us.





For entertainment, we had several elements. We hired musician Sarah Vanell to play the guitar and sing. We had Susana Belen, a henna artist, create stunning designs on people's hands and arms. We had a photo booth as well as nitrogen infused ice cream. We also invited our guests to contribute to a blessing "tree" where they might write a wish and hang it on the branches for us to enjoy forever.







For catering we used Postino East.

We had an amazing time in this awesome venue. I highly recommend pursuing an event at HD South if you have one coming up – you won't regret it!

VENDORS

- Venue: [HD South, Home of the Gilbert Historical Museum](#)
- Planner: Jamila Watson, [Parties on Purpose](#)
- Music: [Sarah Vanell](#)
- Décor: Classic Party Rentals
- Ice Cream: SubZero
- Henna: Susana Belen
- Catering: [Postino East](#)
- Photography: [Ivan Martinez](#)
- Fruit Carvings: Souphanh McNamara