

Prayer Corner

- We have a number of artists, songwriters and worship leaders who have been connecting with Inspire members recently and visited Writing Sessions or Artist Meet Ups but haven't yet applied to join our collective. Please pray that God would move as He sees fit, when the time is right, to bring these new artists fully into the community.
- A number of our current Inspire artists and songwriters have been battling health issues personally or within their families including cancer, surgeries, long-term illnesses, and mental health. Please keep our community's health in your prayers.
- We are so, so thankful for the financial provision God has shown for Inspire for 2023. Please continue to pray for God's wisdom and financial providence for us as we move into 2024. God has placed big dreams on our hearts of things to come!
- We have been making lots of new church connections! Please pray for the Lord to strengthen these relationships with local churches as well as local businesses to partner together in ministry.

Upcoming Events



Free @ Benton Convention Center

Worship Co:
2pm Main Stage

Art Co: 1-6pm
North Pole Village



The Crossing Church - Union Cross Campus

Before &
Following
10:30am Service



Songwriters wanted!

Sign up online to share a song. Get to know other writers in our community! OakLawn Church 3500 Kernersville Rd, Winston Salem



Free Virtual Meetup

Theme: New Beginnings

Stay connected!

Inspire Creative Company
www.inspirecreativecompany.org
Facebook @inspiringartiststocreate
Instagram @inspirecreativecompany
Email info@inspirecreativecompany.org

Moving?

Need to update your contact info or go green and subscribe to our e-newsletter? Visit:
www.inspirecreativecompany.org/contact

**All donations to Inspire Creative Company 501c3 are tax deductible*

*"Inspiring artists to grow in community and share the gospel through creative works."
The Gospel is our message. Art is our language.*

INSPIRE CREATIVE COMPANY

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Inspire Friends and Family,

I can't believe it's already Christmas time. This year has absolutely flown by. Because it's the end of another year, that means it's time to reflect on all that God has done through Inspire! As we end 2023 I want to SHOUT THANK YOU to everyone who has carried us in prayer, donated, volunteered, or been a part of supporting Inspire in any way. You have truly helped make 2023 a phenomenal year for us as we have carried out our mission to "inspire artists to grow in community and share the gospel through creative works." This year, we really focused on three major things: First, our team has worked hard to make a strong financial foundation for Inspire. Second, we began building a stronger staff and volunteer team to support events and initiatives. Third, God opened doors for us to make multiple new community connections. I am so excited to say that this year, Inspire partnered with **5 churches** in our region. We also held events at **5 different locations this year and hope to partner with more churches, businesses and nonprofits in 2024. This is a big deal and an answer to many prayers in 2022. We have been working hard behind the scenes to build new connections in our community and are so excited to see what becomes of those in 2024.** I am so proud of our team at Inspire and how hard they have worked to make the various events and initiatives possible. Here are some key stats, celebrations and God moments from 2023.

Inspire 2023

- Inspire Worship Co. held 17 songwriting sessions
- Inspire Worship Co. completed and released our second full length album "Peacemaker," selling 50+ albums for an income over \$1000 (June-Nov)
- Approximately 1,250 streams of "Peacemaker" songs across platforms (June-Nov)



- Inspire Worship Co performed 6 free community concerts this year including Renew Worship at the Crossing Church, the Kernersville Spring Folly, Peacemaker Album Release Concert, WBFJ Local Flavors, Tabitha Ministries Benefit Event, and lastly, Christmas for the City 2023.
- Inspire Worship Co. performed 2 free mini live stream sessions on Facebook Live

- Inspire Worship Co. was featured on the radio! We were interviewed by Kurt Meyers about our new album on WBFJ Local Flavors
- Inspire Worship Co. partnered with Given Coffee to host our first Open Mic Night with 8 local songwriters and about 70 people in attendance



- We held 6 Art Co Classes and 3 Artist Meet-ups
- 70 people attended Inspire Art Co Classes in 2023
- Our Poiema Art Showcase saw a 50% increase in artists, and double the attendance of the prior year!
- Inspire Art Co. had our first ever interactive art booth at Christmas for the City!
- We had one craft booth at the Kernersville Spring Folly and also set up our original art at many events throughout the year.



God moments in 2023:

- The process of preparing our Inspire Worship Co. musicians to record in the studio, as well as the recording process itself, was a huge amount of work personally and collectively for Inspire Worship Co. members. Our "Peacemaker" album release concert was a powerful testimony of worship to the community and the church where we played. Hearing the stories of those who have been touched through these songs has been affirmational to the team who poured out sacrificially to write and record them.



Rachel Hickling

Executive Director & Founder
Inspire Creative Company

Financial Milestones

- Inspire held 5 bake sales at 3 locations, bringing in over \$2000
- Inspire held a Yard Sale bringing in over \$2500
- We had 3 businesses sponsor our Poiema Showcase this year with over \$1500!
- On Giving Tuesday, we brought in \$700!
- We met many of our financial goals for 2023 and were able to consistently compensate our existing staff
- Non Churchd people from a local coffee shop attended our Poiema Showcase event and had a positive experience with the church.
- After much, MUCH prayer, God brought us our new Art Co Director, Melissa Edwards!
- We heard beautiful testimonies and songs from 8 local songwriters, including 3 new-to-Inspire groups, at our Open Mic night at Given Coffee. The stories and songs shared were an incredibly meaningful way of sharing the gospel!
- We were able to touch the lives of 8,000+ people in the Winston Salem Community at Christmas for the City

Giving Season

As we enter the Christmas season, we often hear an emphasis on *buying*. But more than *buying stuff*, the Bible emphasizes *giving*. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

I love the story of the widow's offering in Mark 12:41-44. Jesus was teaching in the temple, and saw many of the rich people giving large gifts into the temple treasury. Then he saw a widow give two small copper coins "worth only a fraction of a penny." Instead of rebuking the woman for giving so little and praising the wealthy for giving a large amount, he praised the poor woman for giving everything she had. **Jesus knows the heart.**

Cue the strings, right? I'm not here to strongarm you or guilt you into giving this year. That's not my intention! As one who personally loves *buying* and *shopping* I'm just here reminding *myself* about what God's Word says about... giving.

Here at Inspire, we rely upon the generosity of others in order to continue in ministry. And we are so, so thankful that we have seen God's faithfulness in seasons of plenty and seasons of want. The financial gifts given to Inspire are put to use to grow the Kingdom of God using the language of the arts. If you are considering giving to Inspire this year, there are several ways you can help with your year-end donation:

1. **Donate online!** www.inspirecreativecompany.org/donate
2. **Mail a check!** Address to: Inspire Creative Company
126 North Main Street, Kernersville NC 27284
3. **Shop Inspired Christmas Creations!** Give unique gifts this Christmas

Donate
here



SCAN ME



IN PERSON SALE LOCATIONS

- **Sun Dec 10, 5-7pm** Project Re:3 (1474 Kerner Rd, Kernersville)
- **Sun Dec 17, 10am-12:30pm** The Crossing Unions Cross (1650 Pecan Rd, Kernersville)

Thank you for your continued support! YOU are an answer to our prayers!

Faith J. Marks

Assistant Director
Inspire Creative Company

Christmas
Creations



SCAN ME