

Living Stones Worship & Arts Ministry, Inc.
Concept Paper (Abridged)

Issues & Problems:

As Christian believers, according to the Biblical scriptures, we are ordained to worship God in all that we do. We consider our gifts and talents ways in which we may worship God. Undoubtedly, there are many individuals within the circle of Christian believers who have a true desire to use their talents and gifts for this purpose, but there is no vehicle by which they can express themselves through the arts and still uncompromisingly maintain their Christian lifestyle. Consequently, as Christian artists, we have identified and listed a few issues that we believe incite the inception of arts ministry.

- 1) The entertainment industry prides itself on being innovative and pushing the limits of censorship. As a result, many Christian artists attempting to pursue a career in the arts are faced with compromising their standards, morals, and spiritual beliefs.

This conflict gives way to the next issue:

- 2) When a Christian artist is not willing to compromise, most times, their opportunities to work in the industry are limited. Christian artists who chose to forego the ideologies of the industry have few outlets to work in the mainstream. And although there has been a new wave of “church plays,” and traveling “Christian productions,” many of these entities lack a standard of excellence, quality, and training.
- 3) Therefore, due to a lack of professional training, the quality of production is missing. In many instances, in order to gain the professional knowledge and experience to advance in the arts, Christian artists are either forced to study under secular teachings and endure principles that they do not spiritually agree with, or many forsake the training because they are not willing to compromise their spiritual standards in order to mature their passion in this profession.

General Goals and Activities:

Living Stones Worship & Arts Ministry, Inc. will serve the world as a teaching and training entity, serve the on-campus ministry as a headship/steward, and serve the artistic Christian community as an internal tool for connections and career consultation. *Living Stones, Inc.* will provide a multitude of outlets by which to assist the artist in obtaining quality, high profile, competitive training in the artistic industry, and in ministry.

“You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ”. – 1 Peter 2:5.

Living Stones, Inc. will train ministers in the arts by providing spiritual development and artistic growth through Biblical studies, praise and worship sessions, and workshops and seminars in theatre, acting, mime, dance, writing, and the spoken word. The essence of these training grounds will support the standards and values of Biblical principles.

The ministry will write, produce and perform original traditional and multimedia productions. The ministry will maintain a commitment to create, cultivate, and support theatre with standards, quality, and passion for both the spiritual and artistic sectors.

The ministry will continue to support the *Living Stones WAM, Howard University Chapter*, provide an outlet for continual ministry in the arts after graduation, and facilitate opportunities for other Christian artists to hone their skills.

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Living Stones WAM, Inc.