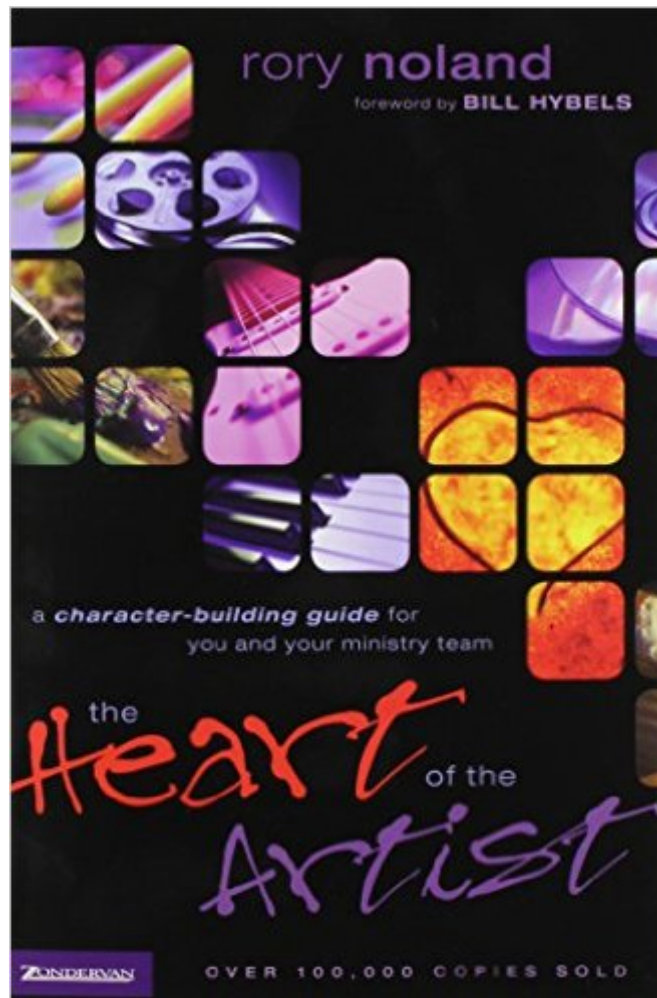


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# The Heart Of The Artist



## Synopsis

Over 100,000 sold • Great for individuals and teams • Includes provocative discussion questions • "I wish I had your gift!" • How do you handle those words as a creative artist? Somewhere between pride and self-abasement lies true humility • "just one aspect of the balanced character God wants to instill in you as an actor, a musician, a visual artist, or other creative person involved in ministry. God is interested in your art and your heart. The Heart of the Artist deals head-on with issues every person in an arts ministry faces: • Servanthood Versus Stardom • Excellence Versus Perfectionism • The Spiritual Disciplines of the Artist • The Artist in Community . . . and more The Heart of the Artist will give you a better understanding of yourself and your unique place in the body of Christ. You will find wisdom and encouragement that can help you survive the challenges and reap the rich joys of a ministry in the creative arts. • Breathtakingly personal, practical, and poignant." • "Timothy Tien, New York, New York • I am better for having applied these principles. . . . A must-read for church staff, creative types, growing Christians, human beings." • "Rev. Ginny Allen, Jackson, Mississippi • Rory Noland pinpoints issues that often arise in the life of the artist, and gives good, biblical solutions. A must-have for Christian artists in any field." • "Tom Hinkle, Tulsa, Oklahoma Rory Noland is director of Heart of the Artist Ministries ([www.heartoftheartist.org](http://www.heartoftheartist.org)), an organization dedicated to turning teams of church artists into communities of grace. A composer songwriter, author, and speaker, Rory is a graduate of the Chicago Musical College at Roosevelt University and served for twenty years as music director at Willow Creek Community Church.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The Heart of the Artist" is an indispensable guide to understanding artists and the struggles they face in Christian music ministry. It is not only suitable for artists themselves, but for anyone trying to figure out those "artsy types". This book contains valuable insights into many areas that I have not found addressed by any other source. Chapter titles include: Servanthood versus Stardom; Excellence versus Perfectionism; Handling Criticism; Jealousy and Envy; Managing Your Emotions; Leading Artists; The Artist and Sin; and The Spiritual Disciplines of the Artist. Issues are dealt with from a biblical viewpoint by the author, who leads a huge team of artists and technical people at Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, IL, a suburb of Chicago. The most encouraging thing to me that came out of the book is that as artists, we serve a creative God, and we should be creative. Because Bible-believing Christians have things to say that have eternal significance, we should be neither ashamed nor stifled in our expression. Yes, artists are created differently, as evidenced by our sensitivity, our temperaments, and our personalities, but we must not allow those things to be an excuse for bad behavior and bad character. God knows we're different, and He made us that way on purpose. Winning people to Christ is the only thing we can do that has eternal significance, and He has given artists a way to communicate His truth to people in a way that speaks to the hearts of people like nothing else does. God deserves our best, most creative, and most powerful work. "The Heart of the Artist" can be read individually, or used as a small group study guide since it comes complete with group discussion questions, follow-up questions, and personal action steps.

Rory Noland displays keen observation and broad experience in human relations. Inter-personal conflict is not limited to artistic types, although his examples are drawn directly from that venue. For that reason, the book is a MUST for anyone in creative work. Not theological jargon and religious hype, but a book of straight-forward, practical life applications. The situations make you say "Ouch!" as you recognize your own responses and shudder to think you aren't as perfect as you'd like to think. Rory describes the selfishness problem of all humanity and specifically prescribes the affective treatment with Biblical reinforcement. Solid stuff! I am a clergy-person who found that this book targeted areas in life where character-building and personal growth needed to take place. I am better for having applied these principles. I marvel at the insight of Mr. Noland and am grateful for this concise approach to becoming a better person and shaping a better world.

one-person-at-a-time. A MUST-READ for church staff, creative types, growing Christians, human beings...

Somebody once called me a "high-maintenance artistic type". And, I suppose it's true. Not that it's an excuse for anything, mind you. But creative types are often overly sensitive, vulnerable to temptations and addictions, insecure, prideful, and have a host of other tendencies that do nothing to promote good, harmonious working relationships with others in the church (and with God). Guilty as charged. Well, this book gets right to the heart of the matter in dealing with every conceivable situation that arises among groups of artists (whether worship team, drama team, or dance team) that attempt to work together for the glory of God. The fact is, there is no place for jealousy, envy, and backbiting among artists or any other Christians. Rory Noland pinpoints issues that often arise in the life of the artist, and gives good, Biblical solutions. A must-have for Christian artists in any field.

This is my second time reading this book. I read it with our former praise team when I lived in Virginia about ten years ago. Now we live in Florida and we are reading through it again with another praise team at a different church. This book is just as relevant now as it was then. Because I am a church musician, the words of this book are almost as if I were looking into a mirror. It is almost as if Rory wrote this book to me personally although we have never met. He gives great solutions to avoid pitfalls in church ministry whether you are an instrumentalist, a vocalist, a sound technician, or a leader in the music ministry. If you serve in the music ministry at your church in any capacity, I highly recommend this book.

amazing book... really makes you look inward. Liked it so much i bought 10 and started a book study with the worship team at my church... Recommend it to anyone!!!

I thoroughly enjoyed this book - I highly recommend it as required reading for any worship team member/musician/artist. Most people I know, would probably not enjoy this book, because it calls them out on their "selfish, prideful, high & mighty" ways of doing business in a church worship team setting. However, that is the intention of this reading. Thanks to the seller for making this available.

I bought this book many years ago as a Worship leader when it was fairly new. I recently purchased it for the members of my current worship team where I am just another member. Rory Noland's

sage and biblically based advice has stood the test of time. Chapters such as "Servanthood vs. Stardom" are why this book is so good. Leading worship is more than just getting up in front of a microphone, it is a calling, not a hobby. A must have for every church engaged in music ministry.

Bought this based on a recommendation from a good friend. Ended up getting it used for \$4 shipped! Even if it was 10 times as much it would still be worth it. If you are an artist of any kind looking to grow in church ministry, this is a must read. It is easy to follow, filled with thought-provoking questions and exercises, and is based on sound theology.

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