



The past five years have seen a lot of growth, lessons and celebrations. Check out this timeline of how we've grown since our first open mic session in 2013!

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FROM 2013 TO NOW

2013 - "THE BEGINNING"

*A simple concept with a simple plan. Started at The White Hart on **March 29th, 2013**. Concluded the year with a special showcase event featuring artists from The Strivers' Row.*

2014 - "THE RETURN"

*What was originally a departure was a brief exodus. The theme "**Legacy**" announced the return with TOOLRY, a new co-working space for creatives and artists.*

2015 - "THE RENAISSANCE"

*The movement grows. Partnerships and relationships deepen, including those with **Lynchstock Music Festival** and **Riverviews Artspace**.*

2016 - "THE PURSUIT OF GREATNESS"

*The word is out. Our first feature in the **News & Advance** follows a collaboration with the **JRACH**, an event themed "Origins". A collective called "Spencer's Vanguard" is formed and we become a corporation and tax-exempt in the same year.*

2017 - "THE JOURNEY INTO IDENTITY"

*More growth. More collaborations. More events and more definition. Affiliations and partnerships grow, including **USDAC**, **Youth Speaks**, and **ASTEP**.*

2018- "THE CELEBRATION"

*The fifth year sees a bold venture with plans to bring a new summer program for local young readers: **Freedom Schools!***