## Downtown to Become Spectacle for Molten Iron & Art Night of Fire Event September 9 with Makers of All Ages & Levels

Night of Fire Event on September 9 Involves Makers of All Ages and Levels



**Winston-Salem, North Carolina Aug 1, 2023 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>)** - Mixxer, one of NC's fastest-growing makerspaces, announces its 5th annual Night of Fire. This is an event that draws crowds to downtown Winston-Salem's Industry Hill neighborhood to take part in creating metal art.

Between now and September 9th, the whole community will have the opportunity to create upcycled Iron Art by customizing their own sand mold through a series of special workshops. Then, on September 9th, Mixxer's metal arts crew will use a specially-designed furnace to melt the iron and tap about 2,000lbs of white-hot molten iron that will light up the night and get poured into each individual's sand molds. Once cooled and hardened, the designs will be released, and participants get to take home their unique piece of metal art.

"We're very proud to work towards making this an accessible experience for everyone," Elaine Lamson, Mixxer's Executive Director commented. "There's a lot of sparks, fire and spectacle involved so watching is amazing, but not everyone realizes that they can participate in creating their own personally crafted piece of iron art as a byproduct." Through unique partnerships with the NC Arts Council and Arts Council Winston-Salem Forsyth County, Mixxer is able to offer participants equitable access to the tools, instruction and supplies to create a custom mold for the cast-iron experience. Giving the community a way to make something personal out of cast iron is truly unique. "You've probably never thought about making a metal bowl, a special pet memorial or maybe your house numbers as a metal placard, but it's an opportunity you don't often come by."

This year's Night of Fire molten Iron Pour spectacle with all its flames and sparks, will take place at dusk and feature body painted fire dancers painted by world-renown Cheryl Ann Lipstreu September 9th on Mixxer's back lawn at 9th and Trade Streets, and will be free to watch. The festivities will start at 3pm with live facility tours, classes, demonstrations throughout their dozen different shop spaces and a final opportunity to create your own design to be poured.

The Night of Fire event, as well as demonstrations, tours and parking, are all free and available to everyone. Workshop costs related to creating iron-art molds vary, and are posted on the Mixxer website: <a href="https://www.wsmixxer.org/ironart.org/">wsmixxer.org/ironart.org/ironart.org/ironart.org/</a>

About Mixxer Community Makerspace: As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, Mixxer is a community makerspace striving to level the playing field for learners. By facilitating equitable access to tools, technology and related education, Mixxer empowers individuals to build more meaningful lives, pursue rewarding careers, and strengthen their communities.



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