



Harvest America 2017 | Musician Bios

NEEDTOBREATHE:

NEEDTOBREATHE and their “anthemic Southern rock” sound has received national attention both in and out of the Christian music scene. Their album, *The Outsiders*, was featured in numerous blockbuster films and prime-time television shows. Winner of multiple GMA Dove Awards, NEEDTOBREATHE has a reputation as a must-see live act. The band’s album, *The Reckoning*, debuted at No. 6 on the Billboard 200 chart. NEEDTOBREATHE is passionate about carefully composing songs with a deeper meaning, addressing serious themes relevant to the brokenhearted and downtrodden.

MERCYME:

Formed in 1994, MercyMe found its way into the spotlight with its subsequent release of “I Can Only Imagine,” which gained popularity in both Christian and mainstream markets. Since then, MercyMe has continued to produce top-quality albums as a Multi-Platinum band and has enjoyed several Grammy nominations and multiple Dove awards. In 2009, Billboard named MercyMe’s “Word of God Speak” the No. 1 Christian Song of the Decade. Their eighth studio album, released in 2012, *The Hurt & The Healer*, debuted at No. 7 on the Billboard 200 chart and was written as a reminder to people that they are redeemed and sanctified in Jesus Christ. Their spectacular collection has only been enhanced by the addition of their newest album, *Lifer* (March 2017).

TRIP LEE:

Trip Lee is an acclaimed rapper, author, pastor, and Brag Ministry founder who delivers a clarion call to listeners everywhere to rise from the dead and actually live. This theme is captured in his fifth and newest album, *Rise*. While many rappers are known for bragging about themselves and their own accomplishments, Lee asks, “What if when I brag, I’m not talking about me, but I use everything in my life to point to God and honor him? That [is] the idea.” Over the past decade, Lee has released four other full-length albums, selling more than 250,000 copies collectively. The culmination of these albums was his 2012 release, *The Good Life*, which spawned a book by the same name and received two 2013 Dove Award nominations. Lee was recently featured on the cover of *Christianity Today* for their “33 under 33” edition.

PHIL WICKHAM:

Singer, songwriter, and worship leader Phil Wickham is no stranger to Harvest Crusades. Having grown up in Southern California, Phil attended this annual event held at Anaheim Stadium for many years. Phil began writing songs and leading worship when he was 12 years old. His song “This Is the Day” serves as the intro track for Greg Laurie’s radio broadcast, *A New Beginning*, as well as his television program, *GregLaurie.tv*. Phil’s single “This Is Amazing Grace” topped charts for weeks on end, took top honor of Song of the Year at the 2015 BMI Christian Music Awards, and continues to inspire spontaneous worship in hearts all over the globe.

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