



aspire...
Inspiration *for women*

WRITERS' *guidelines*

aspire... Magazine's mission is to inspire women to follow their hearts, listen to their souls, honor their bodies and the world around them through empowering, inspirational and educational articles, interviews, profiles and more.

aspire... Magazine is published bi-monthly and accepts articles, poems, queries and ideas for consideration *by email only*. aspire... is based on a foundation of reader-submitted work and we welcome unsolicited articles. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with our mission of providing our readers with information to empower, inspire and encourage women on their journey. When submitting an electronic file, please save your article as a MS Word document and e-mail it as an attachment to Editor@aspiremag.net. All queries will receive a response, via email within three weeks.

• what to send •

Queries. If you are unsure of our interest in the topic of your article, we encourage you to send a query. A query is a one-page specific description and outline of your article. It should clearly describe your idea, how you will develop the piece and why/how readers would find it of interest. Ideas for interviews should outline how the interviewee is of particular interest. The query should demonstrate a skilled command of writing concepts including grammar, structure and flow.

Articles sent for consideration may appear in our print and/or on our content rich website. It is assumed that writers submitting articles for consideration have read and agreed to the writers' guidelines. Articles for the print edition can be no longer than 700 words maximum. aspire... does not wish to publish articles that have been published within the past year or are currently being published by similar publications. You must notify aspire... if the article has appeared elsewhere. Please include up to a 40 word bio at the end of your article with website and contact information.

• style & voice •

In keeping with aspire's mission to inform, encourage and empower, we look for articles based in personal experience with an animated narrative voice that captivates and inspires. Your unique personality and tone are the cornerstones of a successful article.

• length •

Generally, our articles submissions are 700 words or less. Select features may run 1000-2000 words. Interviews up to 1500 words.

• got an idea or article, but not sure how to develop it? •

Send it along anyway... if we like it, one of our staff writers/editors will work with you.

• what not to send •

We are not interested in advertorials or editorials – share of yourself and your path instead. In general, we do not accept previously published work. Please do not send us an article that you have already submitted elsewhere unless you have had the article returned or have heard that it is not going to be used. While we honor every religious/spiritual belief, please do not send materials designed to convert others.

• payment •

aspire... Magazine offers authors who are accepted for either the print edition or web edition the following: Their professional bio, contact information (40 word maximum) at end of article including a web link when placed online. At this time we do not pay for articles accepted for print or online. Publication is considered payment for exposure. At times we may request a longer article from a writer due to the quality of the subject matter, at this time a payment may be considered.

• publication •

aspire... Magazine does not guarantee publication dates, but will run accepted articles accepted within six issues (one year). Editors may ask for up to two revisions and reserve the right to make final editing changes. aspire's procedure is to read and respond to articles within four to six weeks of receiving them. aspire accepts articles on a speculative basis so even if we have expressed an interest in, or given you the go-ahead on, a proposed article, we cannot guarantee its publication. If an article that has been submitted to aspire has not been published in one year the writer is free to submit it elsewhere.

• rights •

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EDITORIAL calendar

• d e c 0 7 / j a n 0 8 •

BLESSINGS

A blessing is the infusion of something with holiness, divine will, or one's hopes. We have all experienced blessings of every kind, from the birth of a child, to the feeling of the wind in our hair. When your eyes are open to the blessings of life- you will see them everywhere

QUOTE: **"Reflect on your present blessings, of which every man has many; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some."**
-Charles Dickens

• f e b / m a r 0 8 •

BEING PRESENT

The spiritual practice of being present to 'be here now.' The majority of the world's religions all recommend living in the moment with full awareness and being present is the best way to feel at peace.

QUOTE: **"Each second we live is a new and unique moment of the universe — a moment that never was before and never will be again."**
-Pablo Casals quoted in Full Esteem Ahead by Diane Loomans

• a p r / m a y 0 8 •

TRANSFORMATION

It covers the deepening that takes place when we get in touch with our Higher Self or Spirit. Transformation is a living process as each moment presents the opportunity to reach a little deeper.

QUOTE: **"It is the closing of the heart far more than the closing of the mind that keeps folk from transformation and deepening."**
-Jean Houston in Search for the Beloved

• j u n e / j u l y 0 8 •

CONNECTIONS

Connection is human sustenance. One definition of spirituality is "the art of making connections." Separateness is an illusion. That's what we learn through the spiritual practice of connections.

Quote: **"If everything is connected to everything else, then everyone is ultimately responsible for everything. We can blame nothing on anyone else. The more we comprehend our mutual interdependence, the more we fathom the implications of our most trivial acts. We find ourselves within a luminous organism of sacred responsibility."** -Laurence Kushner in Invisible Lines of Connection

• a u g / s e p t 0 8 •

FORGIVENESS

All the spiritual traditions raise up the value of forgiveness, but many people still find it to be a nearly impossible ideal. Unleash the power of forgiveness today!

Quote: **"The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world."** -Marianne Williamson in A Return to Love

• o c t / n o v 0 8 •

BALANCE

The search for balance in all aspects of life is a daily process. Finding the balance between physical, emotional and spiritual is the key to peace.

Quote: **"The best and safest thing is to keep a balance in your life, acknowledge the great powers around us and in us. If you can do that, and live that way, you are really a wise man."** -Euripides