



CHIEF AYANDA IFADARA CLARKE

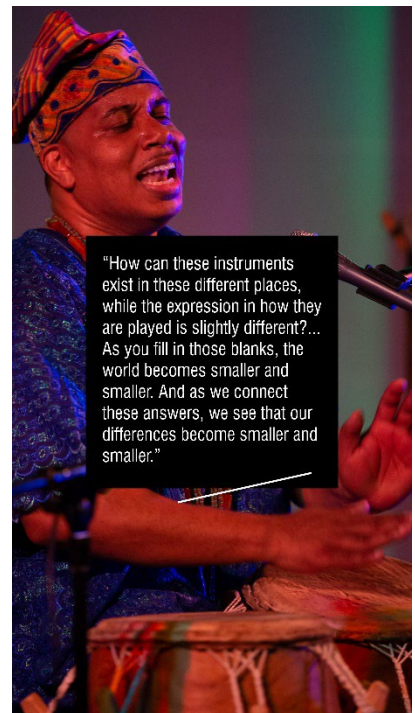
Chief Ayanda Ifadara Clarke, Ajibilu Awo of Osogboland, is an artist, musician, educator, and creative consultant. Brooklyn-born-and-raised, he has emerged as a thought leader and inspiring voice for his generation. Respectfully known as Chief Ayanda, Clarke has intertwined music, culture, and spirituality within his performances, programs, and lectures. It is through this integrated work that he embodies and uplifts African and African Diasporic traditions.

For his unique voice and years of accomplishments, Chief Ayanda has been featured on SiriusXM (*Lurie Daniel Favors Show*), KBLA Talk Radio (*First Things First with Dominique DiPrima*), in the *New York Amsterdam News*, Fox 5 News New York, *WBAI Radio*, and on countless local, community, and indie print and broadcast outlets in the United States and beyond.

MUSIC

A GRAMMY® Award-winning musician, Chief Ayanda has had the honor of performing with or sharing the stage with many greats, including **Randy Weston, George Clinton, Michael Jackson, Will Calhoun, Doug E. Fresh, KRS-One, Erykah Badu, Somi**, and countless others. Performing since he was five, Chief Ayanda has toured throughout North America, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Europe several times over. He's also performed, recorded, and licensed original music that has been featured on television, in film, and Off-Broadway, and he's respected globally as a music production consultant.

As a mentor to artists, Chief Ayanda regularly shares insights on and develops creative content in a variety of genres. It is his knowledge of cultural style, traditional instrumentation, and compositional understanding (which ranges from hip hop to popular music to traditional African music throughout the Diaspora) that make him heavily sought after amongst peers, elders, and juniors alike. He also consults organizations that wish to bridge the gap between spirit and artistry. Select performing credits include **Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Radio City Music Hall, Good Morning America, America's Got Talent, U.S. Open, The Late Show with David Letterman**, and many others.



"How can these instruments exist in these different places, while the expression in how they are played is slightly different?... As you fill in those blanks, the world becomes smaller and smaller. And as we connect these answers, we see that our differences become smaller and smaller."

CULTURE

Chief Ayanda's lectures, masterclasses, performances, and public programs are presented through ***True To Our Native Land***, his education initiative. This work showcases Clarke's skills as a motivational speaker and engaging performer—all of which has led him to regular engagements at Princeton, Yale, Howard University, Apple, Microsoft, Apollo Theater, Brooklyn Public Library, and many other spaces.

A Dalton School and Wesleyan University graduate, Clarke gives context to how he approaches his students, mentees, and clients:

Teaching is an honorable vocation where one acquires skills and credentials to produce successful results. Being an educator, however, is a journey that's focused on life-long learning and facilitating personal enlightenment for all who seek it. At my core, I'm an educator.

As a passionate institution-builder, Clarke founded and leads THE FADARA GROUP, his umbrella organization for **Integrated Wealth Alliance (IWA)**, a network of African-centered business leaders and **Afro-Vitality: A Wellness Expo**. Chief Ayanda also serves as a Cultural Advisor Board Member of the Brooklyn-based charter school, the Ella Baker Institute.

In 2023, Chief Ayanda was named as both the Cultural Director and Spiritual Advisor of the highly anticipated Off-Broadway production of *Syncing Ink*, debuting at the Apollo's new Victoria Theater (spring 2024).



SPIRITUALITY

Chief Ayanda, quite literally, was born to the sound of the drum and into a home where African culture and philosophy were central. His spiritual practice is shaped by these fundamental, vital truths. Over the decades, he has emerged as an esteemed spiritual health counselor who serves the community as an initiate of Ifa, Orisa (Yemonja), Ayan, and Egungun (ancestors). He is the founder and Chief Babalawo of Ile Oturupon

Sokun Temple through which he tends to the spiritual needs of individuals, couples, and families throughout the United States.

Chief Ayanda also consults and serves as an officiant for ancestral veneration ceremonies. A few of his clients include Wesleyan University, Princeton University, SUNY Purchase, and the Bowery Resident's Committee (BRC) Advisory Group for the Inwood Sacred Sites (New York), where he also serves as a spiritual advisor.

Clarke is the founder and CEO of THE FADARA GROUP, a multi-faceted business that houses all his services, productions, and public programs.

Intertwining Music, Culture, and Spirituality

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