



CHIEF AYANDA IFADARA CLARKE

master percussionist, educator, and creative content consultant

Personal Bio

Chief Ayanda Ifadara Clarke, Ajibilu Awo of Osogboland, is a master percussionist, educator, and creative content consultant who focuses on the intersections of art, culture, and spirit. Highly skilled and internationally revered, he embodies and uplifts African and African Diasporic traditions. Clarke is also the founder of Ajibilu Music, LLC. Born and raised in Bed-Stuy (Brooklyn, New York), the GRAMMY® Award-winning musician has performed or shared the stage with countless masters—from Michael Jackson and Will Calhoun to KRS-One and Erykah Badu. His compositions have been recorded, performed, and licensed for television, film, and Off-Broadway, including *So You Think You Can Dance*, *Elysium*, and *Cullad Wattah*. Clarke served as the Spiritual Advisor and Cultural Director for *Syncing Ink*, the groundbreaking Off-Broadway hip hop theater production that premiered at the Apollo's Victoria Theater in 2024.

As an impactful public speaker, Chief Ayanda frequents a variety of non-profit, academic, and corporate events ranging from the Apollo Theater, Brooklyn Public Library, Princeton University, Yale University, Howard University, and Microsoft to National Sawdust, Apple, SUNY Empire State, and many other spaces. One of his treasured experiences is working with school-age children. He founded THE FADARA GROUP to house and platform his educational initiatives and public programs.

Clarke was installed as a chief in Osogbo, Nigeria, nominated by his teacher, Chief Agbongbon Fakayode Faniyi. He is a spiritual health counselor and healer who serves as an initiate of Ifa, Orisa, Ayan, and Egungun (ancestors). He's also the founder of Ile Oturupon Sokun Temple.

Blurb: THE FADARA GROUP, LLC

THE FADARA GROUP, LLC, founded by Chief Ayanda Ifadara Clarke, presents works that are infused with music, culture, and spirituality. The organization advocates for programming that celebrates the authentic representations of African and African Diasporic culture in a variety of ways. Presentations range from community-based and university lectures to live concerts at venues such as Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Museum, and National Sawdust. THE FADARA GROUP also served as a co-producer of the Off-Broadway hip hop theater production of *Syncing Ink*.

■ Follow @ChiefAyandaClarke on Instagram

Intertwining Music, Culture, and Spirituality

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