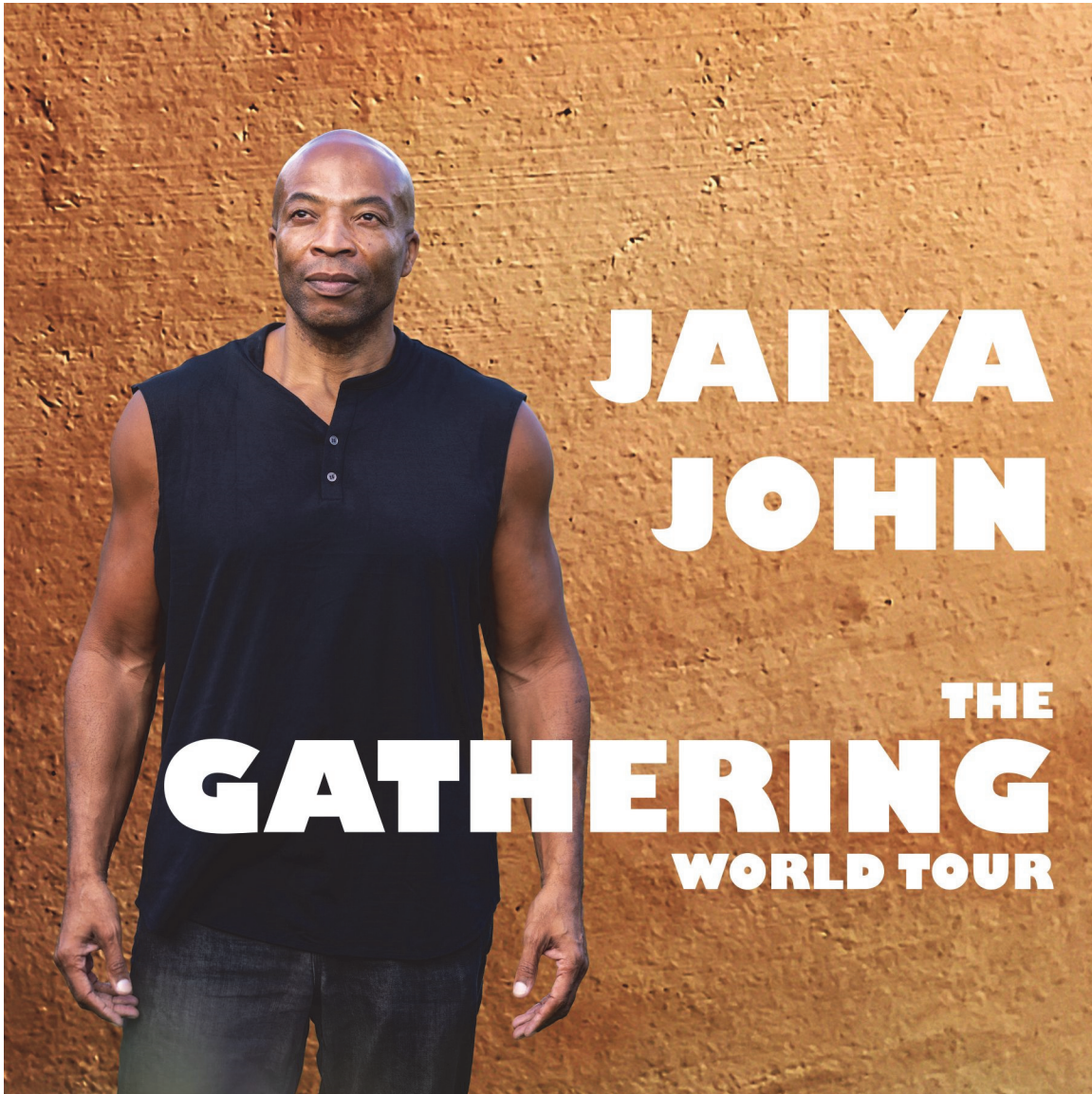


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## PLANNING KIT FOR BRINGING THE TOUR TO YOUR COMMUNITY



The Gathering. A World Tour by Dr. Jaiya John.

Poetry reading ceremony and book collection sales and signing

*Gathering together for collective freedom from oppression*

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## THE SPIRIT AND INTENTION OF THE GATHERING TOUR

- *The Gathering* is a tour that brings communities together in a Loving, healing spirit; celebrates literature, art, creativity, and life; and honors and centers humankind's collective work of freedom from oppression as well as those groups who are historically oppressed, marginalized, and dehumanized. My life's work and these readings address the spiritual, social, psychological, cultural, ancestral, and Indigenous aspects of the human condition in the context of freedom work to overcome and heal from historical, supremacist, systemic oppression and caste systems. This tour's intention is to provide spirit, energy, momentum, and kinship toward collective healing, the dissolution of our harmful ways of life, and revival of Indigenous ways of being.

## BASIC GATHERING STRUCTURE (varies for each gathering)

- 5-10 minute local artist blessing (optional)
- 90 minute poetry reading ceremony by Dr. Jaiya John, reading from his books and unpublished work.
- 30-minute audience Q&A conversation with Jaiya (optional)
- 60 minutes of Aftercare (fellowship, book collection sales and signing, visiting with Jaiya, photos, \*light food and drink when appropriate and feasible)

## LOCAL TOUR COORDINATING PARTNER(S)

- This may be the most essential piece to have in place for a tour stop to be both fruitful for the community and affordable for the tour. Local tour partners take the lead in identifying viable, aligned venues and helping us to secure venue dates. Coordinators serve as gathering hosts when possible.
- Local tour coordinating partners must be mature, reliable, dependable, able to communicate consistently with us during planning and preparation periods, skilled and/or experienced at event planning/production, and be of a spirit that reflects the spirit and values of Soul Water Rising and Jaiya John's global rehumanizing mission.
- Local tour coordinating partners are ideally volunteers who value bringing the tour to their communities. The tour will compensate these partners when possible, though this would be a very modest amount.

## TOUR FINANCIAL NEEDS

- This is a completely independent tour that serves as the professional livelihood of Dr. Jaiya John. Significant travel expenses are also involved for a worldwide tour.
- For these reasons, for each regional (city, town, or area within driving distance) tour stop, the tour requires a minimum paid speaking/performance fee or tour stop sponsorship before being able to commit to the tour stop.
- This minimum amount differs from stop to stop, depending on several factors, including travel expenses. Please contact us through the tour page at [jaiyajohn.com](http://jaiyajohn.com) to explore how we can mutually make a tour stop affordable.

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- This fee and/or sponsorship allows Jaiya John to offer one to four poetry reading gatherings over the course of one to four non-travel days for any particular region.
- If the fee and/or sponsorship is sufficient, some of these poetry readings can be free or donation-based gatherings.
- For this vital funding, the tour seeks any combination of people, organizations, universities, corporations, festivals, etc. who understand the artistic, social, spiritual, community, and healing value of the poetry reading gatherings and who would be interested in helping to financially support a tour visit to their region.

## VENUE AND AUDIENCE SCOPE AND SIZE

- This tour seeks venues of a capacity ranging from less than 50 to several thousand.
- Each tour stop can range in duration from 2-4 days of gatherings. This does not include travel days.
- One gathering a day is our limit.
- We depend on venues and/or local tour coordinating partners to commit to thoroughly and effectively promoting each tour gathering, to allow for tour sustainability and impact.
- This means more than just a few posts on Instagram. It requires targeted outreach to relevant community sectors, groups, organizations, and social media who may be aligned with or find value in a particular gathering.
- Possible venues include cafés, bookstores, libraries, prisons, hospitals, shelters, community centers, women's centers and spaces, botanical gardens and parks, college and university campuses, HBCU's, Indigenous communities, art galleries and studios, museums, amphitheaters, auditoriums, theaters, festivals, and stadiums.

## VENUE NEEDS

- A reliable, clear sound system. A lapel microphone is ideal. A cabled microphone is next most effective. And if necessary, a cordless microphone will do. Also, a tall microphone stand, and a strong, clear speaker or speaker system.
- A high coffee/bar table for Jaiya to sit his books on as he reads.
- Mood lighting is helpful though not required.
- A display table for Jaiya's sales books
- A support person for the book sales table
- A registration/check-in table and support person
- A reliable, skilled photographer (compensation when possible. volunteer support is dearly cherished)
- A reliable, skilled videographer (compensation when possible. volunteer support is dearly cherished)

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## TIMELINES FOR SECURING A TOUR STOP

- We need to have the essential pieces in place ideally at least 4 weeks prior to your tour dates, to be able to commit to a tour stop in your region. These essential pieces include local coordinating partner(s), artist fee and/or sponsorship, and venue dates and agreements.
- *The Gathering Tour* runs from February to October, 2024, with most international tour stops occurring from June to September.

## TOUR VALUE

- Dr. Jaiya John has addressed over a million souls in-person worldwide as a poet, artist, speaker, and teacher.
- Dr. Jaiya John's 19 books have sold over 50,000 copies worldwide.
- Dr. John's audience on Instagram is nearly 250,000 and his podcast, *I Will Read for You: The Voice and Writings of Jaiya John*, has been downloaded over 500,000 times.
- Dr. Jaiya John is a former professor of social psychology at Howard University in Washington, D.C., with a focus on intergroup and race relations.
- Dr. John works with audiences intuitively and empathically to create personal and group experiences that are safe, honoring, healing, renewing, clarifying, fortifying, inspiring, and life changing.
- Tour gatherings provide participants with the opportunity to interact with Dr. John and to acquire soul-nourishing books from among his collection of works.

## DR. JAIYA JOHN BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Jaiya John was orphan-born on Ancient Puebloan lands in the high desert of New Mexico, and is an internationally recognized freedom worker, author, and poet. Jaiya is the founder of Soul Water Rising, a global *rehumanizing* mission to eradicate oppression. The mission has donated thousands of Jaiya's books in support of social healing, and offers grants and scholarships to displaced and vulnerable youth. He is the author of numerous books, including *Dear Artist: A Love Letter*, *Fragrance After Rain*, *Daughter Drink This Water*, and *Freedom: Medicine Words for your Brave Revolution*. Jaiya writes, narrates, and produces the podcast, *I Will Read for You: The Voice and Writings of Jaiya John*, and is the founder of *The Gathering*, a global initiative and tour reviving traditional gathering and storytelling practices to fertilize social healing and liberation. He is a former professor of social psychology at Howard University, and has spoken to over a million people worldwide and audiences as large as several thousand. Jaiya is a former National Science Foundation fellow, and holds doctorate and master's degrees in social psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a focus on intergroup and race relations. As an undergraduate, he attended Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, and lived in Kathmandu, Nepal, where he studied Tibetan Holistic Medicine through independent research with Tibetan doctors and trekked to the base camp of Mt. Everest. His Indigenous soul dreams of frybread, sweetgrass, bamboo in the breeze, and turtle lakes whose poetry is peace.

Please reach out to us via the Gathering World Tour page at [jaiyajohn.com](http://jaiyajohn.com).

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