

## CREATIVE CHANGE 2023

A retreat at the intersection of arts, popular culture, and social justice

Monday, August 14, 2023 – August 18, 2023

Made possible with the generous support of The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Ford Foundation, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The JPB Foundation, Pop Culture Collaborative, Surdna Foundation, The Tow Foundation, Unbound Philanthropy and the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund.

### WHAT IF I NEED SOMETHING?

*Arrival at Albuquerque International Sunport and Transport to Tamaya Resort*

Private transportation has been arranged for you from the Albuquerque International Sunport to Tamaya.

Should there be any flight delays or cancellations, or if you have any issues connecting with your driver, please contact [toa@stampeventco.com](mailto:toa@stampeventco.com).

*Important Numbers*

Tamaya Concierge: 505-867-1234

*At Tamaya*

While you are here, do not hesitate to call Tamaya's Main Number at 505-867-1234 to ask for assistance with your room, hotel facilities, and services, or getting around the property.

*For All Other Matters*

We are also available for assistance and to respond to questions on the following matters:

Presentations: Sughey Ramirez (312-420-7221)

Audio/Visual or Presentation Set Up: Maddy Bustamante (585-601-0310)

Airport Shuttle or Lodging Arrangements: Pachia Yang (212-219-0111 x7009)

Finding Your Shuttle Upon Arrival: Sarah George (850-933-5376)

### *Departure Information*

Your departure time has been sent to you in an email. Plan to leave Tamaya from the reception lobby at least 3 hours before your flight.

## CONNECTING TO WIFI IN MEETING SPACES

Connect to the wireless network (SSID) called @Hyatt\_Meeting. Launch your Internet browser, follow the log-on instructions on the portal page then enter the following access code: CCR23

Need additional information? For Hyatt assistance, please dial “0” from a Tamaya house phone or telephone.

## SOCIAL MEDIA AND PRIVACY

We ask that **all participants be respectful of the privacy of participants and the sensitive nature of conversations that occur at the retreat.** Social media users are asked to not discuss participants by name or to tag others in photos without first securing their permission. Additionally, social media participation should be reserved for breaks and free time, not during presentations or discussions—program sessions are considered “no-phone zones.” Although members of The Opportunity Agenda staff will be taking notes and capturing images, we also want to underscore those individual comments and conversations are off the record and confidential.

For participants who choose to share their Creative Change experience online, the retreat’s hashtag is **#CreativeChange23**. In addition, The Opportunity Agenda is exploring new channels to connect attendees and alumni during the retreat and beyond and will share these with you soon!

## NO SOLICITATION

Creative Change is intended to fill you with ideas and introduce you to others in and out of your field. We ask that you be respectful of the “no solicitation” spirit of the retreat. **Please save business inquiries or pitches for work or funding for a later date**, and focus on sharing, exploring, and building bridges to a more inclusive and just future.

## SHARING MATERIALS: Plug It! Corner

You’re invited to bring materials (ex: publications, prints, stickers, posters, reports, etc.) that folks can explore in our Plug It! corner. We will showcase these on tables and can set up laptops for media playback upon request. Please send all digital materials to Maddy Bustamante at [madeline.bustamante@stampeventco.com](mailto:madeline.bustamante@stampeventco.com).

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TAMAYA

Located on 550 acres of the Native American Santa Ana Pueblo between the Sandia Mountains and the Rio Grande River, Tamaya is steeped in over one thousand years of rich history and culture.

Here are some tips for your visit:

- Temperatures fluctuate and a 30-degree temperature swing in one day is not unusual. While daytime highs can reach 90 degrees, night-time lows can sink to the mid-60s. Dress in layers.
- Please bring a warm hat and a wind-resistant/fleece-style jacket or another similar cover-up. It will come in handy during our outdoor sessions. By the time the sun goes down it can be very cool.
- Apply and reapply lip balm and sunscreen to exposed areas. Avoiding excess sun exposure in Albuquerque is very important. The UV index is higher due to the location and altitude.
- Bug spray for outdoor activities.
- A brimmed hat and sunglasses are recommended to protect your eyes from the glare.
- Drink extra water and minimize your alcohol intake to help you adapt to the high altitude.
- Please bring sneakers or trail shoes for low- to medium-impact walking and optional hiking.
- We suggest bringing a simple backpack with you, not only to tote your materials but also to allow you to take what you need on a hike and participate in other optional free-time activities.
- There is NO town within walking distance of the resort. There is a small shop in the main building with toiletries, but if you need prescription medications, specific foods, or other items, you will have to travel by taxi to the nearest town. This is very inconvenient and expensive, so pack well!

## GETTING AROUND TAMAYA

You'll receive a printed copy at hotel check-in and it is accessible within the Pheedloop App.

## TIPPING

The Opportunity Agenda has covered your tips for all housekeeping staff, catering staff, and shuttle drivers. Additional tips for excellent service are always appreciated.

## PROGRAM

**MONDAY, AUGUST 14**

**Participants arrive at Albuquerque International Sunport**

**Creative Change Check-In & Collect Materials (Tamaya Lobby)**

Advisory Team Reception (*Council Room*)

**Welcome Reception with Food and Drink (*Veranda*)**

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

7:30–9:00am **Breakfast available** (*Badger Room*)

**Opening, Introductions, and Speed Meeting** (*Hawk Room*)

**The Big Conversation: *Futurescape*** (*Hawk Room*)

We will kick off our time together with an interactive conversation focused on the path to achieving an irresistible future for all. This session will feature inquiries led by Justine Hebron (CC '16), Layel Camargo (CC '19), and Aisha Shillingford (CC '17).

11:15pm–12:30pm **“Story. Culture. Power. Freedom:” 2023 Culture & Narrative Fellows in the Field**  
(*Hawk Room*)

The first to explore TOA’s latest research on white supremacist narratives, this year’s fellows reflect on their current art and cultural interventions geared at advancing an equitable and multiracial society. This session includes presentations by Adamu Chan, Marcos Echeverría Ortiz, Salomé Egas, Jessica Valoris, Monique Verdin, and Ixchel Tonantzin Xochitlzihuatl. Presentations will be followed by a Q&A.

12:30pm–1:30pm **Lunch** (*Badger Room*)

1:30pm–2:45pm **Futurescapes Café**  
Gibrán’s take on the World Café, this activating exercise will provide us with an opportunity to explore and build on our collective knowledge and experience.

2:45pm–3:00pm **Announcements and Close**

3:00pm–6:00pm **Free Time**

6:00pm–7:30pm **Dinner** (*Badger Room*)

8:00pm–9:30pm **Optional Special screening: *Hard to Swallow*/ filmmakers Tunde Wey (CC' 19) and Theo Schear** (*Hawk Room*)

About the film: *Hard To Swallow* is a poetic essay film chronicling the life and perspective of Nigerian chef and writer Tunde Wey. Traveling across the US, Mexico, Nigeria and the UK, Wey builds an intimate critique of the social structures that have violently disenfranchised Black people on the Continent and in

the diaspora through today's multifarious inequities. Content Warning: Cooking shots of animals that may be hard for some to watch. *Popcorn and refreshments will be provided.*

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

- 7:30am–9:00am **Breakfast Available** (*Badger Room*)
- 9:00am–9:15am **Morning Overview and Announcements** (*Hawk Room*)
- 9:15am–10:30am **Futurescapes Marketplace: Cultural Interventions for Change**  
Do you have a campaign or change agenda that could benefit from the creative and strategic minds at this retreat? Attendees will have the opportunity to offer a one-minute pitch about their project that will be followed by self-organization into small groups. Over the next day-and-a-half, each group will be asked to generate ideas for cultural strategies and interventions that move us toward an irresistible future. (*Hawk Room*)
- 10:45am–12:15pm **Small Group Work–Design Teams** (*Hawk Room*)
- 12:15pm–1:15pm **Lunch** (*Badger Room*)
- 1:15pm– 2:45pm **Small Group Work–Design Teams** (continued)
- 2:45pm–3:00pm **Announcements and Close**
- Free Time**
- 6:00pm–7:30pm **Dinner** (*Veranda*)
- 8:00–9:30pm: **The Mix Up 1: Fireside Sessions** (*Sunset Amphitheater*)  
Jasiri X (CC '16) hosts an informal evening of multi-medium storytelling around the fire pit! Featuring **Emmett Shkeme Garcia, Christine Hoang, José Olivarez, and Jasiri X.**

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

- 7:30am–9:00am **Breakfast Available** (*Badger Room*)
- 9:00am–9:30am **Opening Announcements and Activity**
- 9:30am–10:45am **Design Teams Café** (*Hawk Room*)

Gibrán's take on the World Café, this activating exercise will provide us with an opportunity to explore and build on our collective knowledge and experience.

10:45am–12:00pm

**Small Group Work–Design Teams** (continued)

Design Teams return to their process to finalize their work and prepare presentations.

**Lunch** (*Badger Room*)

1:00pm–2:00pm

**Show & Tell: Design Team Presentations**

**Plenary** (*Hawk Room*)

Closing session for final reflections on the week and reaching consensus on any desired next steps.

2:45pm–3:00pm

**Announcements, Evaluation, and Close**

3:00–6:00pm

**Free Time or Free Conversations**

**Reception** followed by **Closing Dinner** (*Hummingbird Pavilion*)

8:00–9:30pm

**The Mix Up 2: The Perch** (*Hummingbird Pavillion*)

We head to the Hummingbird Pavilion for a second night of informal multi-medium storytelling – and music! –to close out our week together.

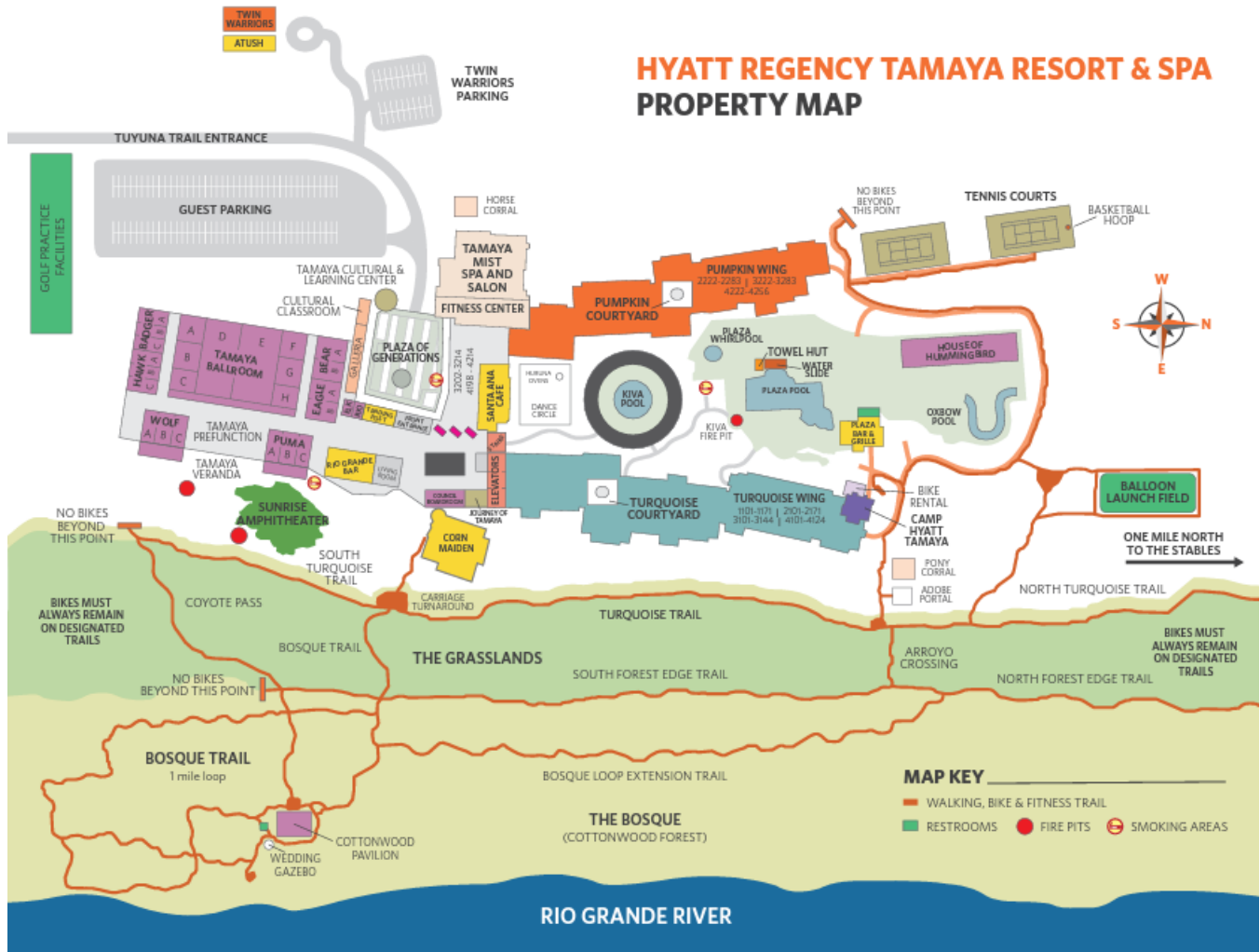
Featuring **Salomé Egas**, **Cyree Jarell Johnson**, **Tomek Miernowski**, **Amber Phillips**, and **Milly Tamarez**. Hosted by **Jasiri X** (CC' 16).

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 18**

**Shuttles to Salt Lake City Airport**

**To-Go Breakfast available** (Rio Grande Lounge)

**Hot Breakfast available** (Rio Grande Lounge)



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Opportunity Agenda is particularly grateful to **The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Ford Foundation, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The JPB Foundation, The Nathan Cummings Foundation, Pop Culture Collaborative, The JPB Foundation, Surdna Foundation, The Libra Foundation, The Tow Foundation, Unbound Philanthropy, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund** for supporting our Cultural Strategies work.

Thank you to our 2023 Retreat Advisory Team of **Layel Camargo, Adey Fisseha, Justine Hebron, Aisha Shillingford, and Jasiri X** for their enthusiasm, creativity, and support. **The 2023 Creative Change Retreat** was designed and produced by a team composed of staff from The Opportunity Agenda & STAMP Event Co., led by **Sughey Ramirez**. Our deepest gratitude to our longtime partner **Gibrán Rivera** for his facilitation and guidance, **Adam Luna, Jerry James, Elizabeth Johnsen, Chrystian Rodriguez, and Jade Wilenchik** for their invaluable programmatic support, and **Istou Diallo, Soha Ellaithy, Rahwa Mengisteab, Sunee Quirante, and Tia Smith** for their on the ground leadership. Many thanks to our STAMP crew for their always inspired dedication and professionalism: **Maddy Bustamante, Sarah George, Yuval Kagan, and Pachia Yang**.

We wish to express our gratitude to The Opportunity Agenda's Steering Committee Members of **Vincent Benjamin, Yasmin Cader, Vladimir Estiverne, Michael Goldberg, William Gorin, Maritza Guzmán, Kat O'Brien, Richard Roberts, Sara Stuart, and Aduke Thelwell** for their support and leadership in The Opportunity Agenda's engagement with Cultural Strategies and the Creative Change network.

Finally, The Opportunity Agenda would like to acknowledge that we gather on the homelands of the **Tamayame people** past and present and honor, with gratitude, the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This experience would not have been possible without the thoughtful guidance of Tamaya's Culture & Recreation Manager **Alicia Ortiz** and local artist **Emmett Shkeme Garcia's** skillful storytelling.

**The Opportunity Agenda** is a community dedicated to building narrative and cultural power to move our nation toward a vision of justice, equity, and opportunity for all.

We build the public imagination and cultural will to challenge white supremacy and its pervasive impact, work in community to overcome opposition narratives that exclude and divide us, and advance narratives that support opportunity for all. To learn more about The Opportunity Agenda, visit our website at [www.opportunityagenda.org](http://www.opportunityagenda.org).

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