

AFRICAN AMERICAN SANKOFA ASSOCIATION

THE AYA METHOD™

Practical Applications of AI

**An Entrepreneur. A Company.
Its AI Institutional Architect.**

A public introduction to a founder-led approach for building a real company with a dedicated, human-governed AI Institutional Architect.

Created by Kerry R. Johnson
Developed with AYA, AASA's AI Institutional Architect

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01 | THE IDEA

Build the company and its architect together

The AYA Method™ teaches entrepreneurs to develop their own business and a uniquely named AI Institutional Architect as part of its operating infrastructure. The founder sets the mission, values and direction. The AI assists with research, organization, business architecture, planning and practical work.

Where the method came from

The framework grew through Kerry R. Johnson's founder-led development of the African American Sankofa Association (AASA). AYA—the name derived from Artificial Intelligence Institutional Architect—assisted with the organization's research, planning and institutional documentation. AYA remains AASA's own architect; students create distinct architects for their own companies.

What it does not promise

The method does not guarantee customers, investment, revenue or business success. AI output requires verification; a business succeeds or fails through market realities and the decisions and work of its people.

**Human Vision. Human Governance. AI-Assisted Practical Applications.
AI-Assisted Success.**

02 | HOW IT WORKS

Eight layers of institutional development

Purpose	Define the founder's mission and intended impact.
Authority	Specify human decision rights and AI boundaries.
Knowledge	Organize business records and source materials.
Intelligence	Research, compare and challenge assumptions.
Relationships	Document customers, partners and outreach.
Opportunity	Evaluate credible products, services and demand.
Execution	Support workflows, decisions and measurement.
Memory	Preserve decisions and materials outside AI chat.

The working discipline: Listen → Structure → Verify → Challenge → Decide → Execute → Measure → Remember.

03 | THE FOUNDING STANDARD

Two verified creations

The proposed AASA AI Entrepreneur Academy founding certificate is based on two outcomes: **(1) a legally established company** under the rules of the relevant jurisdiction, and **(2) a functioning, uniquely named AI Institutional Architect** integrated into that company's processes.

Company formation costs

Students learn to distinguish government filing fees, name registration, registered-agent or office costs, professional assistance, required permits, and annual compliance expenses. Costs vary by jurisdiction and business structure; current official fees must be checked before filing. Formation is not the same as commercial viability.

Human authority remains central

The founder and authorized human managers approve strategy, spending, contracts, legal filings and use of sensitive information. The AI provides analysis and prepares work but has no independent corporate authority.

Preserve it outside AI

Every company should keep its charter, business plan, decisions, research, AI instructions and records in founder-controlled storage, with version numbers, a second secure backup and periodic recovery tests. Chat history is not a permanent company archive.

04 | EXPLORE AND CONNECT

The book

Practical Applications — From Vision to a Real Business: THE AYA METHOD™ introduces the approach through the history of AASA, business development principles, AI architecture, human governance and institutional preservation.

The Academy

The proposed learning pathway helps entrepreneurs define a business, develop an AI architect, apply AI to actual business tasks, and prepare the two-part founding assessment. Enrollment, availability and certificate issuance should be confirmed directly with AASA.

Continue the conversation

Visit www.aasankofa.org for current program information, book announcements and contact options.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF AI.

WE FORGE.

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