

Jaya Kula 2018 Annual Report

“Exploring pride and prejudice”

Dear Mandala,

Our 2018 theme was pride. We explored how pride shows up for us in our day-to-day lives and how it limits our opportunities to connect with and care for others.

At our summer retreat, we kept chipping away at pride and continued our community's dive into our experiences of marginalization, identity-based violence, exclusion, privilege, and cultural expression.

We will continue to collaborate to create a field of relating where people are empowered to speak about these painful experiences; to express anger and grief; to ask for, offer, and make amends; to break out of deep-seated patterns; and to take a wider view of how we are all affected without boxing others into limiting narratives and expectations.

In 2019, we will continue to strive to create a crucible for spiritual growth that is not afflicted by the violence that characterizes both pride and prejudice.

Now we are moving to the Bay Area where we will be more nourished by the presence of other communities of practitioners. But we might also encounter more opportunities to get distracted and renew pridefulness.

I'm looking forward to both the nourishment and the challenge. However much we've managed thus far to resolve karmic patterns of pride and prejudice, let's protect that transformation, protect our practice, and support each other as we begin to offer the teachings in a new environment.

A time for rest and renewal

Over the past 11 years, I've given around 1,000 satsangs and many other teachings. I've published six books. And I've worked hard, as have all of you, to create and maintain the wonderful community that we now enjoy.

I've been feeling the need to rest, refresh, and renew before we make our trek back West.

Because of your steady and loving support, I'm able to take my first teaching sabbatical since Jaya Kula begin in 2007.

I'll be taking a break from teaching starting in April through to whenever teachings start up again in June in the Bay Area.

There are some plans in the works to organize gatherings to watch satsangs together on both the East and West coasts. Stay tuned...

with loads of love,