

AFRICA FORWARD FEST

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY. 7 MAY

Over three days		Live Drawing: The Africa Forward Mural
10:00-13:00	Auditorium	Let Me Speak: 2026 Digital Essay Competition (French Category Launch) Featuring Storytelling and Live Drawing
15:00-16:30	Auditorium	Walid Amri, Author of 'Les Papillons De Lampedusa', in Conversation with John Sibi-Okumu
15:00-16:30	Multipurpose room	The Challenger Mindset: Rethinking Business Growth, Ownership & Innovation in Africa with Eghosa Imasuen, Moderated by Michael Onsando
17:30-19:00	Auditorium	Prix de l'Edition Jeunesse Africaine 2026 – Awards Ceremony. Invite Only

FRIDAY, 8 MAY

09:00-12:00	Library	Reader – Author Speed Dating – Discover Your Next Favorite Read!
10:00-12:00	Auditorium	African Voices in Regional and Global Publishing, in Partnership with the Kenya Publishers Association
10:00-12:00	Multipurpose room	Writing in the Age of AI - Tool, Threat, or Transformation? With Betty Kilonzo
14:00-15:30	Terrace	Brushes & Books: Africa's Creative Spectrum
14:00-17:00	Classroom 302	Translation, Language & Power – Masterclass & Translation Slam, by Edwige Dro
16:00-17:30	Auditorium	Blood Debts: Can the Past Ever be Paid? With David G. Maillu and Ndungi Githuku
16:00-17:30	Library	Elevating Africa's Book Value Chain – Launch of the Inaugural Canex Book Factory African Anthology 'Instances of Exceptional Moments of Hunger', in Partnership with Narrative Landscape Press

SATURDAY, 9 MAY

10:00-11:30	Multipurpose room	3-Min Pitch to Pique Interest, Authors Pitching to Editors and Publishers
10:00-11:30	Library	Mwikali Comes Home! Rediscover 'Mwikali and the Forbidden Mask' with Shiko Nguru, Virginia Clay, and Lorraine Malu
10:00-11:30	Auditorium	Writing from Reunion Island with Gaëlle Belem. How Stories Travel Across Languages and Literary Spaces, Moderated by Nourhane Morel
12:30-13:30	Library	The Making of 'Born at the End of the World' with Donica Merhazion
12:30-14:00	Auditorium	Reading Forward. How Reading Counters Anti-Intellectualism, with Munira Hussein, Verah Omwocha and Prof. Kithaka Wa Mberia
14:00-15:30	Multipurpose Room	Book Club Spotlight: The Social Book Club Featuring 'NaiRobbery' by Empress Ciku
14:30-16:00	Library	Who Gets Translated, Who Gets Read? Language, Power, and Literary Circulation, with Edwige Dro, Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor, Peter Kimani and Gaëlle Belem
14:30-16:00	Auditorium	Poetry For Posterity. Poetic Visions Beyond Dystopia, Curated by Rafinki and Qwani
15:00-18:00	Classroom 302	Writing African Futures. Developing Fiction that Looks Forward, with Makena Onjerika
16:00-17:30	Auditorium	Bridging Languages, Building Readers: Libraries at the Heart of African Storytelling
16:00-17:30	Library	Who Knows African Books Best? African Books Trivia, with Msomi and Joan Mero Featuring Empress Ciku
18:30-20:00	Auditorium	After 4.30: Stage Adaptation of David G. Maillu's Novel, Ticketed
19:00-20:00	Garden	Storytelling Fused with Music: Translating Time, with Ngartia, the Storyteller

FREE ENTRY

afkenya.org/africa-forward-fest-2026/

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