



Goethe-Institut Johannesburg Celebrates 30 Years

Johannesburg, South Africa — 18 October 2025

This year, the Goethe-Institut Johannesburg marks a momentous milestone: 30 years of cultural engagement, language education, and intercultural dialogue in South Africa. To commemorate this anniversary, we invite the public to a full-day cultural event featuring music, children's workshops, theatre, food, and interactive experiences- a celebration for all ages.

The Goethe-Institut Johannesburg coordinates 15 institutes across Sub-Saharan Africa, cooperating with local, international and German partners. Its programmes span visual arts, theatre, literature, film, and dance, with a focus on pan-African artistic exchange. The Language Department offers German courses and teacher support, while the Information Department promotes media literacy, robotics, gaming, and access to the digital eLibrary. Over the past three decades, the Johannesburg institute has become a cultural hub and platform for meaningful engagement. This year's celebration is a recognition of 30 years of cultural dialogue.

Programme

The event will transform the Goethe-Institut's spaces into lively cultural venues. Families can enjoy pizza-making workshops, a balloon artist, and child-friendly activities, while theatre performances, live bands, and DJ sets will energise the auditorium. Evening highlights include a vinyl session by Berlin-based Àbáse, a performance featuring Àbáse and J.T.L, and a DJ set by Ms Niksta. Guests will also experience an official opening with speeches, a champagne reception, and a special performance by Brass Kartell as part of the evening festivities. The library will screen short films from Africa and Germany, while the Atrium and classrooms will host workshops and creative activities. Food and drinks will be available throughout, with pizza, a food truck, and a bar.

Over 30 years, the institute has become deeply embedded in the South African cultural landscape, building partnerships across education, media, and the arts. Inclusive and engaging, the event offers something for everyone, from children's activities and theatre to music, films,

With films from Africa and Germany, performances by local DJs and artists, and cross-cultural programming, the event highlights the Institute's role as a connector of communities and a platform for dialogue locally and internationally. It promotes the German language, strengthens cultural cooperation, and builds lasting connections between South Africa, Germany, and the wider region, a partnership that has shaped the Institute's impact in education, the arts, and dialogue.

Quote

"We are honoured to celebrate Goethe-Institut's birthday in our 30th year. This event is a tribute not only to Goethe's enduring influence but to our shared journey with South Africa's artists, students, and cultural communities. We hope this day will inspire curiosity, creativity, and connection."

— Dr. Andreas Stroehl, Director, Goethe-Institut Johannesburg.

About the Goethe-Institut

The Goethe-Institut is the cultural institute of the Federal Republic of Germany with a global presence. We

facilitate international cultural exchange, promote access to the German language and support the unimpeded development of culture and science.

Contact and RSVP

For press enquiries and attendance confirmation:

Name: Dineo Endurenciah Mokoena

Email: dineo.mokoena@goethe.de

Tel: +27 (0)11 442 3232

RSVP email: joh-rsvp@goethe.de

RSVP Deadline: 15 October 2025

We welcome media coverage, photo opportunities, and interviews with Dr. Andreas Ströhl, and performers. Due to limited seating, advance registration is encouraged.