



SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER PROGRAM

EVENTS

Please note that all these events are free of charge unless stated otherwise.
Follow our social media pages to stay updated with the latest information
as the details may be subject to change!

EXHIBITION

In Search of South A: Land, Language and The Stranger

03. - 18.09.2026

Exhibition Opening: 03.09.2026, 6:00PM, Goethe-Institut, Auditorium

Brian Muraya, Kamwangi Njue, Cynthia Nyakiro and Muthoni Mwangi will each showcase an experiment, an installation, and an experience. 'Land, Language and the Stranger' is the first name, the name that led the unfolding and unfurling of a question unto the land. We invited Down River Road into a collaboration with partners from Burkina Faso and Cameroon [organised under their respective Goethe-Instituts] into a question: "Who Owns the Land?"

EVENT FOR KIDS: 10-14-year-olds

Play Without Screens: Analog Games and Play

12.09.2026, 10:00AM - 1:00PM, Goethe-Institut, Library

A hands-on session introducing young people to analog games from different cultures, encouraging collaboration, strategy, creativity, and social connection. The programme celebrates play as a shared cultural language while offering meaningful alternatives to digital engagement.

Themes: Courage, Belonging, Resilience, Home Format: Facilitated storytelling circle, traditional games, board games, guided reflection and collective sharing. RSVP via info-nairobi@goethe.de to reserve a slot.

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INSTITUT**

THEATRE PERFORMANCE

The Water Between Us

22. - 24.09.2026, Goethe-Institut, Auditorium

The Water Between Us is a layered encounter between Louisa Schiedek (Germany) and Esther Kamba (Kenya), born from an unshakable feeling that the answers to the climate crisis lie in water. But the waters are receding. Louisa turns inward to the body's internal reservoirs, while Esther looks outward to rivers and lakes desecrated and forgotten. Guided by ancestral wisdom, Esther's grandmother once said, "Find the Mugumo tree, find water," and ancient warnings carved in stone, "If you see me, weep," we meet to dig, mourn, and remember. Through movement, maps, archives, and oral testimony, we trace water as witness, to colonial ambition, patriarchal violence, and feminist resistance. In modular chapters of ritual, data, debate, and refusal, we explore water not as scenery but as a living archive. We ask: Who owns water? Who remembers? What have we lost? And how grief might carve a path toward new, more just futures.

PERFORMANCE

The Jam

25.09.2026, 7:00PM, Goethe-Institut, Auditorium

The Jam is back in full force this year. Get ready for an unforgettable night with some full-energy performers. The Jam is curated by Tangaza Magazine and features young, upcoming talent from the Kenyan music scene.

LITERATURE FORUM

Amka

26.09.2026, 10:00AM - 1:00PM,

Nairobi International Book Fair, Sarit Centre

This is a forum for upcoming writers and literary critics to share and discuss stories, poems and current literature trends with the aim of enhancing their creativity.

The forum in September will take place at Sarit Centre in the framework of the Nairobi International Book Fair. This session seeks to create a meaningful space that connects readers, writers, publishers, educators, and emerging literary talent. We believe that hosting a special edition of the AMKA literature

Forum at NIBF 2026 presents a unique opportunity to celebrate literature, nurture emerging talent, and strengthen connections across Kenya's reading and writing communities.

Participants interested in taking part in the forum can RSVP through info-nairobi@goethe.de

FILM SCREENING: KAMERA KWANZA

Mothers of Chibok by Dir. Joel Kachi Benson

30.09.2026, 6:00 PM, Goethe-Institut, Auditorium

A decade after the Chibok school abduction shook the world, four mothers embark on a quiet but extraordinary journey to rebuild their lives. Over the course of a single farming season, they work on the land, provide for their families, and discover that every seed planted is also an act of hope.

KAMERA KWANZA is Goethe-Institut and Docubox's long-standing film screening series collaboration that showcases African documentaries.

PERFORMANCE

MobiArts: Labdi and Tommy Wa

02.10.2026, 6:00 PM , Goethe-Institut, Auditorium

As part of the MobiArts Tour, a regional project by Goethe-Institut that fosters exchange within the region for performing arts and artists, we are hosting Ghanaian artist Tommy Wa and Kenya's very own, Labdi.

Labdi's journey began with a single question: What happens to a voice when its history is forgotten? That question led her back to the Orutu, an ancient Luo instrument that once echoed through community rituals, storytelling circles and celebrations. The Orutu became more than an instrument: it became a compass. It led her to elders and hidden archives, to stories buried in silence, and to music nearly erased by time.

Tommy WÁ is a poet, visual storyteller, and singer-songwriter artfully establishing his musical direction under the Afro soundscapes. He derives his sound texture from a blend of contemporary folk, Indie and retro-soul music. This musical cocktail efficiently travels the expanse of Tommy Wa's Nigerian roots and caters to the musical cravings of Accra, the Ghanaian cosmopolis where he is based.



THE LITERARY QUARTET

Head-to-Head on Kenyan Literature: Battle of Books
03.10.2026, 2:00PM - 5:00PM, Goethe-Institut, Library

What makes a great book? Is it the unforgettable characters, a gripping plot, beautiful language, powerful themes or the emotions it leaves behind? In this exciting head-to-head session, three panelists will champion a book that they have read and attempt to convince the audience that is the best choice among the books presented. Each panelist will have the opportunity to make a compelling case for their selected title, highlighting its strengths, impact and relevance. The panelists will go beyond simple summaries, using persuasive reflections, memorable excerpts and character analysis to win over the audience.

PLAYREADING

TBC

09.10.2026, 6:00 PM, Goethe-Institut, Auditorium

This is the sixth installment of the playreading series this year. Look out for more information on which play the team will showcase. Prepare to be entertained!
The series is curated by Esther Kamba.

FILM SCREENING: KAMERA KWANZA

Red Africa by Dir Alexander Markov

21.10.2026, 6:00 PM, Goethe-Institut, Auditorium

After gaining independence in the early 1960s, the young African nations are greeted by an unexpected and enigmatic friend from a far-off continent. Soviet parliamentarians arrive in an endless stream, paying visits to Africa's new leaders. These ambassadors of the nation with a 'bright future' radiate friendliness and offer assistance in technical, social and cultural development under the banner of a new ideology of equality and fraternity. But is everything as carefree as the Soviet propaganda claims? What were the real objectives of the Red Empire?

PANEL

Industry Talks Panel + Workshop

30.10.2026, Goethe-Institut, Auditorium

• **Panel conversation: Building brands that value – strategy, visibility and commercial success**

In today's creative economy, visibility is no longer just about being seen – it is about building strategic value. For artists, creatives and brands, strong positioning, intentional branding and effective communication are critical drivers of financial growth, audience expansion and long-term sustainability. This session will explore how strategy, storytelling and brand development contribute to an artist or creative business's ability to attract opportunities, grow revenue and build lasting commercial value. Moving beyond traditional ideas of publicity, the conversation will examine how artists and entrepreneurs can strategically position themselves to unlock partnerships, sponsorships, collaborations and new income streams.

• **Workshop: Spotify music masterclass: Turning streams into sustainable revenue**

Since Spotify's launch in Kenya in 2021, local artists have gained greater access to global audiences, new income opportunities and valuable tools that enable them to build sustainable music careers. Today, more Kenyan artists than ever before are earning royalties from listeners across Africa and around the world, demonstrating the growing financial potential of streaming when paired with the right strategy.

This practical masterclass will focus on how artists, managers, producers and independent labels can maximize their earning potential by fully leveraging Spotify's ecosystem. Participants will learn how to use Spotify for Artists to understand audience data, identify growth opportunities, measure campaign performance and make informed creative and business decisions that translate into increased streams, fan engagement and revenue.



LITERATURE FORUM

Amka

31.10.2026, 10:00AM - 1:00PM, Lang'ata Women's Prison

This is a forum for upcoming writers and literary critics to share and discuss stories, poems and current literature trends with the aim of enhancing their creativity. The Forum provides a space to listen to the voices of established and budding writers. The forum in October will take place at Lang'ata Women's Prison where we will interact with the clients at the prison and engage with their literary pieces to promote their self-expression and create a platform for them to improve their writing output.

Participants interested in taking part in the forum can RSVP through info-nairobi@goethe.de

GERMAN LANGUAGE

German Examinations in 3rd Trimester

View and register for upcoming German examinations via the following link: [German exams - Goethe-Institut Kenya](#)

PRE-UNIVERSITY BRIDGING COURSE

Are you looking to study in an institution with state-of-the-art facilities, zero tuition fees and in a cosmopolitan environment? German universities offer a wide range of courses in several disciplines and have earned world-wide recognition in STEM related courses.

The Pre-university bridging course (Studienbrücke) offers school-leavers with above-average grades in STEM subjects and a command of the German language an opportunity to train in their home country; in preparation for a course of study in Germany.

Enrollment for the next pre-university bridging course starting on 26th October 2026 is ongoing and closes on 19th October 2026.

Registration link: <https://www.goethe.de/ins/ke/en/spr/stb/bfl.html>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACCESS OUR LIBRARY RESOURCES

Interact with our physical library offering printed and audio-visual media both in German and English that cover literature, kids' books, German culture, social Sciences, language, art, German geography and photography. Among other resources include our monthly VR sessions, kids' events, and school visits. We encourage you to register to become members: Ksh. 800 per annum. *Registration is free for our students learning German.

BIBTOGO APP

BibToGo App is a user-friendly App for library members of the Goethe-Institut. After downloading the App, customize it by choosing the Goethe-Institut in your country. The initial activation is to be done by Goethe-Institut library staff who will link the App to your personal library account. Afterwards, one can borrow media and extend borrowing periods. Other features include keep track of their currently borrowed media, keep track of fines, access personal details, reserve media borrowed by others and track borrowing history. It is linked to the e-Library service and the online catalogue. In the media recommendation section, one can access pre-defined recommendation lists from the library collection. The library staff can be contacted through the App via E-Mail or Messenger.

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Register for it via our website www.goethe.de/nairobi



GOETHE - INSTITUT INFORMATION

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General opening hours:

Monday-Friday

8.00am - 5.00pm

Please note that all these events are free of charge unless stated otherwise.

Follow our social media pages to stay updated with the latest information as the details may be subject to change!

Liability:

The Goethe-Institut Kenya is not liable for any injury, loss of life or loss/damages to personal property on its premises.

Guests are encouraged to be cautious and conduct themselves appropriately at all times when on Goethe-Institut Kenya's premises. Please also note that our events are public events and that photos will be taken for PR purposes.

Photos: Jaridu dance performance by Jared Onyango.

Credit: Humphrey Gateri © Goethe-Institut Kenya

