



PAN  
AFRIKAN  
DESIGN  
INSTITUTE

Pan afrikan design week.26

# Day 1: Afrika in Relation to Itself and the World

**Wednesday 21 October 2026**

Day 1 opens the continental and global conversation by asking how Afrika sees itself, how the world sees Afrika, and how design can help reframe identity, trust, dignity, cultural memory and value.

**Key themes:** Afrikan futures, trust, identity, dignity, Indigenous wisdom, cultural value, visual languages, design codes, and community-rooted innovation and regenerative tourism.

## Speaker line-up includes:

- **Opening Keynote: Njeri Mwagiru (Kenya / South Africa)** - Senior Researcher at the Futures Programme, South African Institute of International Affairs; Co-Lead at ImPACT Coalition for Future Generations.
- **Keynote: Dominic Wilhelm (South Africa)** - International trust advisor, speaker and Executive Director of The Global Trust Project.
- **Dialogue Session 1: Indigenous Wisdom, Cultural Memory, Dignity and Design Value**
  - Featuring:
    - **Saki Mafundikwa (Zimbabwe)** - Designer, educator, scholar, author of Afrikan Alphabets, founder of the Zimbabwe Institute of Vigital Arts and TED speaker.
    - **Dr Russell Kennedy (Australia)** - Associate Head of School of Communication and Creative Arts, Deakin University; Co-Director of Design Mind; co-author of the Australian Indigenous Design Charter and International Indigenous Design Charter.
    - **Juliet Kavishe (Tanzania & Namibia)** - Founder of FORMALL Design Lab and advocate for African design futures.
- **Dialogue Session 2: Community-Rooted Innovation, Responsible Tourism and Place-Based Impact**
  - Featuring:
    - **Henry Mathys (South Africa)** - Programme Manager, Office of the CEO, V&A Waterfront, with a focus on social inclusion, placemaking and economic development.
    - **James Fernie (South Africa)** - Founder of Uthando South Africa.
    - **Thulani Nxumalo (South Africa)** - Langa-based guide, documentary filmmaker and community voice.

# Day 2: Designing for Thriving Across Sectors and Ecosystems

**Thursday 22 October 2026**

Day 2 focuses on the power of design, creativity and collaboration to create ripple effects across sectors, systems and communities - showing how local ideas, public platforms, creative economies and social-impact initiatives can unlock wider value.

**Key themes:** Food systems, community development, urban thinking, women-led craft, creative collaboration, social-impact innovation, public platforms, market access and ripple effects across sectors and ecosystems.

## Speaker line-up includes:

- **Opening Keynote: Nthakoana Maema (South Africa)** - Social-impact entrepreneur and founder of Future Proof Collective, an impact venture studio supporting flourishing economies through feminist and social-ecological innovation across Africa.
- **Featured Session: Tiisetso Mofokeng (South Africa)** - Architect, urban research practitioner and Interior Design lecturer at Emeris Cape Town-City, Vega School; PhD candidate at Stellenbosch University.
- **Dialogue Session 3: Women-Led Enterprise, Place, Pride and Social Impact**
  - **Featuring:**
    - **Onika Lekuntwane (Botswana)** - Visual storyteller, educator and social-impact designer using creativity, heritage and health communication to inspire learning, empowerment and change.
    - **Lucinda Evans (South Africa)** - Founder and Director of Philisa Abafazi Bethu, a Steenberg-based organisation working to prevent gender-based violence and strengthen women's empowerment, child protection, community safety and support for vulnerable groups.
- **Case Study Dialogue: Creative Collaboration, Social Impact and Early Book Access**
  - **Featuring the Book Dash team (South Africa):**
    - **Thembaletshu Shangase** - Executive Director, Book Dash.
    - **Arthur Atwell** - Founder and Board Member, Book Dash; Managing Director, Electric Book Works.
    - **Diane Awerbuck** - Award-winning writer and Book Dash creative volunteer.
    - **Subi Bosa** - South African author-illustrator of picture books, graphic novels and comics.
    - **Mmamuso Makhanya** - Executive Director, Wordworks.

## Day 3: Future-Fit Education and Human Development

**Friday 23 October 2026**

Day 3 asks: What kind of humans do we need to develop for a society of future-builders who can confidently shape a thriving future for people and planet across Afrika?

This day treats education as a full ecosystem - from early childhood development and play, through school, tertiary education, community learning and lifelong learning.

**Key themes:** Future-fit education, Creative Intelligence, STEAM education, play, curiosity, ethical learning, empathy, AI, biomimicry, ecological intelligence, lifelong learning and future-building skills.

### Speaker line-up includes:

- **Opening Keynote: Dr Rael Futerma (South Africa)** - Design researcher, educator and co-founder of Cartedo; Senior Researcher: Learning & Discovery Lab, d-school Afrika at UCT.
- **Featured Session: Suné Stassen (South Africa)** - CEO of Open Design Afrika; social-impact entrepreneur, educator, STEAM and Creative Intelligence practitioner, and futurist.
- **Featured Session: Robin Turner (South Africa)** - Graphic and multimedia designer, educator and Head of Department specialising in interactive design and human computing.
- **Closing Keynote: Jess Berliner (South Africa)** - Founder of Learn Biomimicry; biomimicry educator and communication designer.

More programme details, final session topics and additional contributors will be announced closer to the event.

## Afternoon Workshops

Each conference day includes a practical afternoon workshop linked to that day's theme. The workshops are designed as high-value learning experiences and can also be booked separately. **You do not need to attend the full conference** in order to participate fully in a workshop.

The workshops are for anyone who wants to make a real difference through their work and contribute meaningfully to Afrika's future - including teachers, students, policymakers, designers, entrepreneurs, innovators, future-builders and change-makers.

**Workshop spaces are limited and must be booked in advance.**

**Please note:** access to **all three workshops** is **already included** in the **Full Experience Pass**. Full Experience Pass holders **do not need to purchase separate workshop tickets**, but workshop **seats MUST still be reserved** in advance because **capacity is limited**.

### Dates and times:

- **Wednesday 21 October 2026: 16:00–18:00**
- **Thursday 22 October 2026: 16:30–18:30**
- **Friday 23 October 2026: 15:30–17:45**

## Friday Evening Networking Event

The Friday evening Networking Event creates **space** for delegates, partners, speakers, creatives, entrepreneurs, students and wider members of the public **to connect in a more informal setting**.

The evening includes a welcome drink, entertainment and canapés. A **cash bar** will be available on site.

**Please note:** access to the Networking Event is **already included in all 3-Day Conference Passes and Full Experience Passes**.

## Saturday Community / Cultural Learning Experience with Uthando South Africa

**Saturday 24 October 2026**

On Saturday 24 October 2026, Uthando South Africa will host **a curated community-based cultural learning experience** for a **limited group of delegates**.

This **hands-on experience extends** the main **conference theme** - "How Do We Design to Thrive?" - into **real community contexts**. It offers delegates the opportunity to **see and feel how local entrepreneurs, community leaders and social-impact projects** are already designing for thriving with creativity, resilience and limited resources.

Through this experience, **participants will connect more meaningfully** with **Cape Town's local lived realities** and **witness how community-rooted innovation is helping to improve lives**, strengthen dignity, support opportunity and care for people, place and nature.

**The fee for this experience** functions as **a meaningful contribution**, with **funds supporting the community projects visited** through Uthando South Africa's model.

**Spaces are limited and advance booking is required.**

## Ticket Options

**Early Bird tickets are limited and available until 31 July 2026**, or until sold out.

A total of **60 Early Bird tickets** are available across the two Early Bird options below.

**USD prices** are approximate estimates only and may change depending on exchange rates and card-provider fees.

### Early Bird Tickets (in-person)

#### Early Bird Full Experience Pass

**Dates:** 21–23 October 2026

**Early Bird Price:** R4,400 / approx. US\$269

**Regular Price:** R4,950 / approx. US\$303

**Saving:** R550

**Availability:** 30 tickets only

Best value for delegates who want the full Pan Afrikan Design Week experience.

#### This discounted early-booking bundled pass includes:

- Full 3-day conference access
- Access to all 3 afternoon workshops
- Tea and coffee
- Lunch
- Access to the Friday evening Networking Event

**Please note:** This pass includes access to all three workshops, but workshop seats must still be reserved in advance due to limited capacity. After purchasing your Full Experience Pass, **email [support@quicket.co.za](mailto:support@quicket.co.za)** with your booking confirmation to receive a promotional code for **reserving your workshop seat/s at no additional cost.**

#### Early Bird 3-Day Conference Pass

**Dates:** 21–23 October 2026

**Early Bird Price:** R3,400 / approx. US\$208

**Regular Price:** R3,800 / approx. US\$232

**Saving:** R400

**Availability:** 30 tickets only

#### This discounted early-booking conference pass includes:

- Full access to the 3-day main conference
- Tea and coffee
- Lunch
- Access to the Friday evening Networking Event

## Full Experience Pass (in-person)

**Dates:** 21–23 October 2026

**Price:** R4,950 / approx. US\$303

**This value-added bundled pass includes:**

- Full 3-day conference access
- Access to all 3 afternoon workshops
- Tea and coffee
- Lunch
- Access to the Friday evening Networking Event

**Please note:** This pass includes access to all three workshops, but workshop seats must still be reserved in advance due to limited capacity. After purchasing your Full Experience Pass, **email** [support@quicket.co.za](mailto:support@quicket.co.za) with your booking confirmation to receive a promotional code for reserving your workshop seat/s at no additional cost.

## Standard 3-Day Tickets

### 3-Day Conference Pass (in-person)

**Dates:** 21–23 October 2026

**Standard:** R3,800 / approx. US\$232

**Student:** R1,800 / approx. US\$110 - limited availability

**Includes:**

- Full access to the 3-day main conference
- Tea and coffee
- Lunch
- Access to the Friday evening Networking Event

### 3-Day (Online) Conference Pass

**Online Livestream Access**

**Dates:** 21–23 October 2026

**Price:** R950 / approx. US\$58

Includes livestream access to the **main 3-day conference sessions only**.

**Please note:** The afternoon workshops, Friday evening Networking Event and Saturday community / cultural learning experience are in-person experiences and are not included in the livestream ticket.

## Standard 1-Day Tickets (in-person)

### 1-Day Conference Pass

**Dates:** Choose 21, 22 or 23 October 2026

**Standard:** R1,500 / approx. US\$92

**Student:** R950 / approx. US\$58 - limited availability

**Includes:**

- Access to the selected conference day
- Tea and coffee
- Lunch

**Please note:** the 1-Day Conference Pass **does not include access to the Friday evening Networking Event** unless separately booked.

### Workshop Pass

**Dates and times:**

Wednesday **21 October 2026: 16:00–18:00**

Thursday **22 October 2026: 16:30–18:30**

Friday **23 October 2026: 15:30–17:45**

**Standard:** R550 / approx. US\$34

**Student:** R350 / approx. US\$21

Each workshop is a stand-alone, high-value learning session.

**Conference attendance is not required** in order to book a workshop.

**Workshop spaces are limited per workshop and advance booking is required.**

## Networking and Community Experiences

### Networking Event

**Date:** Friday 23 October 2026

**Time:** 18:00–21:00

Pan Afrikan Design Week **Conference Venue**

**Standard:** R400 / approx. US\$24

**Student:** R250 / approx. US\$15

**Includes:**

- Welcome drink
- Entertainment
- Canapés

A cash bar will be available on site.

**Please note:** access to the Networking Event is **already included in all 3-Day Conference Passes and Full Experience Passes.**

### Uthando South Africa Community / Cultural Learning Experience

**Date:** Saturday 24 October 2026

**Price:** R1,600 / approx. US\$98 per person

**Availability:** 39 seats only

Hosted by Uthando South Africa, this community-based cultural learning experience allows delegates to experience the conference theme - "**How Do We Design to Thrive?**" - on the ground, in real community contexts. Delegates will connect with local entrepreneurs, community leaders and social-impact projects already designing for thriving with creativity, resilience and care.

The **ticket fee** functions as a **meaningful contribution**, with **funds supporting the community projects visited** through Uthando South Africa's model.

**Spaces are limited** and **advance booking** is required.