



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

THE 1st CREATIVE ARTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE AT MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

20TH – 21ST AUGUST, 2026

DAY 1 - 20 TH AUGUST 2026		
OFFICIAL CONFERENCE OPENING LUBAN WORKSHOP		
TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
8:00-8:45	Arrivals & Registration	Conference Secretariat
8:45-8:50	Introductions and Climate setting	Conference Organising Team Chair Dr. Charles Kebaya
8:50-9:00	Welcoming Remarks	Ag. Dean SHSS – Dr. Benta Oguda
9:00-9:10	Machakos University at a Glance-A Video	Maureen Kaveke HoD Corporate Affairs & Public Relations
9.10-9.45	Official Opening	Vice Chancellor - Prof. Joyce Agalo
9:45-10:30	Key-note Address	Dr. Joel Ongoto Deputy Secretary General - Research and Resources Mobilisation, KNATCOM-UNESCO
10:45-11:30	HEALTH BREAK	
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS		
TIME	TITLE OF PRESENTATION	PRESENTER(S)
11:30-1:00	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS EDUCATION AND PEDAGOGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY	Sessional Chair: Anashia Ong’onda
LUBAN WORKSHOP	From STEM to STEAM: Integrating Creative Arts into STEM curriculum in the twenty first century	Gerry Ayieko, PhD Daystar University
	Epistemology of the Visual Arts in Cameroon: Pascal Kenfack’s creative methodology as a lever for rethinking arts pedagogy in the 21st century	Kede Eloundou Guy Bienvenue Institut des Beaux-Arts de l’Université de Dschang à Foumban
	Beyond STEM: Reclaiming Creative Arts in 21st Century Higher Education	Justus Muusya, PhD Kirinyaga University & Jeremaih Muneeni, PhD Kenyatta University
	Materiality, Embodied Creativity, and Knowledge Production in Creative Arts Education and Research: Advancing Competency-Based Curriculum Pathways in Contemporary Pedagogical Practice	Okayo Rosemary Murundu, PhD. Kabarak University

	Assistive Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools Integration in Creative Arts Courses among Mass Communication Students in Nigeria	Sunday IDOWU Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria & Abigail Olubukola IRELE Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria
	Why Pedagogy of the Oppressed Now Belongs Outside the Academy, and What East African Creative Arts Higher Education Should Do About It	Gregory Mwendwa wa Kiio & Stephen Mutisya wa Kioko Masson & Associates Ltd
11:30-1:00	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS AND PRACTICE-LED EDUCATION	Sessional Chair: Dr. Violet Barasa
SENATE BOARDROOM	Re-envisioning the Teaching of Fasihi ya Kiswahili through Creative Arts Pedagogy at South Eastern Kenya University	Sarah Ndanu M. Ngesu, PhD. South Eastern Kenya University
	Analysis of Babusa TV Educational Songs as Teaching and Learning Resources for Lower Primary Schools in the CBC System in Kenya	Hamisi Babusa, PhD. Kenyatta University
	The Nexus of Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Development: A Case Study of the Akamba Wood Carving Tradition at Wamunyu Handicraft Cooperative Society, Kenya	Benta G. A. Oguda, PhD. Machakos University
	Creative Arts and Moral Development: A Critical Inquiry into Kenya's Institutional Censorship of the Rights of Desire	Wafula Yenjela, PhD University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa
	Digital Storytelling and the Orality–Literacy Continuum	Mwabu Samuel Machakos University
	The Role of Animation in Digital Storytelling: Enhancing Narrative and Emotional Communication in Films, Games, and Online Media	Mmbwanga Florence, PhD Machakos University
11:30-1:00	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS AND CULTURAL IDENTITY	Sessional Chair: Dr. Cathryne Cherop
POSTGRADUATE ROOM	Writing the Nation: Literature and Cultural Identity in Kenya	Joyce W. Wachira Laikipia University & Nicholas Kamau Goro, PhD Laikipia University

	Cultural identity and studio practice in Northern Nigerian art: Expressions, thoughts, and modern effects	Muktar Ahmed Federal College of Education, Yola Adamawa State, Nigeria
	Teacher Talk and Student Identity Construction in Multilingual University Classrooms: A Case Study of Kaimosi Friends University	Solomon Onchoke Aunga, PhD Kaimosi Friends University
	Negotiating Kamba Cultural Identity in the Popular Contemporary Kamba Benga Music	Gladys Mbithe John Machakos University
	The Quest for Identity in Joan Thatiah's <i>Confessions of Nairobi Women</i> (2022)	Kipngetich Kosgei Festus University of Kabianga
11:30-1:00	Session Title: CREATIVE WRITING	Sessional Chair: Dr. Jackie Ojiambo
ENGINEERING BOARDROOM	Re-Imagining Creative Writing Pedagogies in East Africa	Billy Kahora University of Bristol, UK
	Creative Writing and Artificial Intelligence	Joseph Nderitu Murage, PhD Meru University of Science and Technology
	Creative Writing as Cultural Archive: Cultural Identity Construction in the Collective Imagination of Kenyan University Students	Anna Kula, PhD Kenyatta University
	Fostering Creative Writing Skills in Senior Schools in Kenya through Competency-Based Education and the Kenya National Drama and Film Festival	Waiganjo Ndirangu Machakos University
	Gender and the "Feminine Aesthetic" in Creative Writing	Winfred Kasyoka Machakos University
1:00-2:30	LUNCH BREAK	
2:30-4:30	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	Sessional Chair: Dr. Florence Mmbwanga
LUBAN WORKSHOP	The Canon and the Code: A Critical Review of Authorship in the Age of Artificial Intelligence Systems	Job Odhiambo Kenyatta University
	Reimagining Artificial Intelligence in Creative Arts: A Comparative Study of African Science Fiction and Western Artificial Intelligence Narratives	Purity Nduta Wamunyu Kenyatta University & Isaac Masese Ombongi Machakos University

	That Suspicious Thing Called AI must be Kept at Bay: Exploring the Use of AI in Playwriting in Kenya	Tracy Wambui Kibue Kenyatta University, & Emmanuel Shikuku Tsikhungu, PhD Kenyatta University,
	The Future of Poetic Creativity in the era of Artificial Intelligence	Stephen Onchwati Maasai Mara University
	Did you do that? Being creative in the age of artificial intelligence	Esther Katheu Mbithi, PhD Kenyatta University & Mumbua Nzula Nzyoka Kenya Broadcasting Corporation
	The Intersection of Creative Arts and social media: Transforming Artistic Expression and Engagement	Musuva Justus Kyalo Machakos University
2:30-4:30	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS AND DIGITALITIES: IMPLICATIONS, POSSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES	Sessional Chair: Dr. Justus Muusya
ENGINEERING BOARDROOM	Considering Theatre Histories: Have we been cheated to buy into a theatre form that is not our own?	Fredrick Mbogo, PhD The Technical University
	Digital Theatre and Changing Performance Practises in Kenya	Elizabeth Nafula Wanjala, Moi University
	Narrative Migration: Storytelling across Journalism, social media, Literary Nonfiction, and Digital Performance in Contemporary African Creative Practice	Jacqueline Ojiambo Machakos University
	Invisible Exports: Shagalla TikTok Performances and Kenya's Transnational Creative Economy	Teresia Wanjiru Kaberia Machakos University, Kenya
	Performative Elements in Tiktok Poetry Performances	Stanslaus Musyoki Nzioka, Charles Kebaya, Larry Ndivo Machakos University, Kenya
2:30-4:30	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS, MEMORY AND TRAUMA	Sessional Chair: Dr. Anashia Ongond'a
POSTGRADUATE BOARDROOM	Poetry as Protest: A Trauma-Theoretical Reading of Abdullahi Ismaila's <i>Our Country Holds a Whip Against Us</i>	Zainab Zendana Shafii Ibrahim Badamasi

		Babangida University, Lapai, Nigeria
	Digital Imagery as a Lens on the Multidirectional Trauma of Sexual Violence	Benta G. A. Oguda, PhD Machakos University, Kenya
	Violence, Memory and Becoming: Narrating Diplomacy and Peace in Francis Muthaura’s Memoir <i>A Moving Horizon</i>	Mugo Muhia, PhD Kenyatta University
	Pedagogical Screens of Belonging and Exclusion: Film, Solidarity, and the Cinematic Memory of South African Xenophobia	Simon Peter Otieno University of Nairobi
	Necropolitics and the Politics of Death in selected Ecocritical Literary Texts of Imbolo Mbue, Ben Okri and Cara Hoffman	Kanaa A. Muriungi Machakos University
2:30-4:30	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS, PROTEST AND RESISTANCE	Sessional Chair: Dr. Ann Kula
SENATE BOARDROOM	Storytelling methodologies for investigating youth in crisis in Kenya	Professor Lilac Osanjo, University of Nairobi
	From <i>Niko Njaa</i> to <i>Niko Kadi</i> : AI Localisation and the Utilization of Indigenous Knowledge in Kenya’s Youth Protests	Stephen Mutie, PhD Kenyatta University
	Emergent spaces, Resistance and the quest for social justice through creative arts in Kenya	Violet Nasambu Barasa, PhD. Kirinyaga University
	<i>Angukaga nayo</i> : Protest and resistance in contemporary Kenyan youth songs	Kiprotich E. Sang, PhD Koitalel Samoei University College
4:30	HEALT BREAK	
DAY 2 – 21 st AUGUST 2026		
8:00-8:30	Arrivals & Registration	Secretariat
8:30-10:30	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS, PROTEST AND RESISTANCE	Sessional Chair: Dr. Gerry Ayieko
ENGINEERING BOARDROOM	Creative Arts, Protests and Resistance: How Street Art, Protest Music, And Digital Satire Redefines Contemporary Youth-Led Activism in Kenya	Mary Mbithe Machakos University.
	Documentary film and Political Resistance in Kenya	Salome Katumbi Kaula Machakos University
	Performing resistance: An Exploration of Protest Culture in Selected Kenyan Plays	Christine Namayi, PhD Kibabii University

	Dissent and Power Dialectics in Kenya's Memetic Discourses	Timothy M. Kangori, PhD Tharaka University
8:30-10:30	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP	Sessional Chair: Billy Kahora
POSTGRADUATE BOARDROOM	Visualising Ohangla Music advertising in Nairobi's Eastlands – Some initial observations	Nicklas Hållen, PhD. Karlstads University, Sweden. & Mbugua wa Mungai, PhD Kenyatta University, Kenya.
	Re-Envisioning Multi-Directional Intergenerational Transfer in Kenyan Creative Arts Higher Education: The Role of social media and Entrepreneurship	Kyesubire Talitwala Pan Afrikan Design Institute Communications and Logistics, Design Kenya Society
	Incorporating Human-Centered Design in Kenyan Offices to Increase Employee Morale and Productivity	Mwendwa Faith Abijah University of Nairobi
	Barriers to Tailor-Led Garment Upcycling in Nairobi's <i>Mitumba</i> Value Chain: An Exploratory Single-Case, Practice-Led Inquiry	Francisca Okwiri Odundo Machakos University. Benta Oguda, PhD, Machakos University. Juliet Isika, PhD, Kenyatta University.
	Intersections between Creative Spectacle and Decent Work: Quiver Dance Ensembles and the Performance of Creative Labour in Entertainment Spaces in Nairobi City	Charles Kebaya Machakos University
8:30-10:30	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS AND GENDER	Sessional Chair: Dr. Benta Oguda
SENATE BOARDROOM	Gender, Voice, and Self-Definition in African Women's Writing: A Comparative Reading of <i>Memoirs of a Woman Doctor</i> and <i>So Long a Letter</i>	Cathryne Cherop, PhD. Tharaka University
	Performing Girlhood and Boyhood in Ugandan Young Adult Literature: Gender, Agency, and Creative Resistance in <i>Girlie Surprise</i> and the <i>Moses</i> Series	Alice Jossy Kyobutungi Tumwesigye Uganda Christian University

	Feminine Reawakening of Cultural Consciousness in Gabriel Garcia Marquez's <i>The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World</i>	Wincate Mwende Munyoki Kenyatta University
	Dismantling Patriarchy: Female Resistance and Agency in some selected Plays by Bole Butake and Tess Onwueme	Emmanuel Nchia Yimbu, PhD University of Buea
	Subverting Traditional Gender Roles: The Role of Women's Literature in Redefining Cultural Identity	Vincent Odhiambo Oduor, PhD University of Kabianga
	Journey to New Gender Dynamics: Changing Images of Masculinity in Kenya's Children's Prose Fiction	Patrick Kyunguti KLB
8:30-10:30	Session Title: CREATIVE ARTS AND INCLUSIVITY	Sessional Chair: Dr. Esther Katheu Mbithi
LUBAN WORKSHOP	Inclusive Interior Design Strategies for Persons with Disabilities: Telecommuting as a Pathway to Social Cohesion in Nairobi	Ms. Akello Odundo, University of Nairobi, Kenya. & Francisca Odundo, PhD. University of Nairobi, Kenya.
	Multimodal Creative Arts as a Pedagogical Tool for Enhancing Learning Among Students with Hearing Impairment	Jummai Jerry Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa State, Nigeria & Ene Racheal Enupe Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa State, Nigeria
	Portrayal of Urbanity in <i>Bodii</i> and <i>Other Ghetto Stories</i>	Daniel Mulwa Katiku, Dr. Charles Kebaya, Dr. Larry Ndivo Machakos University
	The role of creative arts in fostering social cohesion and peacebuilding among secondary school students in Makueni County, Kenya	Wambua Henry Kisina Machakos University
	Athari za Changamoto Zinazomkabili Mhusika wa Kiume Katika Riwaya ya <i>Nguu za Jadi</i>	Agnes Mwongeli Kiema South Eastern Kenya University.

	Digo wedding songs: advice or demeaning?	Vifu Makoti, PhD Machakos University
	Singing the Singer: The Lyrical World of John De Mathew	Kangangi Wanja Eunice University of Embu
10.30-11:30	HEALTH BREAK – TEA BREAK	
11:30-12.30	Session Title: PANEL DISCUSSION	Moderator: Dr. Charles Kebaya
LUBAN WORKSHOP	THE FUTURE OF CREATIVE ARTS EDUCATION Panelists 1. Professor Lilac Osanjo 2. Billy Kahora 3. Kyesubire Talitwala 4. Wafula Yenjela 5. Muktar Ahmed	
12:30-1:00 LUBAN WORKSHOP	CLOSING CEREMONY	Prof. Charles Ombuki Director, Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer (RITT).
1:00-2:30	HEALTH BREAK – LUNCH BREAK	
2:30-4:30 LUBAN WORKSHOP	POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS’ MENTORSHIP SESSION Focus 1. Dissemination of Research Findings 2. Writing a Conference Paper 3. Preparing a Conference Presentation	
4:30 PM	DEPARTURES	