

JULY 2025 ISSUE

PUBLISHED AFRIKA

LITERARY MAGAZINE

**FONTS IN BOOKS:
ARE THEY FOR FREE?**

**BLACK PEOPLE,
GET YOUR
MONEY RIGHT**

**LET'S TALK NAC
APPLICATIONS**

*What You Might
Be Doing Wrong*

**THINK LIKE THE
WEALTHY, NOT THE
RICH**

**CALLS FOR
SUBMISSIONS**

**MILESTONE FOR
POETICBLOOD PUBLISHERS**

ASIAN PRIZE COMES TO AFRICA

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Magazine



Poeticblood Publishers Secures Rights To Administer The Asian Prizes For Africa



In a historic development for the African literary scene, Poeticblood Publishers has been officially certified to administer The Asian Prizes Regional Awards for Africa.

The exclusive franchise, granted by The Asian Group of Literature in collaboration with Trogon Global, authorises the Botswana-based Poeticblood Publishers to organise, promote, and present these prestigious literary accolades across all 54 African nations.

The visionary behind this project, Sri Lankan novelist Pramudith D Rupasinghe, said the Asian Group of Literature was born from a concept of a borderless literary world. Actually, The Asian Review, the first enterprise in the group of companies, was introduced as a global platform, as most of the review magazines and publications back then were focused on particular territories, zones, and demographics.

“We wanted to give writers from all over the world access to a platform that does not discriminate,” said Rupasinghe. “After a few years, we began, with the same principles and value set, to expand and created this ecosystem called 'The Asian Group of Literature' that hosts The Asian Prizes, The Asian Literary Agency, The Asian Literary Festival, The Asian Review, The Asian Journal, and The Asian House of Literature. The most important thing is that the name 'Asian' comes from the place of origin, but it's a global ecosystem open to all.”

Rupasinghe said as they expanded, they soon realised that the best way to support authors around the world is to have decentralised structures at regional level,

connecting them to a central system. Having lived in Africa for almost a decade and having started a literary career there, Rupasinghe saw no reason why the regional expansion shouldn't start there.

“Africa is a place of opportunity, and the future of humanity lies in Asia and Africa. So, our regional literary prizes, The Asian Prizes Africa, are established in Gaborone, and Africa's festival, The Asian Literary Festival Nairobi, takes place in Nairobi, Kenya. Two most vibrant, and culturally rich places for the world to explore.

Managing Director of Poetic Publishers, Dr Lame Pusetso, said the opportunity to bring the Asian Regional Prizes to Africa emerged through a strategic partnership between Poeticblood Publishers and The Asian Group of Literature, after she had been appointed the 2025 Jury Member for the Asian Prize.

“This collaboration was driven by a mutual recognition of the vast and diverse literary talent present across the African continent, and in particular, the impact this far of Poeticblood Publishers hosting the Botswana Literature Awards and successfully awarded 50 local authors,” said Pusetso. “The Franchisor, The Asian Group of Literature, identified a shared vision with Poeticblood Publishers, aimed at celebrating and elevating African literature on a global platform. This alignment of values and objectives facilitated the establishment of the franchise, paving the way for African writers to gain international exposure and acknowledgment.”

For emerging writers in Botswana and across Africa, this franchise represents a significant opportunity. It offers a prestigious platform for writers to showcase their work to a broader audience. The initiative not only opens doors to recognition but also provides critical networking and publication opportunities that can significantly enhance their literary careers. By participating in this esteemed competition, African writers can gain visibility, connect with other literary professionals, and potentially secure publishing deals that might otherwise be out of reach.

Pusetso said they plan to deeply engage with local literary communities and cultural organisations across various African countries. This will involve adapting the awards to resonate with the diverse cultural landscapes found throughout the continent.

“By collaborating with regional literary festivals and leveraging social media campaigns in multiple languages, we aim to create widespread awareness and encourage active participation,” she said. “These efforts will ensure that the awards are accessible and inclusive, reflecting the rich cultural diversity of Botswana and Africa.”

Both Poeticblood Publishers and The Asian Group of Literature share a profound commitment to celebrating diverse voices and promoting literary excellence. They also value cultural exchange and aim to foster understanding

and appreciation of different literary traditions. This alignment in values made the partnership a natural fit, as both organisations are dedicated to elevating literature that reflects the richness and diversity of global cultures.

The collaboration also presents several significant opportunities, including the elevation of African literature on a global stage. This partnership will facilitate cross-cultural literary exchanges and potentially lead to the discovery of the next generation of literary greats from Africa.

“By integrating African voices into the global literary conversation, we hope to foster greater appreciation and understanding of African cultures worldwide,” she said.

To maintain high literary standards, Pusetso said they will assemble a diverse panel of judges who are well-versed in both global literary benchmarks and African storytelling traditions. This will also be made possible by using the judging criteria that is used by the Asian Prize team. This approach will ensure that the awards recognise exceptional literary work while celebrating authentic African voices.

“By balancing these elements, we aim to honour the unique contributions of African writers and uphold the prestige of the awards.”

Through this partnership, Pusetso said they aim to build a lasting legacy of empowering African writers and establishing the African leg of the Asian Regional Prizes as

a prestigious and influential literary award. The goal is to create a sustainable platform that continues to celebrate and promote

African literature for decades to come, ensuring that African writers have the opportunity to shine on the global stage.

PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Magazine Facebook Short Story Competition - July 2025



THEME: NONE

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Write a short story of 1 800 to 2 500 words. The story can be of any genre except erotica.

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All qualifying stories will be posted on our PUBLISH'D Afrika Magazine page. Number of reactions per story determine the People's Choice Award winner. We also have a Publisher's Choice Award for a story that will be picked by the publisher.

Announcing the 2025 Botswana Literature Awards!



We are thrilled to announce that the 2025 Botswana Literature Awards are set to take place this November! This highly anticipated event will celebrate the rich tapestry of literary talent across Botswana and beyond.

Important Dates:

Announcement of Categories: July 15, 2025

Submission Dates: To be announced soon

This year promises to be more exciting

than ever, with a host of prizes including monetary awards, prestigious publishing deals, international recognition, trophies, and certificates. Authors, writers, and literature enthusiasts, this is your opportunity to shine and showcase your creativity.

In an exciting development, we are introducing a new category supported by The Asian Prize, which will spotlight unpublished works such as scripts, poems, and short stories. This is a fantastic chance for emerging voices to be discovered and celebrated.

Stay tuned for more details, and in the meantime, get your pens ready and your imaginations fired up! The 2025 Botswana Literature Awards are coming, and it's your time to be part of this literary celebration.

Think Like The Wealthy, Not The Rich



Having grown up poor at Emaphupheni, Daveyton in Gauteng, Mamohau Nkosi always dreamed of sharing the secrets and tools of her success with people from her background, which they can use to move from poverty to wealth, thus giving them hope.

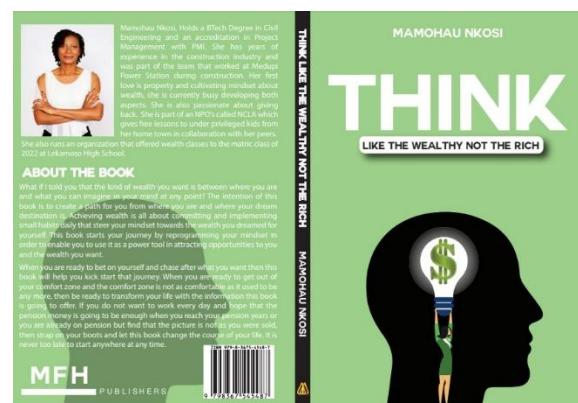
The result is her book titled *Think Like The Wealthy Not The Rich*, a blueprint to help people kickstart the journey of chasing after what they want.

She told **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA**: “The kind of wealth you want is between where you are and what you can imagine in your mind at any point. The intention of this book is to create a path for you from where you are and where your dream destination is. Achieving wealth is all about committing and implementing small habits daily that steer your mindset towards the wealth you dreamed for yourself. This book starts your journey by reprogramming your mindset in order to enable you to use it a power tool in attracting opportunities to you and the wealth you want.”

Mamohau isn't all words and no action. She is living proof that you can achieve whatever you set your mind to. She holds a BTech Degree in Civil Engineering and an accreditation in Project Management with PMI. She has years of experience in the construction industry and was part of the team that worked at Medupi Power Station during construction.

“When you are ready to get out of the comfort zone and the comfort zone is not that comfortable as it used to be, then be ready to transform your life with the information this book is going to offer,” she said. “If you do not want to work every day and hope that the pension money is going to be enough when you reach your pension years, or you are already on pension but find that the picture is not as you were sold, then strap on your boots and let this book change the course of your life. It is never too late to start anywhere anytime.”

Mamohau's first love is property and cultivating mindsets on wealth. She is also passionate about giving back. She is part of an NPO called NCLA which gives free lessons to underprivileged kids from her hometown in collaboration with her peers. She also runs an organisation that offered wealth classes to the matric class of 2022 at Lekamoso High School.



To purchase a copy of the book, call Mamohau's assistant at 067 046 5876. Alternatively, you can purchase a copy on Amazon or an audio on Google Play.

Black People, Get Your Money Right



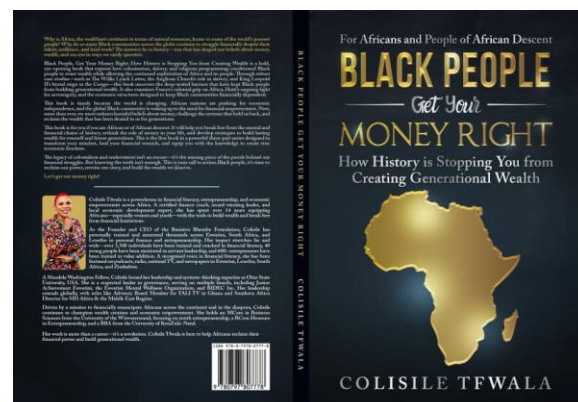
What if I were to tell you that your financial reality today has been in part shaped by your own poverty mindset and historical roots of economic exclusion?

According to Colisile Tfwala, author of *Black People Get Your Money Right: How History Is Stopping You From Creating Generational Wealth*, Black people have been systematically programmed—both historically and socially—to think a certain way about money and the world, a programming designed to keep them trapped in cycles of poverty. Her book sheds light on why, for many, generational wealth is absent: most have inherited little or nothing from their grandparents, despite the timeless wisdom that *“a good man leaves an inheritance for his children’s children.”*

Colisile is a certified finance coach, development expert and humanitarian from Eswatini, formerly Swaziland. She is an award-winning author with over 15 years of experience in local economic development, women and youth empowerment, and entrepreneurship. She is also a passionate advocate for the economic emancipation of Black people globally.

A Mandela Washington Fellow, Standard Bank SHERoe and founder of the Busisiwe Bhembe Foundation, Colisile uses her voice, work, and writing to challenge historical injustices, promote financial literacy, and inspire Africans and people of African descent to reclaim their wealth and purpose. Her work sits at the intersection of storytelling, social justice, and economic transformation.

She told **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA**: “The explores how slavery, colonialism, apartheid, and systemic racism have deeply shaped the financial realities of Black people across the globe. It uncovers the historical roots of economic exclusion, poverty mindsets, and intergenerational trauma, revealing how the past continues to shape the present. But it is not just a critique, it is a call to action. The book offers practical insights on how to unlearn inherited patterns, break cycles of scarcity, and embark on the journey toward lasting generational wealth.”



The book also highlights that money management is more behavioural than logical, and the age of seven or eight largely shapes those behaviours. It explores why many Black individuals, despite working for decades, often have few tangible assets to show for their efforts. But more importantly, it affirms that change is possible—and personal. It aims to help people challenge what they perceive as usual and shift their perspective.

“Through the book, I challenge readers to examine their behaviours and what they’ve come to accept as ‘normal’, encouraging them to question whether these patterns are actually the result of deep-rooted

programming that keeps them stuck in poverty, and to begin the journey toward a mindset shift,” said Colisile. “The book not only explains the roots of financial disempowerment but also equips readers with practical tools to break the cycle and rewrite the narrative of Black wealth.”

Colisile said both personal experience and professional observations inspired the writing of this book. In her years working in local economic development and financial coaching, she encountered countless brilliant, hardworking Black individuals who were doing everything “right” but were still trapped in cycles of financial struggle. She then began to understand that the problem was deeper than budgeting or saving—it was historical, structural, and psychological.

“I wanted to create a resource that spoke to this deeper truth, connecting the dots between history and the present, and offering a path toward healing and economic liberation so we can move forward,” she said. “This book is my contribution to that collective awakening.”

“I wrote this book as a tool to empower Africans and people of African descent, because financial literacy, though essential, is something most of us were never taught in school. After publishing my first book, *Financial Freedom and Wealth Creation: A Workbook for Personal Financial Management*, which offered a practical guide to budgeting, saving, and building wealth, I continued to encounter the same feedback during my financial literacy trainings and coaching sessions:

‘I know what I’m supposed to do—but I still can’t seem to do it.

That insight stirred something in me. It made me ask: *Why do so many people, even those who understand the basics of financial management, continue to struggle with their finances?’*”

This book is Colisile’s response to that question. It goes beyond the “how” of money management to explore the “why”—the mindset, history, and emotional programming that silently shape our financial behaviour.

“On a personal level, I’ve experienced both financial success and devastating losses,” she said. “I’ve made a lot of money and, at one point, lost it all. Despite being driven, visionary, and deeply spiritual, I found myself wrestling with one persistent question: *Why have I struggled to build lasting, generational wealth?*”

Colisile said she has also wrestled with a deeper, more painful question: *Why is Africa still so poor when it holds nearly a third of the world’s mineral wealth?* Why are we, decades later, still grappling with the same challenges that I studied at university over 20 years ago, despite the billions of dollars reportedly poured into the continent each year by the global development community?

“These questions stirred something in me. They pushed me to dig deeper, to research extensively, and ultimately led me to write this book—a journey to uncover the truth, challenge the status quo, and reimagine the path to real empowerment for Africans.”

The book also carries a deep sense of urgency. As Black people, we’ve been fed layers of deception about who we are and what we can do, and the time to unlearn

those lies and reclaim our power is now. The world is advancing rapidly, especially with the rise of AI and technologies like deepfakes, which have the potential to manipulate reality in unprecedented ways. In this new era, it is more important than ever for Black people to decolonise their minds, tap into their inner power, and develop the discernment needed to separate truth from illusion. Without that awareness, we risk being further misled in a world already shaped by centuries of distortion.

Colisile said the book is aimed at Africans and people of African descent, particularly those who are ready to break generational cycles of poverty, reclaim their financial power, and build sustainable wealth. This

includes young professionals, students, entrepreneurs, parents, activists, and educators who want more than just financial tips—they want context, clarity, and a conscious roadmap to transformation.

“My goal is to shift mindsets, restore a sense of agency, and provide tools that help readers unlearn, rebuild, and thrive,” she said. “I also hope to spark intergenerational conversations around money, legacy, and economic justice in families, communities, and institutions. I hope this book ignites a fire in every reader—a fire fed by truth, clarity, and the courage to reclaim what has always been rightfully theirs.”



Pre-order NOW...

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And to Ruby,
Loving you hurt more than removing myself
from your life. I lost myself and hated
myself until I fell in love with
myself again.
These are The Chords Of The Hymn I sang
after healing.

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Comfort Khumalo Keil Real Life Experiences, Authenticity Drives Her



Comfort Khumalo Keil has lived an extraordinary life that was fraught with challenges, difficulties and mistakes (and a lot of drama).

It is no wonder that the author and mother of three is passionate about connecting with readers on a deeper level through non-fiction, as it draws from real experiences, emotions, and perspectives, creating a sense of authenticity and depth that can be harder to achieve with a completely made-up persona.

Comfort's books embody her unique quirks, vulnerabilities, and strengths together with relatable flaws and struggles, imperfections and being more human, which are things that are relatable to readers who might identify with similar experiences.

Her journey from Eswatini, (formerly) Swaziland in Southern Africa, to the UK, USA, Canada and then back to the USA where she lives, was nothing short of a miracle. As soon as she left her home country, she found herself confronted with different realities and battling poverty, abuse of different types, rejection, trials, loss, homelessness, and more.

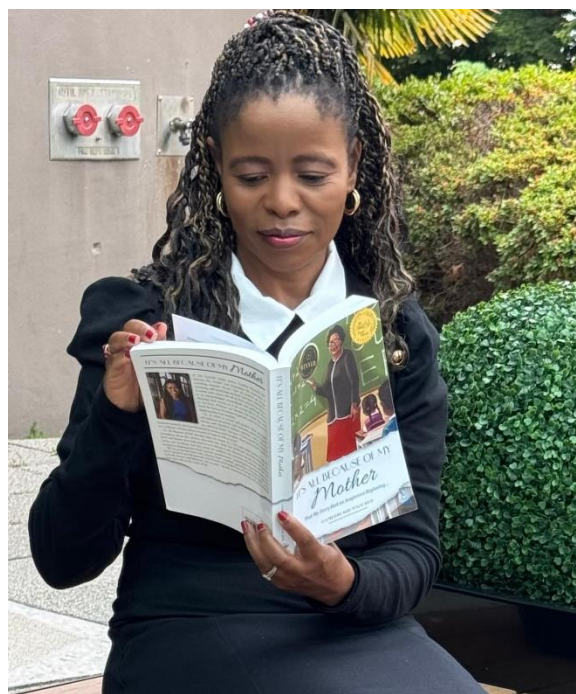
Comfort Khumalo Keil is the author of a memoir about faith and never giving up, *The Indebted Beneficiary of Countless Second Chances*. Her second book, *It's All Because of My Mother*, is in honour of her mother. This is where she takes the reader on a rich and varied journey from her mother's generation (late 1930's) to generation Alpha. She also has two more Biographies in the works.

She told **PUBLISH'D AFRIKA**: "I have messed up several times, but I didn't go

back. I am thankful to God for giving me countless second chances."

She attributes her success to perseverance, faith in God, consistency, a positive attitude, embracing failure as a learning opportunity, and never giving up.

"Refusing to quit or stop trying when facing challenges, setbacks and difficulties are essential for building resilience, the ability to bounce back and adapt to changing circumstances," Comfort emphasises.



Comfort Khumalo Keil is a wife and a mother of three. She resides in the USA with her husband, Sucre.

Her Faith and family are most important to her. She is a firm believer that there is something relevant about simply being inside church with similar-minded people who believe in God's Sovereignty, that He has supreme authority and absolute power over everyone and everything.

4th Funda Mpondo Literary Festival To Use Storytelling To Bridge Generational Divides and Preserve Heritage



LUSIKISIKI, EASTERN CAPE – KwaziThina Publishers invites you to PLAY YOUR PART in the 4th edition of the Funda Mpondo Literary Festival. Taking place September 3-4, 2025, at the Lusikisiki Health Resource Centre, this year's event, themed "Bridging Generations Through Tales of the Past, Present, and Future," will harness the power of storytelling to connect diverse age groups and bridge generational divides, with an intergenerational focus.

The festival is honoured to host renowned storyteller, Author and Poet Dr. Gcina Mhlophe. A central highlight is the deeply moving "My Grandmother's (Ilivo/Ibali LikaMakhulu) Story Session," where narratives will be meticulously collected for future publication as a significant anthology, powered by the National Heritage Council. This initiative directly embodies the festival's mission, aligning with the NHC's pillar to protect, preserve, and promote heritage residing in oratory.

The 4th edition will open with the National Anthem by Jamakazi Bazana and will feature creative talents from America, Malawi, Ghana, Botswana, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Namibia, and across South Africa. The program actively engages local schools and features dedicated intergenerational dialogue sessions, bringing together elders, middle-aged individuals, and youth to share perspectives and foster mutual understanding across the age spectrum.

Attendees can look forward to the Play Your Part Corner session: "How I can Play My Part in building the South Africa We Want," directly encouraging Active Citizenship and community engagement – core pillars of Brand South Africa's Play Your Part campaign. The festival also includes a special Reading of Ilivo lesiMpondo and a dedicated session for traditional leaders, recognising their crucial role in preserving cultural narratives that connect past and present, further supporting the Heritage Preservation and Social Cohesion pillars.

"The Funda Mpondo Literary Festival truly embodies 'Play Your Part' by using storytelling to bridge generational divides," says Nomawele Njongo, Festival Curator and Organiser, a distinguished National Heritage Ambassador, the 2024 National Voice of Heritage Award winner, and a Brand South Africa Play Your Part Ambassador. "We're creating spaces for connection and safeguarding our collective heritage. Partnering with the National Heritage Council on 'My Grandmother's Story' directly contributes to preserving invaluable oral traditions, while our youth engagement actively supports Youth Empowerment."

Ms. Njongo will read a chapter titled "Prayer to Bridging Generations with Wisdom" from her forthcoming book, *A Prayer for My Children's Children*.

The festival also features author conversations and exciting book launches, including: *The Right to Live a Full Life* by Tobe Thabede, *Mogau* by Mogau Letswalo, *Ndamitha Njani Singadibananga* by Nozibele Maqutywa, and *Masiqhube Kusakhanya Kusakhanya* by Nomonde Makheswa Makaula. The festival's success is made possible through the invaluable support of its esteemed partners: Brand South Africa Play Your Part (whose pillars of Active Citizenship, Social Cohesion, Heritage Preservation, and Youth Empowerment are embodied throughout the festival), NHC, Walter Sisulu University, and the Department of Education. We've also partnered with local media to amplify our festival's message of generational connection, reaching a broader audience.

Attendees can explore diverse exhibitors, including Magwa Tea SA, Eastern Cape Women Writers Association, KTP Books and other independent authors. The Funda Mpondo Literary remains a beacon for literary excellence and intergenerational connection in the Eastern Cape, spanning the generational chasm through shared narratives. It is an annual event dedicated to promoting literature, fostering a love for reading, and facilitating dialogue across generations through storytelling and literary arts.

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BOOKS BY

SUKOLUHLE NONTOKOZO

MDLONGWA

Sukoluhle isn't just an author, but is also the co-founder of PUBLISH'D AFRIKA, a self-publishing agency based in Middelburg, Mpumalanga, in South Africa. She is also the co-founder of PUBLISH'D AFRIKA Online Literary Magazine, which she runs with her life partner, Thokozani Magagula, who is also an author, journalist and editor.



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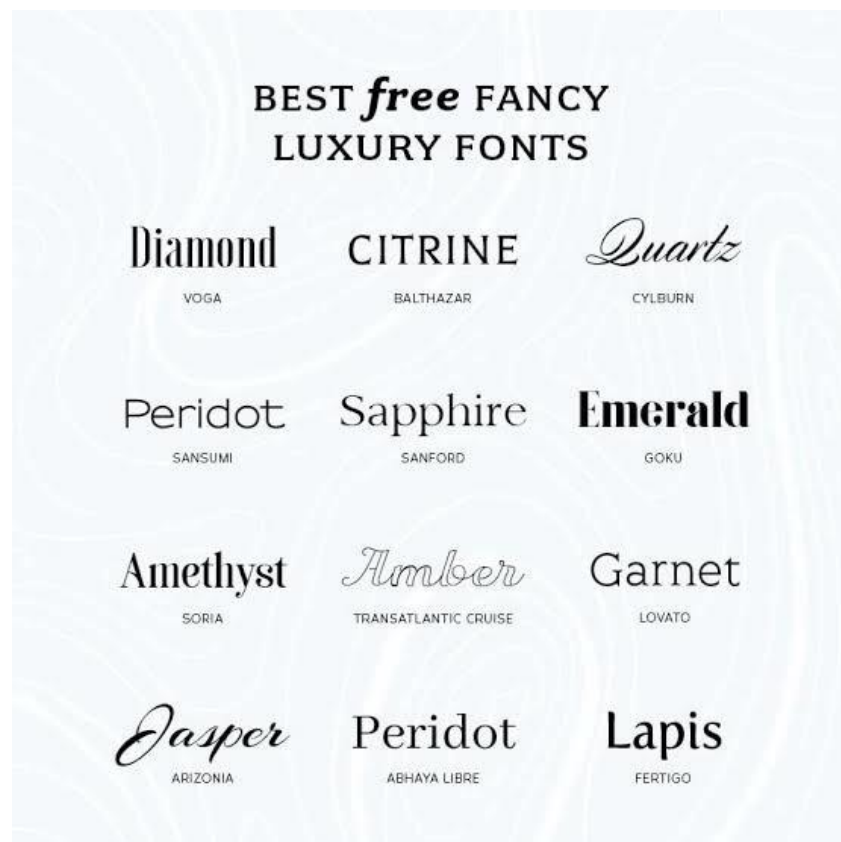

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Fonts In Books: Are They For Free?



Did you know that just because a font came with your computer or Word, doesn't mean you can use it in your physical print book?

Some fonts, while free to use personally or in other electronic forms, have extra requirements or copyright rules if you are to put it on a physical product... like a book! That means that if an author isn't careful, they could choose a font from their Word or other writing software, like Times New Roman, that isn't legally allowed to be put in a print product without an extra paid licence.

Yes, most authors don't think about this as they are working on their book, and the chances that they could be sued for using Times New Roman in their print book without a licence are slim to none. In fact, the only known major case was against a major company and involved a Harry Potter font.

But that doesn't mean as authors, we have to purposely wear blinders. We need to tread on the side of caution and, just as we work hard to be complaint with the tax man, we should do the same with font licences. We have to choose fonts that we can absolutely use. This includes fonts in the book, chapter title, or even on your book cover.

To protect yourself, it's best to have an understanding of font copyright laws, how to figure out if your font is allowed to be used, and if necessary, how to purchase the rights to use a font.

While some fonts are available for free personal use, many require a commercial licence for use in books, especially for print or digital publications. Authors and publishers need to pay for the right to use a

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Checking Licences:

Always review the licence agreement associated with any font before using it in a book. Some fonts are truly free for commercial use, such as those available

through Google Fonts. Font designers can protect their work through copyright and licensing, so it's important to respect their rights. In short, it's crucial to understand the licensing terms of any font you plan to use in your book to avoid copyright infringement and ensure you're using it legally.

You'll have to purchase a license for a font that can be used commercially, or use one of the bunch that come with Word since they are free to use. If a font is copyright protected, then copyright owners can sue companies and others who use that font without a licence for copyright infringement.

For fonts you can use for free in your book, or to purchase a font licence, go to: <https://kindlepreneur.com/font-copyright/#h-fonts-you-can-use-free-in-your-book>



Dr Okeriran's Advice To Publishers: “Take The Publishing Of African Literature Seriously”



Photo: Chairman of APNET, Mr Lawrence Njagi (Left) and Dr Wale Okediran, at the Conference.

Pan African Writers Association Secretary General, Dr Wale Okediran, has advised African publishers to take the job of publishing African Literature in Indigenous languages more seriously.

Speaking at the 3rd African Publishers Conference in Casablanca, Morocco, Dr Okeridan congratulated the African Publishers Network (APNET) for its robust and significant contribution to African Literature. In addition to eulogising the continental Publishing Association, Dr Okediran, who was one of the Speakers at the conference, also urged the industry to take the publishing of African Literature seriously.

“Even though publishing is a business, publishers are not just business gurus but important agents of change who also

contribute to societal progress through the knowledge products and books which they publish,” he said.

Dr Okediran also reiterated the long-held views of advocates for vernacular literature such as the late Ngugi Wa Thiongo that increasing the number of books published in African languages is crucial to a strong local book economy as well as cultural liberation for Africa.

The conference under the theme "Promotion Of Books For National Development In Africa", was attended by over 60 participants from about 30 countries. The audience, made up of publishers, professionals and cultural actors, gathered to exchange ideas, strengthen collaborations and shape the future of publishing in Africa.



PUBLISH'D Afrika

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Let's Talk NAC Applications: What You Might Be Doing Wrong!

By Thami AkaMbongo Manzana



Artists and organisations often cry foul after being declined by the National Arts Council (NAC) — but let's be honest, many of the rejections happen at the compliance stage before anyone even gets to read your brilliant idea.

The NAC Grant Management System (GMS) allows you to first upload documents. This step is crucial. It's called the COMPLIANCE STAGE, and too many practitioners are making simple errors here that lead to automatic disqualification.

The two major culprits?

Certified Copy of SA ID: It must not be older than 12 months. That's ONE YEAR, not when you last saw your ID.

Two Recent Letters of Reference: Signed, dated, including full address and contact details — and they must not be older than 18 months.

If you miss this? You're out. No matter how good your project is.

SAUCCIF has consistently engaged with the NAC to rethink automatic disqualification, suggesting that small errors like these be flagged for correction before you're booted out. We even jokingly call it "National Arts Compliance" because that's where most people fall.

BUT until this changes — submit correctly. Full stop.

Now onto the next important section of the application:

Project Details

This is where you need to show you understand your project deeply. This is not copy-and-paste work. Here are some tips:

Follow word count: Some questions require 100 words, others 500 words. Don't go off-track. Be clear, compelling, and concise.

Explain your project idea well – What is it about? What are your objectives?

Access to Market – How will your work reach audiences? What platforms will you use?

Youth Development and Employment – How is your project helping young people earn and grow?

Sustainability – How will your project live beyond the funding?

Collaboration – Who are you working with in the sector?

Most importantly:

Your project MUST address at least four (4) of the NAC's six (6) focus areas:

Social cohesion and Nation Building

Unearthing marginalised and indigenous arts in rural areas

Addressing social ills: xenophobia, GBV, etc.

Involving women, youth and people living with disabilities.

Creation of new work through digital media.

Capacity building & arts entrepreneurship.

If you don't hit these right, the evaluators won't be convinced.

Let's do better as a sector. We must win at compliance and content.

THE UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL'S CENTRE FOR CREATIVE ARTS PRESENTS

POETRY AFRICA

SLAM JAM

COMPETITION

WIN R20 000!!!

THEME:
POETRY: AN ARCHITECTURE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

CLOSING DATE
14 JULY 2025

MORE INFO AT POETRYAFRICA.UKZN.AC.ZA

TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE ARTS

SALES, MARKETING AND BRANDING MASTERCLASS FOR FEMALE AUTHORS

Authors must be job seekers by CHOICE. We must be able to generate revenue from book sales

People with the most flexibility and choice will rule the system

PROGRAM

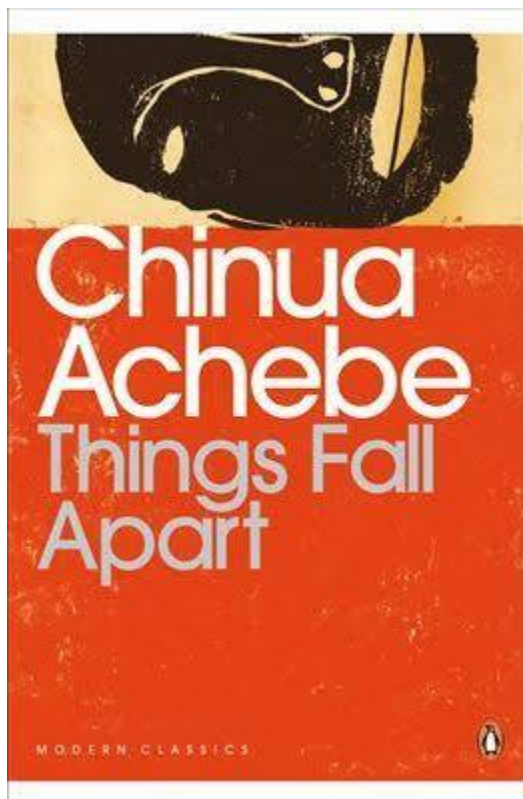
- How to score Radio, TV & Print Media interviews
- Branding strategy
- Target Market
- Building rapport with potential clients
- Guerrilla marketing
- Marketing on social media
- Distribution
- Scoring book reviews with universities
- Time management

R350 (BUFFET LUNCH INCLUDED)
31 AUGUST 2025
12:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.
THE COURTYARD HOTEL MIDRAND

Capitec Account No.
1131957839
Account Holder:
Tshidi Monkoe
Contact number:
0661726715

COACH TSHIDI MONKOE
AUTHOR OF PRISON LOVE

Achebe To Be Celebrated In Things Fall Apart Festival



Until the 5th of July 2025, the city of Enugu will be a hive of activity as an estimated 10 000 art, culture and literature enthusiasts have gathered for the inaugural *Things Fall Apart* Festival, a homage to Chinua Achebe.

Curated by the Centre for Memories – Ncheta Ndigbo, the festival will mark 67 years since Achebe's novel, *Things Fall Apart*, was published. Themed “masculine, Feminine, Human: The Dialogue of Complements in *Things Fall Apart*”, this year's weeklong celebration promises to be the biggest cultural tribute yet in honour of the author.

Things Fall Apart has been slated as the literary classic that redefined African literature. One of the high points of the festival will be the keynote address by Nigeria's foremost novelist and public intellectual, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, who is currently promoting novel, *Dream Country*, which she published after more than a decade's sabbatical.

Organisers are calling the author's much-anticipated keynote address “a symbolic homecoming and a continuation of the literary conversation that Achebe's work has long inspired.”

“Adichie's keynote draws heavily from the festival theme, and will offer a reflection on the Achebean inheritance,” says the organisers.

The Centre revealed that, “From the huts where great men once lived, to the courts presided over by the Egwugwu, and the village square where palm wine flowed and moonlit tales were told — Umuofia will be fully reimagined in our *Things Fall Apart* Village.”

Activities lined up for the festival include: art exhibitions, film screenings, memory

walks, essay competitions for both students and the general public, dramatic performances and staged readings, tech installations, and saloon-style conversations with cultural thought leaders.

Also expected will be the appearance of cast members from the 1987 television adaptation of *Things Fall Apart*, including Nollywood icon Pete Edochie, who portrayed Okonkwo. Also making a grand entrance will be the Ajofia masquerade, an iconic figure in the novel, which will

appear within the recreated Umuofia village.

The Planning Committee Chairman, James Eze, himself a renowned poet, journalist and cultural enthusiast, will be working hard to ensure the festival lives up to Achebe's legacy.

In the build-up to the event, the Centre for Memories has also introduced a creative way of involving the public. Individuals are

nominated to read excerpts from *Things Fall Apart* on video, after which they nominate others to do the same, a process that is already gaining traction among friends and professionals.

For the organisers, this festival is more than just a celebration of Achebe's work – it is a cultural homecoming, a literary pilgrimage, and a reminder of the power of storytelling.

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Mulalo 2025 Mandela Washington Fellow



Mulalo Nemataheni has recently taken up residency with the 2025 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young Leaders at Michigan State University in the United States of America.

Mulalo, from Thohoyandou in Limpopo and President of ImPower'd Woman Book Club, will be spending the next six weeks at this prestigious University and will interact with many other young entrepreneurs and leaders from across the globe.

Mulalo Nemataheni is a Certified Financial Planner by profession and a member of the Financial Planning Institute of Southern Africa (FPI). She is a Commissioner in the Commission for Gender Equality. She has won numerous awards, including Mail & Guardian Top 200, FPI Diversity and Inclusion Award, and IDEAL Authentic Leader Award by Young Leaders Connect.

She also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Planning from Milpark Education and a Bachelor of Commerce in Financial Accounting from the University of Cape Town. She also completed the Executive Development Programme with Duke Corporate Education and International Women's Forum South Africa. With extensive experience in private banking, business banking, and financial planning, Commissioner Mulalo is a passionate advocate for financial literacy and women empowerment. She is dedicated to equipping individuals and communities with knowledge to make informed financial decisions.

As the President of ImPower'd Woman, a non-profit organisation focused on women's rights and empowerment, Commissioner Mulalo leads initiatives aimed at empowering, educating and celebrating women. She does this through ImPower'd Woman Book Club, a network of over 500 women committed to their own personal development through literacy.

Through the recently established Limpopo Books and Publishers Sector under the LACC, a statutory body established under an Act of Parliament through the MEC for the Limpopo Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, Mr Funani Jerry Maseko, Mulalo has confirmed that she has settled well with the community of Michigan. On her return to South Africa, she will bring back knowledge for her more than 500 ImPower'd Woman Book Club members and other clubs within the industry.

"We urge all people to identify their craft and join us when we seek to empower the industry and create necessary employment and jobs," says LACC Chairperson, Lesiba Mothoa. "We are already starting to see benefits in different parts of Limpopo."

The 2025 Mandela Washington Fellows were competitively selected from a pool of over 58 000 applicants, representing the best and brightest young leaders from across Sub-Saharan Africa. The approximately 620 Fellows are leaders in agriculture, business, civil society, education, energy, healthcare, technology, trade, security, and other fields.

Fellows will participate in six-week Leadership Institutes at 26 U.S. educational institutions in 21 states. Throughout the program, Fellows will develop lasting connections with Americans while enhancing their skills through leadership training, academic study, and networking. Fellows also enrich their U.S. host communities by engaging in weekly community service activities throughout the Fellowship.

Following the Institutes, up to 85 competitively selected Fellows will join private, public, and non-profit organisations across the country for a four-week Professional Development Experience (PDE). These placements allow Fellows to learn from U.S. experts in their fields while also contributing their skills and insights to U.S. organisations.

Three African Writers For Ebedi International Writers Residency



Three writers from Nigeria and Guinea Conakry have arrived in Iseyin, Nigeria, for the June/July 2025 Edition of the Ebedi International Writers Residency.

The writers are (in the above picture) Rahaman Abiola and Oko Owi Ocho (both from Nigeria) and Ibrahima Bangoura, from Guinea Conakry.

In addition to their individual writing projects, the writers will also mentor secondary school students in Iseyin during their 4-week stay.

The Ebedi International Writers Residency is a private initiative for the free use of writers in need of a conducive environment to complete their ongoing works. Since its establishment in 2010, the facility has hosted 360 Writers from 12 African Countries many of whom have gone on to win International Literary awards.

For further enquiries, kindly contact derinjuwon@gmail.com

Moscow Hosts 2nd World Congress of Writers



The World Organization of Writers (WOW), in collaboration with the Assembly of the Peoples of the World, announces the beginning of preparations for the 2nd World Congress of Writers, to be held as part of the World Public Summit.

Location: Moscow, Russia

Dates: September 20–21, 2025

Following the vibrant and impactful 1st World Congress of Writers, which took place in 2024 in Abuja (Nigeria) under the auspices of the Pan African Writers Association (PAWA), we confidently continue our mission of uniting the creative forces of the planet.

The upcoming Congress in Moscow will be a space for live dialogue, deep reflection, and collective thinking about the future of world literature.

We warmly invite:

— writers and poets,

— playwrights and essayists,
— philosophers and translators,
— literary agents and editors,
— representatives of literary unions, cultural initiatives, media, and humanitarian institutions
from all continents to engage in co-creation, share experience, and help shape a new humanitarian agenda that responds to the challenges of our time.

Writers from over 100 countries have already been invited.

The 2nd World Congress of Writers (WOW) will mark a new stage in the development of a truly international literary community.

Enquiries can be directed to summit@eurasia-assembly.org

Stay tuned for updates, participant registration, and program details — coming soon at:
worldpublicsummit.org



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

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AATV
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Send your application to
admin@artsatthevillage.co.za

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ARTS AT THE VILLAGE

Edith Wharton: Her True Fluency Was In The Art Of Imagination



She was born in New York in 1862, surrounded by luxury and the rigid expectations of high society. Everything around her was designed to shape her into an elegant, obedient lady. But Edith Wharton had other plans.

From a young age, she spoke French, German, and Italian—but her true fluency was in the art of imagination. By fifteen, she had already written a 30,000-word novel and sold her first poem. All in secret. All under a pseudonym. Because in her world, writing was not considered a pursuit for women.

Literature became her refuge, her rebellion, and her legacy. Over her lifetime, Edith wrote more than 40 books and dozens of stories, building an entire universe out of the silence to which she had been consigned.

And one day, the world listened.

In 1921, she became the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Literature, thanks to *The Age of Innocence*—a novel that exposed the hypocrisy of the very society that tried to silence her.

Edith Wharton didn't just write books. She wrote freedom.

Her determined heart and passion for writing books, never let her give up. Just persuade what she believes in.

Always follow your heart and fight for what you believe in.






Calls For Submissions

CANEX Creative Writing Workshop 2025


Are you an aspiring writer from Africa or the Caribbean? Here's a rare opportunity to expand your craft, connect with fellow creatives, and build your literary career - all expenses paid.

Applications are now open for the CANEX Creative Writing Workshop 2025, a 5-day residency in Algiers, Algeria running alongside CANEX@IATF2025 this September.

20 selected writers will get:

-  Masterclasses with award-winning authors & publishers
-  Industry insights on writing, rights, and publishing
-  ✈️ Travel, accommodation & meals covered
-  🌐 Interpretation in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish
-  🎓 Certificate of completion

To apply, submit a 500-word writing sample and proof of AU or CARICOM citizenship by 10th July 2025.

 Apply here: <https://www.canex.africa/canex-book-factory>

The Black Atlantic Editorial Fellowship

Applications are now open for The Black Atlantic Editorial Fellowship, supported by the Mellon Foundation.

This six-month remote fellowship is designed for early to mid-career editors, writers, journalists, and researchers across Africa's five regions, who are passionate about shaping ideas around Blackness and the African experience.

Fellows will receive a \$500 monthly stipend, editorial guidance, workshop access, and structured feedback from The Republic's team.

They'll also participate in skill-building sessions and a final digital symposium to showcase their work.

Click here to learn more and apply:

<https://rpublic.com/dispatch/black-atlantic-editorial-fellowship/>

The deadline is: Sunday, 3 August 2025, 5 p.m. (Lagos time).

Call for Entries: 2025 Ladi Kwali Poetry Prize



Northern Writers Forum Journal (NWF Journal), in partnership with Bakandamiya, invites submissions for the inaugural Ladi Kwali Poetry Prize, a celebration of poetic brilliance inspired by the legacy of the legendary Nigerian potter, Ladi Kwali.

The prize is open to African poets worldwide.

Top 3 poems will receive:

₦100,000 (Winner)

₦30,000 (First Runner-up)

₦20,000 (Second Runner-up)

+ Publication in NWFJournal

Deadline: November 30, 2025

More details and submission link:

<https://www.northernwritersforum.ng/2025-ladi-kwali-poetry-prize/>

Calling All Young South African Poets!

We believe in your power to inspire change! Enter the 2025 Poetry Africa Slam Jam under the theme "Poetry: An Architecture of Social Justice."

Open to SA poets aged 18–35.

The winner will receive an overall fee of R20 000 & also represent South Africa at the World Slam Poetry Competition in 2026!

Submission deadline: 14 July 2025

Don't miss this chance to amplify your voice on the world stage

Read the T&Cs and apply here: <https://poetryafrica.ukzn.ac.za/national-slam-competition-2025/>

Call For Co-Development Projects: Brazil BR x South Africa ZA

The NFVF and Spcine invite established co-production teams from São Paulo and South Africa to apply for co-development funding for film, documentary, or animation projects rooted in the African diaspora narrative.

This cross-continental initiative supports powerful storytelling, cultural exchange, and international collaboration between South Africa and Brazil's creative industries.

Applications close: 17 July 2025

Tap into global opportunities. Tell stories that matter.

Apply via: www.nfvf.co.za

Queries: co-productions@nfvf.co.za