

Black German Heritage and Research Association Annual Conference

Conference Program
February 26-28, 2026

All times are listed in Eastern Standard Time (EST). Central European Time (CET) / Berlin Time is six hours ahead of EST, so an event beginning at 12pm EST would begin at 18.00 Uhr CET.

Day 1 | Thursday, February 26

8:30 AM - 8:40 AM

Welcome

8:45 AM - 10:15 AM

Panel 1 | Adoption, Kinship, and (Un)Belonging

Moderator: Silke Hackenesch, University of Cologne

Sabrina Thomas, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Our Most Vulnerable Orphans: Black Amerasians in the Aftermath of the Vietnam War

Jakub Gałęziowski, Warsaw University

“The total number certainly will never be very large, but the human tragedy may be great”: The Case of Polish Black Children

Deann Borshay Liem, Mu Films

Discussion of *Relative Strangers*

10:30 - 12:00 PM

Keynote 1 | Lena Whoo

Moderator: [Sonya Donaldson](#)

12:15 - 1:45 PM

Keynote 2 | Alice Hasters

Moderator: Silke Hackenesch, University of Cologne

2:00 - 3:30 PM

Closed Workshop* | Digital Archives

Facilitator: Sonya Donaldson, BGHRA & Colby College

Open Workshop | Building Community in the Arts

Facilitator: [Elisabeth Clarke-Hasters](#)

3:45 - 5:15 PM

Panel 2 | “From Archives to Flesh”: Journalistic Research, Rekinning, and the Black Diaspora in Europe

Moderator: Keith Green

Evangelista Sie, Director

Fleuri La Belle

Oluwafemi Oladeji

Pre-circulated Short Films:

“Fleuri La Belle: Afrofuturism and Congo’s Cosmology in Jewelry” (2024)

“Exploring Roots in Shaolin & African Yoga” (2024)

“Foremost Human” (2024)

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Panel 3|

Moderator: Emily Frazier-Rath

Käthe Erichsen, Johns Hopkins University

Affiliation & Identification Across Racialized Bodies: Selected Yiddish Poems by Hadasa Rubin

Temilade Adegoke, Michigan State University

Probing Germanness and Belonging in Sarah Blaßkiewitz’s *Ivie wie Ivie* (2021)

Rashayla Marie Brown, Northwestern University

Transforming Narratives of Power, Access, and Mastery by Bending Time-Based Media

Day 2 | Friday, February 27

8:00 - 9:30 AM

Keynote 3 | Silke Hackenesch

Moderator: Sonya Donaldson

9:45 - 11:15 AM

Closed Workshop* | Teaching Black German & European Cultural Studies

Facilitator: Emily Frazier-Rath, BGHRA

Open Art Workshop

Facilitator: Zari Harat

11:30 - 1:00 PM

Keynote 4 | Lara Sophie-Malagro

Moderator: [Elisabeth Clarke-Hasters](#)

1:15 - 2:45 PM

Keynote 5 | Sheri Hagen

Discussion and Q&A with Director Sheri Hagen, *Billie* (2025) (pre-circulated)

Moderator: Sonya Donaldson

3:00 - 4:30 PM

Panel 4 |

Moderator: Keith Green

Priscilla Layne, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Cringe, Catharsis, and Queer Black German Identity: New Perspectives in German Media

Kasturi Chatterjee, Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Precious Ivie and the Cake Europe Ate: Afrosurrealism and Queering National Belonging

Araba Johnston-Arthur

Unspeakable Things Archived:

Notes on Mattering Enfleshed Multisectional Political Violence against the non-aligned, pan-African Resistance in post-nazi Austria in the early 60s and beyond

4:45 - 6:15 PM

Panel 5 |

Moderator: [Emily Frazier-Rath](#)

Reginald A. Bess

The Life and Times of Louis Brody. The “Exotic” German

Rachel Afi Quinn, University of Houston

Showing Our Colors Transnationally: Anthologizing Mixed Race Identity

Amanda Sousa Barbosa, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Salvador

Translating in Diaspora: A Brazilian Portuguese translation of “Herr Gröttrup setzt sich hin” as a Case Study in Black Diaspora Dialogue

Day 3 | Saturday, February 28

8:15 - 9:45 AM

Panel 6 |

Moderator: Emily Frazier-Rath

Naomi Lwanyaga

Unsilencing a “Forgotten” History: The Black Women’s Movement Beyond Germany, 1980s-2000s

Andrea-Vicky Amankwaa-Birago, Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin

The Anton-Willem-Amo Audio Archive: Collaborative Archival Work, Community-Building, and Critical Pedagogy

10 AM - 11:30 AM

Panel 7| The Digital Black European Archive

Moderator: Sonya Donaldson

The Intersectional Black European Studies (InBEST) Digital Archive Team

Jessica Nogueira Varela

Ouassima Laabich

Elisa Crabeil

11:45 - 1:15 PM

Keynote 6 | Malick Bauer

Moderator: [Emily Frazier-Rath](#)

1:30 - 3:00 PM

Panel 8 |

Moderator: Sonya Donaldson

Kavena Hambira, Filmmaker, Oakland, California

Nuhmibeeuhn (pre-circulated film, 2024)

Returning to Ancestral Ground: Restitution and the Archive of the Body

Cecilia Schaaf

MAPUTO///OSTBERLIN: Reframing Repetition

Daphne Brunet

Discussion about Performance

It's not a rat's nest. It is my Crown. My Inheritance (pre-circulated)

3:15 - 4:00 PM

Conference Closing

*Closed Workshops are reserved for participants who applied for and were then invited to partake in these specialized sessions. Everyone is welcome to attend the Open Workshops.