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 Whooo**
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 1 | “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 2 |**
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 3 | Imagining Belonging: Black German Narratives of Identity in Queer and Speculative Stories**
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

4:45 - 6:15 PM **Panel 4 |**
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 5 |**
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 6 | 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 7 |**
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.