SHOPKIJIJI
KIJIJI ATLANTA
THE KIJIJI GAZETI
AUGUST 26
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KIJIJI GAZETI
August 2026 Edition

Theme: The Market as a School of Civilization
Quarter III — THE MIND
IMAGING BLACK SPACES: From Vision to Village
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“Commerce is one of civilization’s methods of remembering itself.”

Editor's Note

Who Owns the Marketplace Where We Learn Value?

July asked who builds the room where we learn to think. August asks who builds the marketplace where we learn what has value. Markets are often described as economic institutions. They are something far older. Every civilization teaches itself through exchange. A marketplace quietly answers profound questions:

- What deserves to be made?
- Who deserves to prosper?
- Which hands are honored?
- Which skills disappear?
- Which stories travel home?

Across much of Africa, markets have never existed solely to buy and sell. They have long served as centers of knowledge, diplomacy, craftsmanship, intergenerational teaching, celebration, and civic life. Women frequently stood at the center of these systems—not only as merchants, but as custodians of economic trust and cultural continuity.

Modern consumer culture has largely severed commerce from memory. Products arrive detached from their makers, communities, and histories. Convenience has replaced relationship. Consumption has replaced stewardship.

KIJIJI proposes another possibility. Our marketplace should teach as surely as our library. Our artisans should be as visible as our architects. Our makers should become our professors. Because commerce is never merely economic. It is civilization remembering itself.

AfricaAlways,

Anthony C. Ramsey
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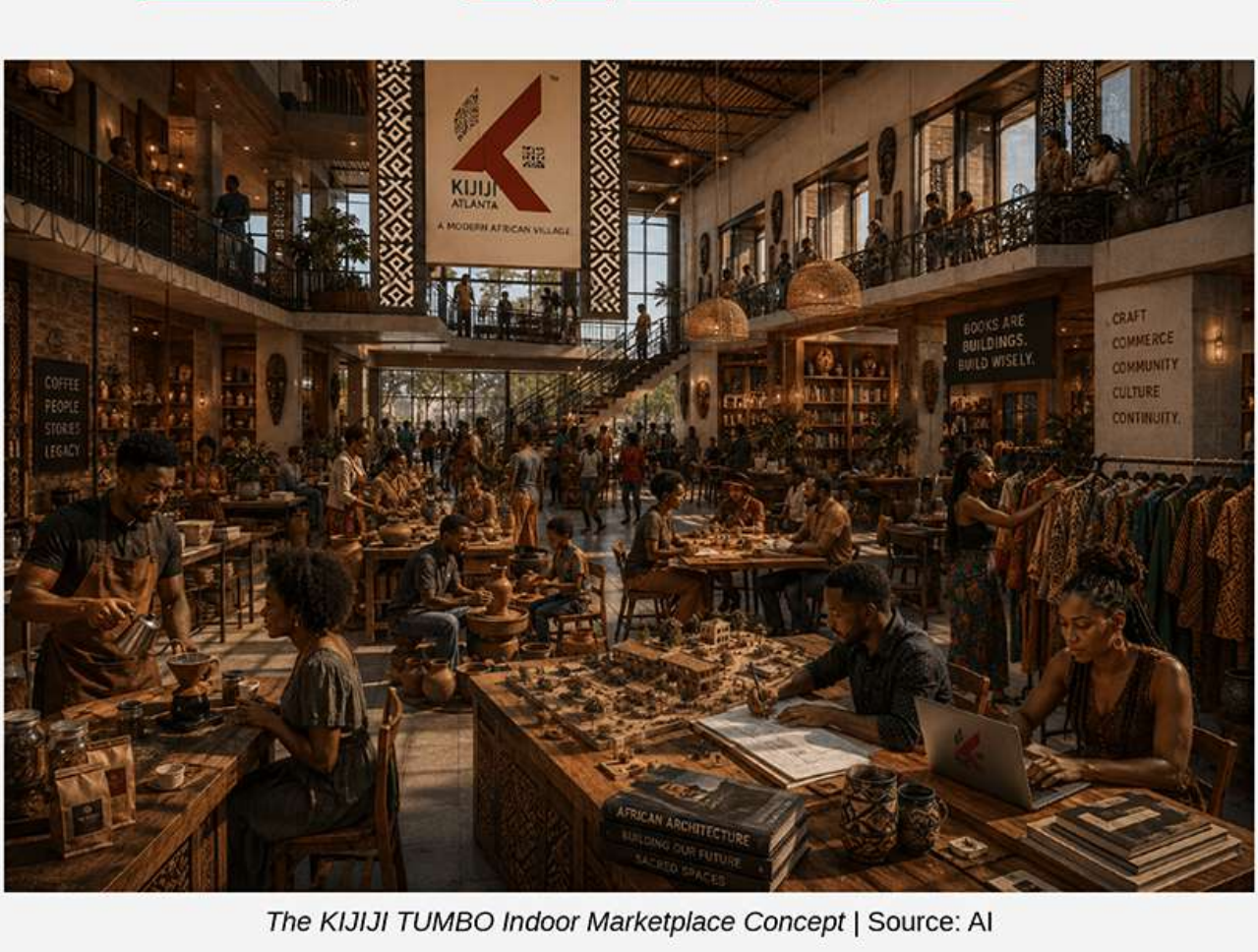

KIJIJI ATLANTA
BOOKS ARE BUILDINGS. BUILD WISELY.
CRAFT COMMERCE COMMUNITY CULTURE CONTINUITY.

The KIJIJI TUMBO Indoor Marketplace Concept | Source: AI

CATEGORIES

🏛️ IMAGING BLACK SPACES
🧠 AFRICAN ARCHITECT ADMIRATION
📋 KIJIJI PROJECT UPDATES
📅 UPCOMING EVENTS | AUGUST 2026
🗒️ CLOSING REFLECTION

🏛️ IMAGING BLACK SPACES

THE MARKET AS A SCHOOL OF CIVILIZATION
Commerce is one of civilization’s methods of remembering itself.

1. BEFORE MONEY, THERE WAS RELATIONSHIP

A marketplace is not defined by currency. It is defined by trust. Before a single object changes hands, a civilization has already decided what it values. Every market teaches:

- Beauty.
- Craftsmanship.
- Patience.
- Fairness.
- Generosity.
- Belonging.

The marketplace is therefore not separate from education. It is one of education’s oldest classrooms.

2. EVERY OBJECT CONTAINS A WORLDVIEW

A carved stool is never merely a stool. A woven basket is accumulated mathematics. A hand-thrown vessel remembers geology. A textile remembers migration. Jewelry remembers metallurgy. Furniture remembers forests. Architecture remembers climate. Every crafted object carries within it generations of observation, experimentation and refinement. Craft is stored intelligence. To purchase thoughtfully is to inherit knowledge.

3. THE MARKET IS WHERE CHILDREN LEARN WHAT A COMMUNITY HONORS

Children observe long before they understand. They watch who owns the businesses.

- Who creates.
- Who repairs.
- Who teaches.
- Who employs.
- Who is respected.
- Who disappears.

The marketplace quietly shapes aspiration. If every beautiful object comes from somewhere else, children eventually conclude that beauty comes from somewhere else. If every admired entrepreneur resembles someone else, they begin imagining success through someone else’s reflection. The marketplace therefore becomes a school of identity.

4. DIGNITY OF LABOR

African civilizations have rarely separated intellectual work from manual work. The builder thinks. The potter experiments. The blacksmith innovates. The textile artist calculates. The carpenter solves structural problems. The architect learns from them all. The hand is one of the mind’s instruments.

Civilizations decline when making becomes invisible. KIJIJI must allow production to remain visible.
Children should witness furniture being built. Books being written. Architecture being designed. Coffee being roasted. Pottery emerging from clay. Knowledge should remain embodied.

5. SHOPKIJIJI: A SACRED MARKETPLACE

The modern marketplace often celebrates abundance without meaning. Products arrive anonymously. Makers disappear. Communities remain unseen. KIJIJI proposes another economy. Every artisan has a name. Every object has a story. Every package carries memory. Every purchase strengthens African communities. We do not simply sell products. We circulate beauty. We circulate craftsmanship. We circulate memory. We circulate African possibility. Commerce, too, is architecture.

6. THE ASSIGNMENT OF KIJIJI

The KIJIJI Village Tumbo Community Center/Marketplace should never become a conventional retail center.
It is our civic marketplace. Books beside coffee. Architecture beside textiles. Pottery beside philosophy. Furniture beside conversation. Children beside elders. Ideas beside enterprise. Because a civilization survives not only by remembering its past—
—but by producing its future.

🧠 AFRICAN ARCHITECT ADMIRATION

Mariam Issoufou: Architecture That Restores Everyday Dignity

Mariam Issoufou | Source: Wikipedia

Architecture is often judged by monuments.
Mariam Issoufou asks us to judge it by everyday life.
Working across West Africa, Issoufou has consistently demonstrated that architecture need not imitate Europe to achieve sophistication. Her buildings emerge from climate, culture, material intelligence, and the rhythms of ordinary people. Her work rejects the false choice between tradition and modernity. Instead, she reveals that contemporary African architecture becomes strongest when it grows from African knowledge rather than borrowing foreign assumptions. This lesson extends beyond individual buildings.

- Markets.
- Schools.
- Libraries.
- Courtyards.
- Public squares.

Each becomes an opportunity to restore civic life rather than merely provide shelter.
Issoufou’s work reminds KIJIJI that architecture succeeds when it dignifies daily experience. This lesson carries particular significance for August. Across much of West Africa, marketplaces have long functioned as civic institutions sustained largely through the leadership, entrepreneurship, and organizational intelligence of women. Economic exchange became inseparable from social trust, cultural continuity, and community governance.

The HIKMA Community Complex, Dandadji, Niger | Source: arch daily | Credit: James Wang

Commerce therefore became architecture. Not because buildings housed markets but because markets produced community. KIJIJI’s marketplace must pursue that same ambition. Not retail for consumption – retail for civilization. Not simply places where things are purchased – places where African excellence becomes visible. Where artisans become teachers. Where making becomes public. Where prosperity strengthens belonging.

That is architecture worthy of memory.

📋 KIJIJI PROJECT UPDATES

SHOPKIJIJI: A Sacred Marketplace

SHOP KIJIJI
AFRICAN HOME INTERIORS
Shop Now

Explore Our KIJIJI Online Marketplace | SHOPKIJIJI.com

SHOPKIJIJI continues developing toward a carefully curated global marketplace celebrating African excellence through everyday living.

Our mission remains simple:

To restore the African within.

Every artisan accepted into SHOPKIJIJI strengthens an expanding network of makers whose work carries the memory, creativity, and brilliance of the African world.

Future marketplace categories include:

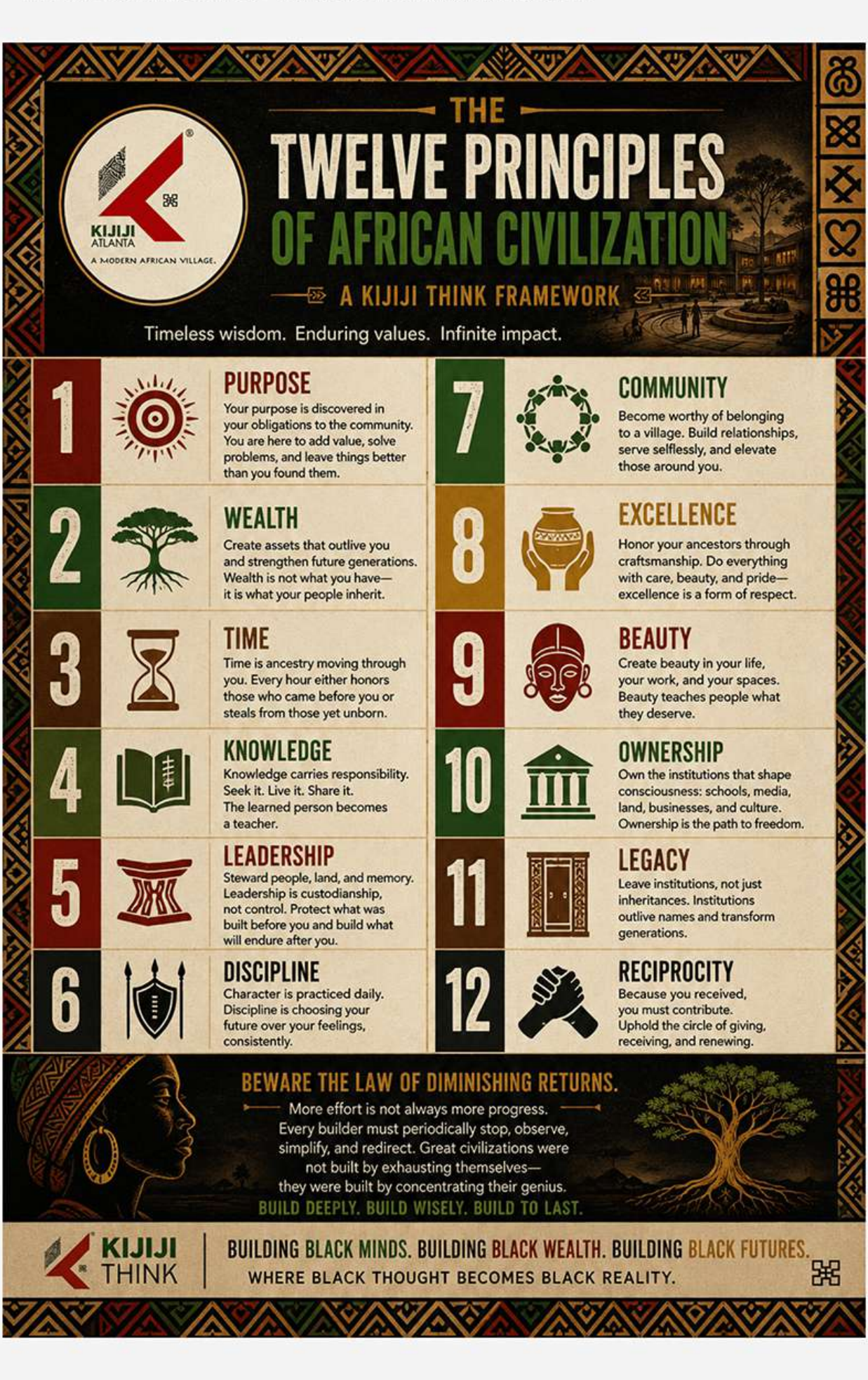
- Contemporary African art
- Furniture
- Home décor
- Textiles
- Children’s books
- Coffee & tea
- Ceramics
- Jewelry
- Wellness
- Fashion
- Stationery
- Architecture-inspired objects

Profits help support KIJIJI programming, youth development, and future village construction.

KIJIJI THINK

From Thought to Enterprise

August expands KIJIJI THINK beyond discussion. Ideas become products. Products become livelihoods. Livelihoods become institutions. Institutions become sovereignty.
The question is no longer: *“What do we believe?”*
The question becomes: *“What are we building together?”*



KIJIJI ATLANTA
A MODERN AFRICAN VILLAGE.

THE TWELVE PRINCIPLES OF AFRICAN CIVILIZATION
A KIJIJI THINK FRAMEWORK
Timeless wisdom. Enduring values. Infinite impact.

1 PURPOSE — Your purpose is discovered in your obligations to the community. You are here to add value, solve problems, and leave things better than you found them.

2 WEALTH — Create assets that outlive you and strengthen future generations. Wealth is not what you have—it is what your people inherit.

3 TIME — Time is ancestry moving through you. Every hour either honors those who came before you or steals from those yet unborn.

4 KNOWLEDGE — Knowledge carries responsibility. Seek it. Live it. Share it. The learned person becomes a teacher.

5 LEADERSHIP — Steward people, land, and memory. Leadership is custodianship, not control. Protect what was built before you and build what will endure after you.

6 DISCIPLINE — Character is practiced daily. Discipline is choosing your future over your feelings, consistently.

7 COMMUNITY — Become worthy of belonging to a village. Build relationships, serve selflessly, and elevate those around you.

8 EXCELLENCE — Honor your ancestors through craftsmanship. Do everything with care, beauty, and pride—excellence is a form of respect.

9 BEAUTY — Create beauty in your life, your work, and your spaces. Beauty teaches people what they deserve.

10 OWNERSHIP — Own the institutions that shape consciousness: schools, media, land, businesses, and culture. Ownership is the path to freedom.

11 LEGACY — Leave institutions, not just inheritances. Institutions outlive names and transform generations.

12 RECIPROCITY — Because you received, you must contribute. Uphold the circle of giving, receiving, and renewing.

BEWARE THE LAW OF DIMINISHING RETURNS.
More effort is not always more progress.
Every builder must periodically stop, observe, simplify, and redirect. Great civilizations were not built by exhausting themselves—they were built by concentrating their genius.
BUILD DEEPLY. BUILD WISELY. BUILD TO LAST.

KIJIJI THINK | BUILDING BLACK MINDS. BUILDING BLACK WEALTH. BUILDING BLACK FUTURES.
WHERE BLACK THOUGHT BECOMES BLACK REALITY.

📅 UPCOMING EVENTS | AUGUST 2026

Events selected around movement, Black cultural gathering, sports, urban design, wellness, architecture, music, and collective life.

📍 ATLANTA / METRO ATLANTA

- **A Taste of Black Gwinnett: National Black Business Month Edition 2026**
  Location: Norcross Cultural Arts & Community Center, 10 College St NW, Norcross
  Date: Aug. 15, 1–10 p.m.
- **126th National Business League Conference — The Book of AI**
  Location: Hilton Atlanta
  Date: Aug. 19–22; conference schedule varies
- **HBCU Startup OPEN 2026 — Live Finals**
  Location: Atlanta
  Date: Aug. 19–22; live-finals schedule varies
- **17th Annual BronzeLens Film Festival**
  Location: Multiple Atlanta venues
  Date: Opening weekend Aug. 21–23; closing weekend Aug. 27–30; awards Aug. 30
- **Atlanta BeltLine Indie Market Experience: Black Business Month**
  Location: Atlanta BeltLine Marketplace @ Allene, 1089 Allene Ave SW
  Date: Aug. 22, noon–6 p.m.
- **18th Annual Atlanta Quilt Festival**
  Location: Southwest Arts Center, South Fulton
  Date: Through Sept. 5; Mon.–Sat., 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
- **Kawandi, The Siddi Way**
  Location: Southwest Arts Center
  Date: Aug. 22, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
- **Studio Workshop: Storytelling Through Collage**
  Location: High Museum of Art
  Date: Aug. 21, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
- **August Friday Jazz + Amy Sherald: American Sublime VIP Night**
  Location: High Museum of Art
  Date: Aug. 21; VIP exhibition 5–9 p.m.; Friday Jazz 6–10 p.m.
- **Study Hall: A Creative Connection Space for Working Artists**
  Location: High Museum of Art
  Date: Aug. 23, 1–3:30 p.m.
- **Atlanta Black Theatre Festival**
  Location: Multiple Atlanta locations
  Date: Sept. 3–5, 11 a.m.–11 p.m. daily festival window
- **Center of Excellence for Black Women in STEM Summit 2026**
  Location: Spelman College
  Date: Sept. 11, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
- **UPS Second Sunday**
  Location: High Museum of Art
  Date: Sept. 13, noon–5 p.m.; art-making noon–4:30 p.m.; DJ 1–4 p.m.
- **Access for All High Museum event page**
  Location: High Museum of Art
  Date: Aug. 19, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
- **Amy Sherald: American Sublime Exhibition page**
  Location: High Museum of Art
  Date: On view through Sept. 27; museum hours

🌏 NATIONAL / U.S.

- **Black Business Expo NJ**
  Location: Kennedy Center, Willingboro, New Jersey
  Date: Aug. 16, 1–5 p.m.
- **Coffee and Conversations — National Black Business Month**
  Location: A Place at the Table, Raleigh, North Carolina
  Date: Aug. 21, 9–10 a.m.
- **Self-Made: A Century of Inventing Artists**
  Location: American Folk Art Museum, New York
  Date: Through Sept. 13; museum hours
- **Architects of Liberation: Modernism in Western Africa**
  Location: Museum of Modern Art, New York
  Date: On view during the Aug. 15–Sept. 15 window; museum hours
- **Photography and the Black Arts Movement, 1955–1985**
  Location: Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson
  Date: Through Nov. 8; museum hours
- **Dear America: Artists Explore the American Experience**
  Location: National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
  Date: Through Sept. 20; museum hours
- **Here: Pride and Belonging in African Art**
  Location: National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C.
  Date: On view during Aug. 15–30; daily 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
- **17th Annual African American Cultural Festival of Raleigh & Wake County**
  Location: Downtown Raleigh, North Carolina
  Date: Sept. 5–6; festival schedule varies
- **Detroit Jazz Festival**
  Location: Hart Plaza, Detroit
  Date: Sept. 4–7; Fri. 5:30–11 p.m.; Sat.–Sun. 12:30–11 p.m.; Mon. 12:30–8 p.m.
- **13th Annual HBCU Art Showcase**
  Location: Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans
  Date: Through Nov. 1; museum hours
- **Origins of New Orleans Black Carnival Society: The Story of the Illinois Clubs**
  Location: The Presbytère, New Orleans
  Date: Ongoing through March 15, 2027; recurring daily
- **The Dream is the Truth**
  Location: Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans
  Date: Through Jan. 10, 2027; museum hours
- **Whitney Biennial 2026 Whitney exhibition page**
  Location: Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
  Date: Through Aug. 23; museum hours
- **2026 NABJ Convention and Career Fair — Closing Weekend NABJ convention programming**
  Location: Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta
  Date: Convention Aug. 12–16; Aug. 15 programming includes cultural tour, photo auction and awards; Gospel Brunch Aug. 16, 9–10:30 a.m.
- **Martha’s Vineyard African American Film Festival — Closing Day Organizer's festival channel**
  Location: Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts
  Date: Festival Aug. 7–15; Aug. 15 falls inside this issue window

🌍 INTERNATIONAL

- **African Festival Canada 2026**
  Location: The Plaza, 150 Canada St., Moncton, New Brunswick
  Date: Aug. 20–22; Aug. 21 street jams 5–10 p.m.; Aug. 22 exhibition/cultural performances 2–10 p.m.
- **Notting Hill Carnival — 60th Anniversary Official Carnival 2026 page**
  Location: Notting Hill, West London
  Date: Aug. 29–31; Panorama Aug. 29; Children’s Parade Aug. 30 from 10 a.m.; Main Parade Aug. 31 from 10:30 a.m.; sound systems noon–7 p.m.
- **Black On The Square 2026**
  Location: Trafalgar Square, London
  Date: Sept. 5, noon–6 p.m.
- **Project a Black Planet: The Art and Culture of Pan-Africa**
  Location: Barbican Art Gallery, London
  Date: Through Sept. 6; gallery sessions vary
- **Black Audience Viewing — Project a Black Planet Barbican event page**
  Location: Barbican Art Gallery, London
  Date: Aug. 21, 5–8 p.m.
- **Pan-African Interventions in the Museum Barbican event page**
  Location: Barbican Cinema 3, London
  Date: Aug. 22, 2 p.m.
- **Pan-African Cultural Encounters + Panel Discussion**
  Location: Barbican Cinema 3, London
  Date: Aug. 29, 2 p.m.
- **Rivers, Routes, Remembering + Introduction Barbican event page**
  Location: Barbican Cinema 3, London
  Date: Aug. 30, 2 p.m.
- **Ambiguous Encounters: Pan-Africanism in the Post-Colonial City**
  Location: Barbican, London
  Date: Sept. 5–6; individual programs begin at 2 and 4 p.m.
- **FNB Art Joburg 2026**
  Location: Johannesburg, South Africa
  Date: Sept. 4–6; three-day fair beginning Sept. 4; daily program varies
- **Open City 2026**
  Location: Johannesburg, multiple locations
  Date: Begins Aug. 27; 16+ days of citywide programming
- **The BMW Art Generation 2026**
  Location: Johannesburg
  Date: Aug. 29; program schedule via organizer
- **Kippies Fringe 2026**
  Location: Kippies at The Market Theatre, Johannesburg
  Date: Runs July–December; Open City programming Aug. 28–Sept. 11
- **Immersive Arts Journey — Summer Edition: Revealing Unseen Layers**
  Location: The Africa Centre, London
  Date: Through Aug. 31; timed sessions; exhibition period ends 5 p.m. Aug. 31
- **The Music is Black: A British Story**
  Location: V&A East Museum, London
  Date: On view throughout the issue window; closes Jan. 10, 2027; museum hours

🗒️ CLOSING REFLECTION

The conquest of a people is rarely completed through violence alone. It becomes durable when a people no longer produces the objects that surround their own lives. When others design the furniture. Publish the books. Control the markets. Manufacture the beauty. Curate the museums. Finance the neighborhoods. Name the value.

A civilization that cannot circulate its own ideas through everyday commerce slowly forgets itself.

KIJIJI refuses that forgetting. We will imagine. We will design. We will craft. We will exchange. We will build.

Because the marketplace is not merely where wealth changes hands. It is where civilizations decide what deserves to endure.

KIJIJI ATLANTA celebrates the beauty of Black Culture through African Architecture/Design while fostering strong community throughout Black Atlanta

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