



HARLEM BOOK FAIR

**Celebrating the Centennial of the
Harlem Renaissance.**

HBF2026 AUTHOR READINGS AND TALKS



**AUTHOR TALKS & READINGS AT
#HARLEMBOOKFAIR 2026**



HARLEM BOOK FAIR

— BOOKS | CULTURE | COMMUNITY —

Produced by QBR | THE BLACK BOOK REVIEW

Sponsored By



BANK OF AMERICA

- Author Talks
- Live Music
- Children's Books

SATURDAY, AUG. 29, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
HARLEM STATE OFFICE BUILDING PLAZA
West 125 Street & ACP, Jr. Blvd.

HBF 2026 Outdoor World Stage Schedule

Sponsored by:



Time	Host	Presenter	Title	Genre
10:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.	Bob McNeil	Bob McNeil	Opening Ceremony	
10:10 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.		Biodun Abudu	<i>This Wasn't for the Public</i>	Nonfiction
10:20 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.		Margaret Adetimehin	<i>Yoruba Demons Billionaire Club</i>	Fiction
10:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.		Judy Ambers	<i>Beyond The Fireworks</i>	Fiction
10:40 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.		Karlene Joseph	<i>Scarlet Yearning: Stories of Love and Desire</i>	Fiction
10:50 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.		Eric Kellum	<i>Sexual Healing: A Man's Lessons Learned Along the Way</i>	Nonfiction
11:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.		Khadijah Butler	<i>Laying The Foundation Brick by Brick</i>	Self-Help

HBF 2026 Outdoor World Stage Schedule

11:10 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.	Stage Host: Bob McNeil	Tanesha Cameron-Cole	<i>Stand Up! Resilient Black Women Sharing Their Faith</i>	Nonfiction
11:20 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.		Coutnay Lapovsky	<i>Her Home Became Her Sanctuary</i>	Self-Help
11:30 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.		Charles E. Lehner	<i>The Urantia Book</i>	Spirituality Self-Help
11:40 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.		Wayne Dawkins	<i>Black and Golden, NABJ-50</i>	Nonfiction
11:50 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.		Dr. Nandi Louise	<i>Courageous Enough to Laugh: Joy in the Midst of Storms</i>	Spirituality Self-Help
12:00 p.m. - 12:10 p.m.		Phobe Eligon-Jones	<i>Call her Woman and Bend the Knee</i>	Poetry
12:10 p.m. - 12:20 p.m.		Deneen Elise	<i>KWAN</i>	Fiction
12:20 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.		Deidre McEachern	<i>He Only Hit Me Four Times</i>	Fiction
12:30 p.m. - 12:40 p.m.	Stage Host: Bob McNeil	Brenda Francois	<i>Empress</i>	Fiction, poetry

12:40 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.		Rachel L Gary	<i>#Poverty_ to_6 _Figures</i>	Nonfiction
12:50 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.		Allor Henrique	<i>Venus Rising</i>	Romance
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.		Deidre McEachern & Signature Live!		Live Music
1:30 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	Zenobia Lundy	Admira	<i>250 Years of Poetry: The Philly to Harlem Connect</i>	Poetry
2:50 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.		Deidre McEachern & Signature Live!		Live Music
3:50 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Bob McNeil			
4:00 p.m. - 4:10 p.m.		Pastor Alicia Holloway	<i>Time Won't Give You Time... But God Gave You Today</i>	Spirituality
4:10 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.	Stage Host: Bob McNeil	Robert LaRue Horton	<i>Imagine: A Book of Poetry and Haikus</i>	Poetry
4:20 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.		Nala Horton	<i>Petals of a Woman</i>	Poetry
4:30 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.	Bob McNeil			
4:40 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.		Torrie Q Jones	<i>Reborn</i>	Fiction/ Black Futurism

4:50 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.		Deidre McEachern & Signature Live!	Live Music
5:50 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Bob McNeil	Bob McNeil / Closing Ceremony	

HBF 2026 Outdoor World Stage Schedule



HBF 2026 Author Readings & Panel Talks (2nd Fl. Gallery, Harlem State Office Building)

Time	Author/ Panel Title	Book Title	Genre
10:00a – 10:10a	Welcome / Opening Remarks		
10:10a – 10:25a	Kameelah Phillips	<i>The Empowered Hysterectomy: Your Complete Handbook to Diagnosis, Decision, and Treatment</i>	Women's Health
10:25a – 10:40a	Michelle Pettis	<i>Leaving Large: the Stories of a Food</i>	Self help
10:40a – 10:45a	Audience Transition		
10:45a – 11:45a	PANEL 1: The I Am Well Woman: Learning How to Heal When You Must Endure		
This candid panel discussion examines the particular burdens Black women carry — as caregivers, providers, and pillars of their communities — and offers strategies for reclaiming wholeness without waiting for permission to pause. Panelists will draw on their own journeys and expertise to unpack the myth of the "strong Black woman," the physical and emotional cost of chronic endurance, and practical, sustainable paths toward self-care, boundary-setting, and joy. Attendees will leave with tools and language for healing in real time — not someday, but now. See full description on page 12. Register on Eventbrite			
11:45a – 11:50a	Audience Transition		

11:50a – 12:05a	Kevin Robinson	Can't Break Me: How I Shifted My Mindset and Overcame the Odds	Self Help
12:05a – 12:20a	Connie Rutherford	Searching for Tadpoles: The Journey to Motherhood of a Single Mother by Choice	Self Help
12:20a – 12:25a	Audience Transition		
12:25a – 1:25a	PANEL TALK 2: The Art of Adaptation: The Journey from Novel to Location to Film		
This conversation brings together novelists, screenwriters, and filmmakers, Deidre McEachern and Deneen Elise to explore the winding road a story travels from the page to the screen. Panelists will discuss the creative choices, compromises, and collaborations that shape an adaptation — from securing the right locations that capture a book's spirit, to reimagining character and voice for a visual medium, to preserving the emotional truth readers fell in love with in the first place. Attendees will gain insight into the business and artistry of adaptation, including what gets lost, what gets found, and how storytellers navigate staying faithful to source material while making bold cinematic choices of their own. See full description on page 12. Register on Eventbrite			
1:25p - 1:30p	Audience Transition		

HARLEM BOOK FAIR

PLUNDER, PROMISE, AND PROSPERITY

*A conversation about institutions, families,
financial education, and economic justice*



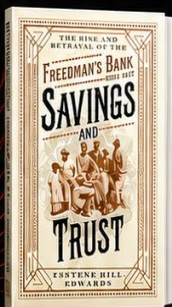
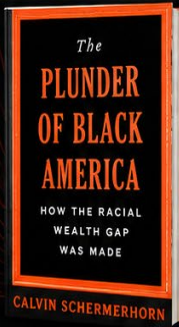
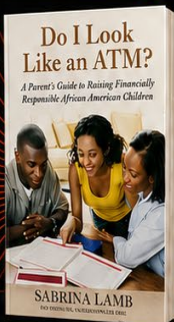
SABRINA LAMB
MODERATOR



CALVIN SCHERMERHORN
FEATURED AUTHOR



JUSTENE HILL EDWARDS
FEATURED AUTHOR



**SATURDAY,
AUGUST 29, 2026**



**HARLEM STATE
OFFICE BUILDING**
163 West 125th Street,
Harlem, NY



**TIME:
TBD**

MODERATED BY SABRINA LAMB

1:30p – 1:45p	Long Temple	<i>Flip and Run: A Platinum Chocolate Sibling Saga</i>	Fiction
1:45p – 2:00p	Trivia Thomas	<i>We Won't Forget</i>	Nonfiction
2:00p – 2:05p	Audience Transition		
2:05p – 3:05p	PANEL TALK 3: Plunder, Promise, and Prosperity: A Conversation About Institutions, Families, Financial Education, and Economic Justice This timely Harlem Book Fair conversation brings together historians and financial educators to examine how public policy, financial institutions, family decisions, and broken promises shaped the racial wealth gap - and what those lessons demand of us now. Professor Calvin Schermerhorn, author of <i>The Plunder of Black America: How the Racial Wealth Gap Was Made</i>, and Professor Justene Hill Edwards, author of <i>Savings and Trust: The Rise and Betrayal of the Freedman's Bank</i>, will join moderator Sabrina Lamb, author of <i>Do I Look Like an ATM?</i>, for a candid discussion connecting history to today's financial realities and future possibilities shaped those shaped the racial wealth gap - and what those lessons demand of us now. Register on Eventbrite		
3:05p – 3:10p	Audience Transition		

3:10p– 3:25p	Sara Lobman	<i>Cuba and the Independence War in Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde</i>	Nonfiction
3:25p - 3:40p	Paul J. Webster	<i>There's Grace in Blackness</i>	Poetry
3:40p - 3:45p	Audience Transition		
3:45p – 5:00p	PANEL TALK 4: Getting Deals Done: Financial Excellence, Entrepreneurship & the American Dream at 250 Years Panelists Dr. Rachel Laryea, Tara E. Frater, Esq., Sabrina Lamb, and moderator Patrick A. Howell, will examine the mind shifts and mindset shifts necessary to close the wealth gap, expand economic opportunity, and empower the next generation to own - and shape - the financial future. See full description on page 14.		
5:00p - 5:05p	Audience Transition		
5:05p - 5:20p	Jowanda Wright	<i>The Music Man Trilogy</i>	SciFi/Fantasy
5:20p - 5:35p	O.C. Nwaebube, JD, PHD	<i>Concepts versus Reality: Your Roadmap to Corporate Success</i>	Business/ Empowerment
5:35p – 5:50p	Toshira Riojas		
5:50p - 6:00p	Program Close		

HBF 2026 AUTHOR PANEL DISCUSSIONS

[Register on Eventbrite](#)

PANEL 1

The I Am Well Woman: Learning How to Heal When You Must Endure

HBF Authors' Gallery, Harlem State Office Building, 2nd floor

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

[Register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harlem-book-fair-tickets-1994621473521?aff=oddttdtcreator](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harlem-book-fair-tickets-1994621473521?aff=oddttdtcreator)

Through honest conversation, our authors reflect on community wisdom, lived experience, and the often-invisible labor of carrying stress, grief, and responsibility while still finding ways to restore the body and spirit. Attendees are invited to consider healing as more than recovery—recognizing it as self-affirmation, boundary-setting, and the courage to choose wellness even when life demands endurance.

Kimberley Moore and **Ednesha Salusbury** are co-authors of *Hey Sis: Are You Okay?* **Rhonda Thomas-Boothe** is author of *Fall in love with Yourself: The Art of Loving You*. **Mona Lisa Griffin** is author of *Break the Cycle (How to Heal When You've Been Hurt by Family)*.

PANEL 2

The Art of Adaptation: The Journey from Novel to Location to Film

Authors' Gallery, Harlem State Office Building, 2nd floor

Time: 12:25 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

[Register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harlem-book-fair-tickets-1994621473521?aff=oddttdtcreator](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harlem-book-fair-tickets-1994621473521?aff=oddttdtcreator)

As streaming platforms hunger for fresh content,

independent authors are increasingly eyeing their novels as future films and series. The path from page to screen demands translating interior storytelling into visual language, navigating rights and financing, scouting locations true to a book's world, and access to supportive filming locations, government policies, and permitting. This panel brings together authors and producers to unpack what adaptation really takes: the deals, the creative trade-offs, and the resilience required to see a story reborn on screen.

Filmmaker **Deidra L. McEachern** is producer of the short film *He Only Hit Me Four Times*, which illuminates the nuances of abuse that rarely make it into mainstream narratives. She later adapted the film into a book.

Author, screenwriter, and independent filmmaker **Deneen Elise** has successfully positioned *KWAH* – her current novel – as a pitch-ready series, inviting production companies, directors, and producers to engage with its table read and experience the full storyline.

PANEL 3

Plunder, Promise, and Prosperity: A Conversation About Institutions, Families, Financial Education, and Economic Justice

HBF Authors' Gallery, Harlem State Office Building, 2nd floor

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

[Register here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harlem-book-fair-tickets-1994621473521?aff=oddttdtcreator](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harlem-book-fair-tickets-1994621473521?aff=oddttdtcreator)

This timely Harlem Book Fair conversation brings together historians and financial educators to examine how public

policy, financial institutions, family decisions, and broken promises shaped the racial wealth gap - and what those lessons demand of us now. Professor **Calvin Schermerhorn**, author of *The Plunder of Black America: How the Racial Wealth Gap Was Made*, and Professor **Justene Hill Edwards**, author of *Savings and Trust: The Rise and Betrayal of the Freedman's Bank*, will join moderator **Sabrina Lamb**, author of *Do I Look Like an ATM?*, for a candid discussion connecting history to today's financial realities and future possibilities.

PANEL 4

Getting Deals Done: Financial Excellence, Entrepreneurship & the American Dream at 250

HBF Authors' Gallery, Harlem State Office Building, 2nd floor

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harlem-book-fair-tickets-1994621473521?aff=oddttdtcreator>

As the United States commemorates its 250th anniversary, our panel will explore financial excellence, entrepreneurship and generational asset building. Our panelists look through the combined lenses of community leadership, global finance, legal infrastructure, and institutional capital. Together, the panelists will examine the mind shifts and mindset shifts necessary to close the wealth gap, expand economic opportunity, and empower the next generation to own - and shape - the financial future.

Moderator: Patrick A. Howell is the author of *Getting Deals Done: The Memoirs of a Superachiever in the Era of Apex Capitalism*, an award-winning financier, serial entrepreneur, media executive, and columnist with more than three decades of leadership in banking, capital markets, and international business development.

Panelists: Sabrina Lamb is Founder and CEO of World of Money, the nationally recognized nonprofit that empowers thousands of young people through immersive financial education programs. She is Founder and CEO of Wekeza, a Techstars-backed fintech platform and the first Black woman-owned global investing app providing multilingual financial education and access to U.S. markets throughout the African diaspora. She is the author of *Do I Look Like an ATM?: A Parent's Guide to Raising Financially Responsible African American Children*.

Dr. Rachel Laryea is an anthropologist, author, entrepreneur, and internationally recognized thought leader on wealth, ownership, and economic mobility. Her research explores how Black communities build, preserve, and transfer wealth across generations. She is the author of the acclaimed *Black Capitalists: A Blueprint for What Is Possible*, which reimagines the possibilities of entrepreneurship and asset ownership throughout the African diaspora.

Tara E. Frater, Esq. is the Founder and Principal Attorney of FT Legal, an international law firm advising entrepreneurs, family offices, investors, and multinational enterprises on cross-border business, wealth preservation, international structuring, trusts, and corporate governance. Frater helps clients navigate the legal architecture required to build, protect, and transfer generational wealth while positioning the Caribbean as a premier destination for international business and investment.

HBF 2026 Stories of A Colorful World Schedule

Time	Host	Presenter/Host	Title
10:30a - 12:30a	Kanika Mobley	Putrice Thomas (Cocoa Puzzles)	Kids Craft Corner
11:00a - 11:20a	Kanika Mobley	Chris Bridges	Story Corner: Chris Bridges: Sweet Sneakers: A Delicious Story About Family and Entrepreneurship
11:20a - 11:40a	Kanika Mobley	Zenzi Hodges	Story Corner: Zenzi Hodges: I Am; The Never Snowy Christmas
11:40a - 12:00a	Kanika Mobley	Madeline Sutton	Story Corner: Operation Harlem: How Jazzy Becomes a Surgeon
12:00p - 1:30p	Dessa Carroll	Dessa Carroll	Brown Babies n Books Kids Clubhouse
1:30p - 2:00p	OPEN	READINGS	
2:00p - 3:00p	Bee True To You (BTTY)	THATGIRLTOBI & DJ MeowMeow	Bee True To You (BTTY)
3:10p - 3:30p	Kanika Mobley	Jonathan Marshall	Story Corner: Jonathan Marshall: A Piece of Me

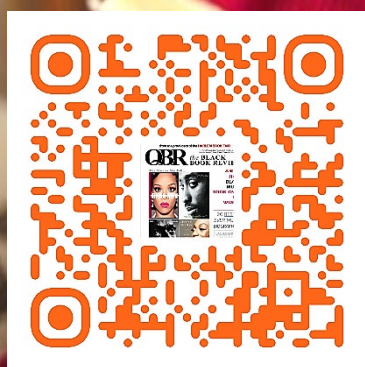
3:30p - 3:50p	Kanika Mobley	Jaylene Clark Owens	Story Corner: Jaylene Clark Owens: A Black Girl and Her Braids
4:00p - 4:20p	Kanika Mobley	Ty Allen	Story Corner: Ty Allen: Danny Dollar; Make Your Own Money; The Supadupa Kid
4:30p - 4:50p	Kanika Mobley	Elechi Osukwe	Story Corner: Elechi Osukwe: The Kids Who Wouldn't
5:00p.	Kanika Mobley	Kanika Mobley	Closing Remarks



QBR

THE BLACK BOOK
REVIEW

Every Good Book
Deserves to Be
Read.



DISCOVER YOUR STORY.