

# African Cultural Center of Los Angeles Takes Root

*The African Cultural Centre of Los Angeles Takes Form, Aims to Build Bridges Between Africans and African Americans, Afro Latinos, and Caribbeans*

LOS ANGELES, CA, UNITED STATES, May 31, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The African Cultural Centre of Los Angeles Takes Form, Aims to Build Bridges Between Africans and African Americans, Afro Latinos, and Caribbeans

Visioning Event at City Club to Serve as Kickoff, Preview 'Black History & Lifestyle Awards'

The vision of creating the city's first African cultural center has taken form in the creation of a 501c3 organization

of the namesake and a visioning committee. The visioning committee's focus is to encourage Angelenos to become involved in the realization of a building that will be one day be home to the African Cultural Centre of Los Angeles (ACCLA). The visioning committee will host a visioning event in Downtown Los Angeles to introduce the concept to event guests and solicit participation in short- and long-term efforts to establish the center. Sponsored by the Black History & Lifestyle Awards, the African-themed event will take place on Friday, June 16th at 6:30PM at the City Club of Los Angeles located at 555 Flower St 51st Floor, Los Angeles, CA. 90071.

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*Founding Board Member  
Walter Njboke*

Conceptualized in early 2023, the visioning process for the cultural center began in a casual between Los Angeles and



Logo for African Cultural Centre of Los Angeles

Black History & Lifestyle Awards (BHLA) leaders. Speaking of the cultural and racial tensions that existed in Los Angeles after the 2022 City Council debacle, Founding Board Member Walter Njboke explains, “We wanted to create a place where people from different backgrounds can see that they are connected across continents and time.”



Website screenshot of African Cultural Centre of L.A.

Commission for the City of the Los Angeles Workforce Development and the Los Angeles County Community Action Board Hector Perez-Pacheco adds, “The Center will also serve as a place where indigenous communities from the broader Los Angeles area can connect with indigenous African communities and culture to help establish indigenous linkages across the North American and African continents.

For Folashade “Shadé” Balogun, Founder and CEO of the Black History & Lifestyle Awards and CEO of House of SOTA, helping her Angeleno colleagues realize the vision of establishing a home in Los Angeles for African culture is a personal passion of hers. Her lifelong work uplifting African culture and “Black Excellence” is a celebration of all things African in origin. She explains, “I love uplifting and celebrating Black Excellence wherever it is and was surprised to learn that Los Angeles didn’t have an African cultural center.” She further adds, “I wanted to do what I could to help support the vision to establish a cultural center whichever way I could and am proud to be a founding board member.”

As the headlining sponsor for the visioning event, the Black History & Lifestyle Awards’ will be providing a sampling of African culture through art and fashion. The fashion is a preview to the launch of its February Black History & Lifestyle Awards’ event in Los Angeles.

The vision to establish the Center includes a short- and long-term vision. UCLA Black Alumni Association President Michelle Johnson will help the Founding Board Members bridge and engage Los Angeles pan-African community in the development of the project.

The Founding Board Member’s commitment to the establishment of the Center includes the expansion of the Board and creation of Advisory Council to incorporate participation from Los Angeles pan-African leaders. The Board also seeks to solicit participation from Mayor Karen Bass and Los Angeles City Council and County Board of Supervisors members.

“It is exciting to be an integral part in the creation of a cultural hub that will heal rifts in our city and build bridges across races,” adds Nate Hart, Vice President of Business Development for Mission Community Hospital. “There aren’t sufficient places in Los Angeles for African Americans to celebrate our connection to Africa year-round. This cultural center will complement

existing African American cultural and historical centers, as well as the myriad of centers celebrating Latino and Asian cultures.”

#### About the African Cultural Centre of Los Angeles

The [African Cultural Center of Los Angeles](https://www.africanculturalcentreofla.org/) will be a place where local residents and visitors can learn about the richness and diversity of the African diaspora relating to African Americans, Afro Latinos, Caribbeans, and Africans residing in the Greater Los Angeles area. The center will celebrate African richness by hosting engaging events where one can learn history and culture. <https://www.africanculturalcentreofla.org/>

#### About the Black History Lifestyle Awards

The Black History and Lifestyle Awards ceremony honors and commemorates the struggles, sacrifices, and extraordinary acts of service made by individuals from the African diaspora throughout history and in modern times. The weeklong awards ceremony celebrates Black Excellence across industries by honoring leaders in the sports, healthcare, political, and tech industries while providing Black-owned businesses with a marketplace platform. Award events are held in Lagos, Nigeria, the UK, and to Los Angeles, CA in 2023. All African products and textiles are sourced in Africa. <https://blackhistoryandlifestyle.com/>

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