

Welcome to WSICE 2026

Culture shapes how we see the world and how we understand one another. It lives in our stories, our languages, our art, our traditions, and in the values we pass from one generation to the next.

At the Wole Soyinka International Cultural Exchange (WSICE), we believe culture is more than heritage. It is a force that connects people, sparks dialogue, inspires creativity, and builds bridges across communities and nations.

As we mark the 17th edition of WSICE in celebration of the 92nd birthday of Nobel Laureate Professor Wole Soyinka, we invite you to join a meaningful global conversation centered on this year's theme:

CULTURE BEYOND BORDERS **Rooted, Yet Not Restricted**

This theme speaks to the realities of our time. We live in a world where identities are constantly evolving, where cultures interact more than ever before, and where the need for understanding has become increasingly important. The challenge before us is clear: how do we embrace global connections while remaining grounded in the values and identities that define us?

WSICE 2026 creates a space to explore this question through dialogue, artistic expression, learning, and collaboration. From thought-provoking discussions to creative showcases, the programme brings together voices from diverse backgrounds to exchange ideas, share experiences, and imagine new possibilities for our collective future.

For over a decade, WSICE has remained committed to empowering young minds, celebrating cultural expression, and encouraging conversations that matter. Inspired by the enduring legacy of Professor Wole Soyinka, the platform continues to champion freedom of thought, social justice, moral courage, and the transformative power of the arts.

This year, WSICE expands its conversation across **Lagos, Nigeria**, and **London, United Kingdom**, bringing together scholars, artists, policymakers, cultural practitioners, students, and global communities to reflect on culture, identity, memory, and humanity in the 21st century.

This is more than an event. It is a meeting place for ideas, voices, and generations.

As borders continue to shape the world around us, WSICE reminds us that culture has always travelled beyond boundaries, carrying stories, values, and memories with it.

The conversation continues.
Across borders. Across generations. Across humanity.

We invite you to be part of this experience.

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