

Masoka Village

Information Booklet

for Performers, Workshop Facilitators,
Cultural Demonstrators, and more!

MASOKA
PRODUCTIONS





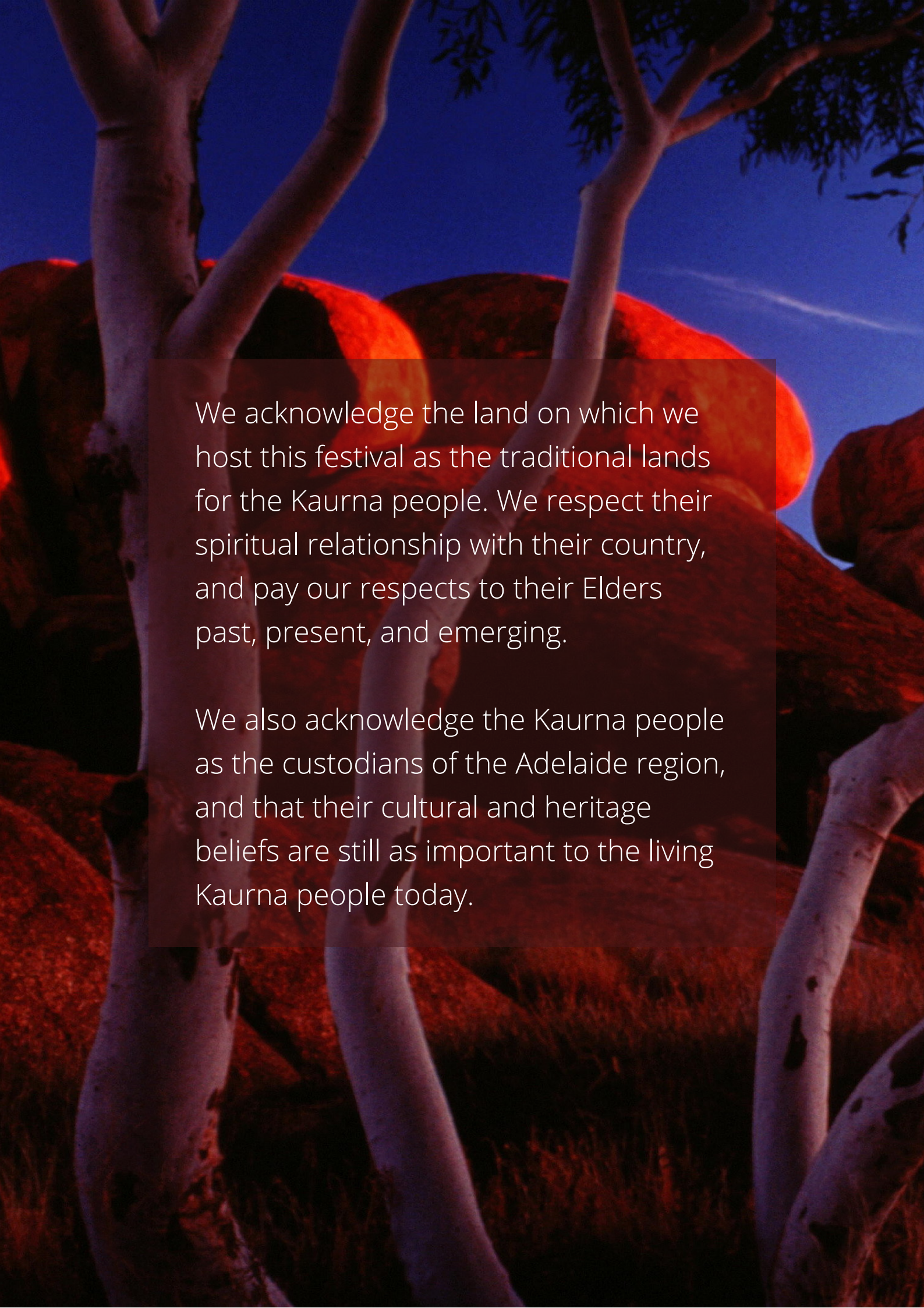
Tôhotoa ô lúkye ibe twaibebelela
acúba

You won't return to the river if you have
not forgotten your calabash bowl there

[a Bémbé proverb]

One only bothers to retrieve what was left behind, if it is of importance. In the case of Masoka Village, we honour our African culture and heritage, and acknowledge its significance in our lives today, especially here in a land away from home. We look behind for guidance, and to have a clear vision of what's ahead.



A photograph of a tree with white bark and a large, glowing orange moon in a dark blue sky, with large rocks in the foreground.

We acknowledge the land on which we host this festival as the traditional lands for the Kurna people. We respect their spiritual relationship with their country, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region, and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.

PAGE OF CONTENTS

Project Partners.....	1
About Masoka Productions.....	2
Vision and Mission.....	3
Masoka Village.....	4
About Masoka Village.....	5
Event Details.....	6
Day Experience.....	7
Day Tickets.....	8
Night Experience.....	9
Night Tickets.....	10
Cultural Stations.....	11
Event Program.....	12
Festival Participation.....	13
Performers.....	14
Workshop Facilitators.....	15
Cultural Demonstrators.....	16
Panelists.....	17
Cultural Advisors.....	18
Payment and Contracts.....	19

Masoka Village is a project proudly brought to you by **Masoka Productions**, in partnership with One Conversation (the podcast).

MASOKA

P R O D U C T I O N S



ABOUT

Masoka Productions is an African storytelling and theatre company based in South Australia, dedicated to telling African stories, the African way. At Masoka Productions, we are informed by the wealth and diversity of the African experience throughout Australia, and beyond. We celebrate the beauty and richness of the African continent, its people, cuisines, cultures and traditions, through story and play.

We are a unique theatre company, in that our performers are not necessarily professional actors, and our performances are inspired by the real experiences / stories of our performers. We believe that there is a story in everyone and, with a little coaching and training, anyone can learn to put on a mesmerising performance for a live audience.

The logo for Masoka Productions is contained within a white rectangular border. It features the word "MASOKA" in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font. A thin white horizontal line is positioned directly below "MASOKA". Underneath the line, the word "PRODUCTIONS" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, with each letter spaced out.

MASOKA

P R O D U C T I O N S



Our Vision:

At Masoka Productions, we imagine a world where African culture is well represented, respected, and celebrated on the global stage.

Our Mission:

We are on a mission to share Africa with the world, and the world with Africa! We will do this through traditional African storytelling and play. We invite the world to hear the drums of the African spirit, dance to the African beat, and get lost in the enchanting tale of Africa.

OUR VISION & MISSION



Masoka Village

An annual African festival

Africa is coming to Adelaide!

For an entire weekend, we are transforming an Adelaide city parkland into an African village, brought to life with traditional African music and dance, food, storytelling, and much more! Our very first Masoka Village is coming to Adelaide, **11th - 13th November 2022!**

The public is invited into this village, to interact with real characters from different African cultures, telling real stories of their people, their homes, their journeys, their cultures. Follow the tale they tell, dance to their beat, and get a taste of their diverse and delicious cuisine. Be their guest, for an entire weekend!

Masoka Village is a 3 day cultural experience, in the form of a festival. For an entire weekend, an Adelaide city parkland is transformed into an interactive African village that is brought to life with traditional African music and dance, food, storytelling, and much more. The public is invited into this vibrant village, to interact with real characters from different African cultures, telling real stories of their homes, their journeys, their people and their cultures.

This village and cultural experience is currently the biggest project undertaken by **Masoka Productions**, and is expected to be the very first of its kind here in Adelaide, with an expected audience of over 5,000 people.

This is a ticketed event, with experiences divided into two main sections: **Day Experience** (11am - 5pm) and **Night Experience** (6:30pm - 10:30pm).

Masoka Village

EVENT DETAILS

Event Location:

Venue: Rundle Park / Kadlitpina (Park 13)

Address: Rundle Rd and, East Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

Event Date (s):

This is a 3 day event, going from Friday to Sunday. The event starts in the evening of Friday the 11th of November, and finishes at night on Sunday the 13th of November. See below.

Friday 11th: Night Experience

Saturday 12th: Day Experience & Night Experience

Sunday 13th: Day Experience & Night Experience

Event Time (s):

The event is divided into two main sections: Day Experience, which starts at 11am and ends at 5pm, and Night Experience, which starts at 6:30pm and finishes at 10:30pm. See below.

Day experience: 11am - 5pm

Night experience: 6:30pm - 10:30pm

Ticket Prices:

This is a ticketed event, divided into two main sections: Day Experience (\$25 - \$120) and Night Experience (\$40 - \$255). Read more on the following pages.

DAY EXPERIENCE

During the day, patrons get an insight into different African cultures and traditions, through cultural performances, displays and demonstrations, some interaction with fictional characters within the Village, and a vibrant African market. Conversations are also had with African community leaders and key persons within the multicultural scene of SA, about important issues relating to the multiculturalism and diversity of the Australian society.

See ticket details for Day Experience on the following page.



Day Tickets

The table below shows ticket prices for the Day Experience.

Ticket Includes

- Free access to everything offered **during the day** (performances, workshops, demonstrations, activities, and displays)
- Each adult ticket holder is entitled to bring up to 2 children 12 years and under for free (\$25 for each additional child)
- Ticket is valid on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th of November 2022

Ticket Type	Saturday 12th Nov	Sunday 13th Nov	All Days 12 - 13 Nov
Adult	\$65	\$65	\$120
Youth	\$50	\$50	\$85
Child Each adult ticket holder gets 2 FREE children's tickets	FREE	FREE	FREE
Extra Child	\$25	\$25	\$40

NIGHT EXPERIENCE

It is at night that the village truly comes to life!

Stories are shared around fires, lanterns, and candles, and patrons are invited as guests into the homes and lives of the villagers, for a deeper insight into the African way of life. This is offered in a much more comfortable and intimate setting, and guests are treated to delicious tastings of various African dishes throughout the night.

The night aspect of the village is experienced through interactive cultural workshops— from drumming along to an instructor's beat, learning to prepare popular African meals, to hanging onto an elder's every word as stories and laughs are shared around a fire.

This is the ultimate Masoka Village experience!



Night Tickets

The table below shows ticket prices for the Night Experience.

Ticket Includes

- Free access to everything offered **during the day** (performances, workshops, demonstrations, activities, and displays)
- Free access to everything offered **at night** (performances, workshops, demonstrations, activities, displays, and food tastings)
- Each adult ticket holder is entitled to bring up to 2 children 12 years and under for free (\$50 for each additional child)
- Ticket is valid on Friday 11th, Saturday 12th, and Sunday 13th of November 2022

Ticket Type	Friday 11th Nov	Saturday 12th Nov	Sunday 13th Nov	All Days & Nights 11 - 13 Nov
Adult	\$80	\$100	\$100	\$255
Youth	\$65	\$75	\$75	\$190
Child Each adult ticket holder gets 2 FREE children's tickets	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Extra Child	\$40	\$50	\$50	\$130

Our village is experienced through 7 cultural stations, and each station hosts cultural demonstrations and displays during the day (11am - 5pm), and interactive cultural workshops at night (6:30pm - 10:30pm).

Each station hosts at least three activities / workshops each day and night, and patrons will move from station to station, depending on what interests them on the event program.

See the 7 cultural stations below, and the theme of each station.

1

Kwa Mama

This station offers an insight into the typical African home from different African cultures, by hosting themed stories that are theatrically performed inside a bamboo hut that is arranged and decorated as a typical African home from a given African culture would be arranged and decorated.

2

The Dance Floor

This station showcases and celebrates traditional African dances, through dance performances, dance classes, and interactive workshops. Patrons come here to learn traditional African dances.

3

Mama Fulani's Kitchen

This station showcases the African cuisine by giving an insight into the typical African kitchen and treating patrons to cooking shows and food tasting sessions. Patrons come here to learn to prepare African meals, and to eat African food the African way.

4

Kwa Babu

Showcasing traditional African storytelling practices, through cultural displays, stories and conversations, as well as interactive workshops. Patrons come here to appreciate the role of oral storytelling in the survival of African cultures.

5

The Salon

Showcasing the nature of African hair and traditional African beauty standards, through conversation and interactive workshops. Patrons come here to learn about African hair, fashion, and different African beauty standards.

6

The Music Room

Showcasing the richness of traditional African music and musical instruments, through performances, conversations, and interactive music workshops. Patrons come here to appreciate the individual behind the artist, and to participate in drumming workshops.

7

Main Stage

The main stage hosts all major performances, speeches and announcements. Patrons come here especially for live music and live entertainment.

The program of each Day Experience involves five sessions, and each session involves at least 5 different cultural activities (performances, cultural demonstrations and displays) across five different stations. Patrons will therefore enjoy at least 25 activities throughout the festival, during the day.

The program of each Night Experience involves four sessions, and each session involves at least 5 different cultural workshops and interactive activities across five different stations. Patrons will therefore enjoy at least 20 workshops / interactive activities throughout the festival, at night.

Each session goes for about 45 minutes and, overall, patrons will enjoy at least 45 different activities throughout the festival (depending on the ticket they purchase). See below, an example of a night program.

Cultural Stations	Session 1 6:45pm	Session 2 7:45pm	Session 3 8:45pm	Session 4 9:45pm
Station 1: Kwa Mama	Birth of a child (Congolese culture)	Naming Ceremony (Burundian culture)	Reception of guests (Moroccan culture)	Courting traditions (Ghanian culture)
Station 2: The Dance Floor	South Sudanese traditional dance workshop	Burundian traditional dance workshop		Somali traditional dance workshop
Station 3: Mama Fulani's Kitchen	Egyptian food tasting session	South African food tasting session	Moroccan food tasting session	Nigerian Food tasting session
Station 4: Kwa Babu	In my shoes: the story & journey of [Name]	Preparing the youth through storytelling	African proverbs explored / revisited	Role of the elderly in African cultures
Station 5: The Salon	African hairstyle 1 (workshop)	Conversation: preserving traditional hairstyles	Headwrap Styles (workshop)	Conversation: traditional African beauty standrads
Station 6: The Music Room		Drumming Workshop	Conversation with: traditional dancers	Drumming Workshop
Station 7: Main Stage	Performance by [Band]	Performance by [Artist]	Performance by [Band]	Performance by [Artist]

FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION

Africa is very rich and diverse in cultures and traditions. We aim to capture this richness and diversity throughout the village and festival, from our performances and workshops, to the food / beverages and merchandise sold by participating vendors and stallholders.

We are therefore reaching out to local traditional African artists and performers, African community groups, African community leaders and key persons within the multicultural scene of SA, to extend an invitation to participate in this cultural experience as performers, villagers or cultural demonstrators, workshop facilitators, as panelists in conversations throughout the village / festival, or simply as cultural advisors to the Masoka Productions team.

Together, let's bring Africa to Adelaide!



Performers

We are reaching out to traditional African artists and performing individuals / groups from all African backgrounds, to extend an invitation to participate in this cultural experience as performers.

To align with the vision and mission of Masoka Village, each performance must be performed live, involve a traditional element, and belong to or be influenced / inspired by an African culture. This means that each performance will involve:

- Live performance
- Indigenous African language (if words are involved)
- Traditional musical instruments (e.g., drums)
- Song and / or dance of African origin or influence

Ideally, performers are from an African background. In the case of bands or performing groups, the lead performer(s) are preferably from an African background, while other band or group members can be of any cultural background.

To ensure that every performance aligns with the vision and mission of Masoka Village, all performances will need to be approved in advance by our team. A performance piece may be rejected, if it is not traditional or of a traditional African influence. We therefore advise performers to please prepare multiple pieces, to be approved by our team in advance of the festival.

We are, of course, open to a conversation and negotiation, if you are not sure whether or not your piece is suitable for our village.

Workshop Facilitators

Workshop facilitators are individuals of African background, who are talented or experienced in different aspects of African cultures and traditions. They use their skills / talent / experience to help patrons get a deeper insight into the African way of life, by facilitating interactive workshops.

Patrons will visit different stations, depending on what interests them on the event program, where they will participate in interactive cultural workshops at night (e.g., drumming, learning to eat a an African dish in its traditional way, hair braiding workshops, etc.).

Each cultural station has a theme, and every activity or workshop hosted at a station must align with the theme of that station (see the [cultural stations](#) on page 11).

We are especially looking for African elders to run workshops at Station 4: Kwa Babu (see page 11). They do not necessarily need to speak English, as our team can provide interpreters. If needed, we can also provide volunteers or assistants to help them facilitate their workshop.

Villagers & Cultural Demonstrators

We are calling out to individuals and community groups to participate in the festival as "villagers" or cultural demonstrators, demonstrating different traditions and aspects of their culture to the patrons of Masoka Village. Our team will take the time to understand your cultural background (if you have an African background), help you understand the festival theme, give you a role in the village, and offer you training in theatrical storytelling so that you are able and ready to participate in the village as a villager.

Similar to performers and workshop facilitators, cultural demonstrators help patrons get a better insight into the African way of life, by acting as "villagers" and demonstrating certain aspects of an African culture / traditions to an observing audience.

Unlike workshop facilitators, who interact with patrons through interactive workshops, cultural demonstrators do not interact with patrons much. Instead, patrons will gather around and watch a cultural demonstration (much like a live show), and ask any questions they might have. Demonstrations could include the preparation of a traditional dish (e.g. two women stamping into a large mortar), the making of traditional African dance costumes, and so forth.

Where needed, our team will provide translators who will help the audience understand what is happening and, more importantly, what the demonstrators are saying as part of their act / demonstration.

Panelists

Throughout the festival, important conversations will be had with African community leaders and key persons within the multicultural scene of SA, about important issues relating to the multiculturalism and diversity of the Australian society.

Individuals will be invited by our team, to participate in a panel of African community leaders and key persons within the multicultural scene of South Australia.

Participation as a panelist is by invitation only. Panelists will be advised in advance, of the topics to be covered throughout the festival, and are very welcome to express interest to participate in more than one conversation.

Cultural Advisors

The **vision** of Masoka Productions is to share Africa with the world, and the world with Africa! It is therefore important that, throughout our journey, we are supported and advised by the knowledge bearers of different African cultures and traditions.

This is where Cultural Advisors come in. These are individuals who have an insight into and bear knowledge of an African culture(s), as well as their history. The main role of cultural advisors is to advise our team throughout the journey of Masoka Village, to ensure we offer patrons and the general Australian public an accurate representation of Africa.

These are typically elders within local African communities; however, they can also be scholars who specialise in an African culture or African cultures, or general African community members who have a great understanding of their own culture and traditions.

We are especially looking for African elders to run workshops at Station 4: Kwa Babu (see **page 11**), with the support and assistance of our team and volunteers. They do not necessarily need to speak English, as our team can provide interpreters.

PAYMENT & CONTRACTS

Before a contract is officially offered, multiple meetings will need to be scheduled with you / your team and Masoka Productions, to go over everything and negotiate the details of your contract. Please note that your place in the festival is not confirmed and a contract is not officially offered and until both parties (you and Masoka Productions) have signed the contract.

All payments will be made after the festival, by Friday 18th of November 2022 (unless otherwise agreed in your contract).

To express interest in the 2022 Masoka Village, please apply [here](#), and our team will review your application. Otherwise, please feel free to contact us at admin@masokavillage.com, and our team will be in touch at our earliest convenience.

This project is proudly brought to you by **Masoka Productions**,
in partnership with **One Conversation** (the podcast).

One Conversation is a podcast which aims to celebrate the similarities and differences in the human experience, through story and conversation.

Hosted by Cecile Saidi, a former refugee, One Conversation brings together people from different walks of life, to explore different realities and perspectives on a given topic or social issue.

For Masoka Village, Masoka Productions has partnered with One Conversation to host meaningful conversations with African community leaders and key persons within the multicultural scene of SA, about important issues relating to multiculturalism, diversity in Australia, and the future of African Australians.

Read more about One Conversation, and tune into the podcast at <https://anchor.fm/one-conversation>





Bikyô ûyana bana i pala ca
baúlú.

Children are a reflection of those who raise them
[a Bémbé proverb]

We have been taught, by our African culture and heritage, the importance of community; that we are one, and we are all in this together! Masoka Village, therefore, acknowledges and gives thanks to the land on which we host this village, for its culture of multiculturalism and diversity, which has allowed us to share and showcase our own culture, in the name of community and oneness.

Children are a reflection of those who raise them. We hope to embody the multiculturalism and diversity of the land which has welcomed us with open arms, by bringing Africa to Adelaide! We hope to welcome as many Australians as possible to Africa, through Masoka Village.



MASOKA

P R O D U C T I O N S

Sharing Africa with the world, and the world with Africa!

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