

GLORIA KICONCO

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PROFILE

I am a poet, essayist, and zine-maker based in Kampala, Uganda. I'm also a freelance arts writer and communications consultant.

SKILLS

- Creative Writing (Poetry and Non-fiction)
- Public speaking
- Workshop design and facilitation
- Copy-writing and copy-editing
- Photography (basics)
- Computer skills and software:
 - MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint
 - Adobe InDesign

REFERENCES

Teesa Bahana, Director,

32 Degrees East

teesa@ugandanartstrust.org

Nana Ocran, Editor,

People Stories Project

nyeniba@gmail.com

Prof. Kate Pahl,

Professor of Arts and Literacy,

Department of English

K.Pahl@mmu.ac.uk

WORK EXPERIENCE

Freelance Writer/Consultant, Jan 2018 – Present, Kampala

- Writing and editing training curricula and behavioral communication change materials for NGOs
 - We Can Work Life Skills Curriculum for PWDs, Light for the world (July 2023 – Present)
 - Financial Literacy and DAS curriculum and onboarding materials, Ichuli Consulting (Apr – Oct 2023)
 - Enabel Gender Communications Materials, Ichuli Consulting, (Sept 2022 – Feb 2023)
 - Mental Health Inclusion Curriculum, Light for the World (Aug-Dec 2022)
 - BUILDING TOMORROW Fellow's Curriculum modules on Gender and disability inclusivity (May-Sept 2018)
- Wrote and voiced poetry animations on Mental Health Inclusivity, Light for the World and Creatures Animation Studio (Aug-Nov 2022)
- Served as a Jury Member, SAABA Arts Awards 2021
- Edited the educational comic *Weak Links: The Breakdown in Mass Drug Administration for Bilharzia Art, Autonomy and Parasites* (Mar June 2021)

Head of Content, Oct 2016 – Jan 2018, Mango Tree Educational Enterprises Ltd., Kampala

Content Developer, Oct 2015 – Oct 2016, Mango Tree Educational Enterprises Ltd., Kampala

Staff Writer, Dec 2015 – Jan 2018, Newzbeat (NTV media), Kampala

- Rewrote news reports into verse for newscasters.

Lifestyle Editor, July 2014 – July 2015, The Standard Newspaper at Uganda Christian University, Mukono

- Reported, wrote, edited text, and designed the lifestyle section

Program Coordinator, Jan – May 2014, Maisha Film Lab, Kampala

- Provided program support and resources for filmmakers

Public Relations Assistant, Nov 2011 – Dec 2013, Uganda Christian University, Mukono

- Wrote and disseminated official communications at UCU and supported departmental programs and communications

EDUCATION

- **Uganda Christian University, Mukono, Uganda** – Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication, Second Upper Class with Honors – October 2011
- **Eaglecrest High School, Aurora, Colorado** – High School Diploma with Honors – 2007

GRANTS AND RESIDENCIES

- **Inaugural writer-in-residence**, Jan-Feb 2023, Manchester Poetry Library, MMU, UK
- **UCAPI Writer-in-Residence**, Oct – Dec 2021, Rhodes University, SA
- **KLA ART LABS participant**, Aug 2019 – Aug 2021, KLA ART Festival/32°East, Kampala
- **Project Lead Uganda and workshop designer**, April 2020 – Oct 2021, Questioning the Form Zine Research Project, Kampala/Manchester (funded by GCRF and AHRC)
- **Artist-in-Residence**, Dec 2019 – Feb 2020, Crater Invertido, Mexico City
- **Writer-in-Residence**, Nov-Dec 2019, Goethe Institut Burkina Faso
- **Inaugural Artist Grant**, 2018, Funding for RETURN TO SENDER, Goethe Zentrum Kampala

EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCES

- *Notes on Rest*, text installation, 8 March – April 2023, Njabala, Makerere Art Gallery, Kampala
- *Questioning the Form* Zine exhibition, Feb-April 2023, Manchester Metropolitan Library
- *Tunnel of Delight* Installation, October 2021, Uganda National Library, Kampala
- [RETURN TO SENDER – Reading](#), Sept 2018, FEMRITE, Kampala
- [RETURN TO SENDER](#) show premier and exhibition, July 28, 2018, Goethe Zentrum Kampala
- *Spilling at the Seams* (collaboration with Priyal Woodpecker), Sept 27, 2017, Kampala
- *SABUULA EMBAATA*, animation, May 2017, LaBa! Arts Festival, Goethe Zentrum Kampala
- *SOLD OUT*, A poetry performance, June 2016, LaBa! Arts Festival, Goethe Zentrum Kampala
- [Found](#), Moleskine AtWork exhibition, Feb 2015, Makerere Art Gallery, Kampala

PUBLICATIONS

ACADEMIC

- [Queering the Form: Zine-making as Disruptive Practice](#), 12 April, 2022, Sage Journals

ZINES

- *Tunnel of Delight* zine collection, Print, October 2021
- *You Are Lost, You Are Here X* –bilingual zine (EN/SP), Feb 2020, print, Crater Invertido
- *Dream Sequences*, 2 Sculptural poetry zines, Jan 2020, print, Self-published
- *KLA ART 018 ZINE* (Editor and contributor), Nov 2018 – March 2019, 32°East
- *RETURN TO SENDER* (First edition handmade, 25 Copies), Aug 2018, Print, Self-published
- [SOLD OUT](#) Zine collection, June 2016, Print, self-published

POETRY

- *5 poems on Kampala* (awaiting publication), Pratik poetry, 2023
- [Poet profile and selection of poems](#), Afrowomen poetry, Oct 2019
- [20.35 Africa: An Anthology of Contemporary Poetry](#), Nov 2018, online
- [Dear Nev: An Anthology of East African Writers](#), Aug 2018, print, Word-O-Mat and AWT
- [Wondering and Wandering of Hearts](#), Femrite Poetry Anthology – Print – July 2017
- [Safe Spaces in Stanzas](#), Sooo Many Stories, May 2015
- [The Icarus Factor](#), Brittle Paper, April 2014

ESSAYS

- [Solidarity: A call to Inaction](#), Mar 2022, More of Us, online
- *Under My/Your Skin*, Feb 2020, Interactive Essay Series with Raksha Vasudevan
- *Family Recipe*, Apr 2017, The Forager Magazine

- [Flying Lessons](#), Oct 2016, Adda, online
- [Required Reading: Reflections on Lawino's Ocol 50 Years Later](#), February 2016, Writivism
- [No Country for Hotheads](#), Jan 2016, The Forager Magazine
- [The Search for Joseph](#), Jan 2016, Commonwealth Writers Blog
- [Star Taffa](#), Oct 2015, Commonwealth Writers Blog
- [The Woman who couldn't cook](#), July 2015, The Forager Magazine
- [What African language do you speak?](#) Feb 2015, Why Africa? Column, Doppiozero

ARTS JOURNALISM

- [What Do You Mean, "Facing Blackness"?](#), July 2022, Contemporary &/Documenta 15 Print Issue
- [What a Uganda Pavillion in Venice Means to Ugandans](#), May 2022, Contemporary &
- [Authentically Plastic - Collision Course](#), March 2021, The Wire
- [Artist Bios \(Nyege Nyege Tapes\)](#), October 2020, Dazed Magazine
- ['I Have A Strange and Rare Flow': An Interview with MC Yallah](#), July 2020, Resident Advisor
- [Enter the Darkness: Duma's Reflections on a Metal Sub-Culture](#) - 5 March 2020, PSP-Culture
- [Artist profiles of female DJs/Producers: Turkana, CatuDiosis, DJ Chabella, DJ Kampire, DJ Decay/Cardi Monae and a feature on Nyege Nyege](#), Dec 2019, Perform! Magazine
- [Nyege Nyege 360](#), Nov 2019, Goethe Institut Nairobi
- [From the Edge of Reality](#), Oct 2019, PSP Culture,
- [Questions to Keep: Reflections on Self-Organising in Curatorial Practice](#), 2019, Goethe Nairobi,
- [Artist Jebet Naava talks candidly on motherhood and doing it for the queens](#), 2018, Lets Be Brief
- [Communicating Academic Research through Art](#), 2018 LSE Blog,
- [What We Don't Know, Won't Say & Can't See](#), Sept 2016, ART SOUTH AFRICA
- [Melancholy Exhibition Probes the Pain of Introspection](#), June 2015, START Journal

WORKSHOPS AND FESTIVALS

FACILITATOR

- **Questioning the Form** – Zine workshops, Jan-Feb 2023, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK
- **Artist Pop-up Panel** Facilitator/Organiser, Sept 2018, MTN Nyege Nyege Festival, Jinja, UG
- **KLA ART Festival/Newcastle artist workshop**, Aug 2018, 32°East, Kampala
- **A Day of Learning: Co-creating the Creative Industry**, Oct 29, 2017, Eindhoven, NL
- **Mapping Art in Kampala**, Aug 9-10, 2017, KLA ART Workshop, 32°East, Kampala
- **A Day of Learning: Co-creating the Creative Industry**, July 28, 2017, Kampala
- **ZineFuturesEA workshop**, Mar 6-10, 2017, Kampala

PARTICIPANT

- [BN Poetry Festival](#), performer, August 2018, Mbale, UG
- **Commonwealth People's Forum 2018**, April 2018, London
- **Self-publishing workshop**, Feb 2018, African Writer's Trust, Kampala
- **Arts Journalism Masterclass**, 2017, Nyege Nyege and British Council, Nairobi
- **Emerging Poets Workshop**, August, 2017, British Council Uganda
- **13th Association for Women's Human Rights in Development Int'l Forum**, Sept 2016, Bahia, BZ
- **(Re)Thinking Feminism and Black Womanhood**, Aug 2016, Goethe Zentrum, Kampala
- **Arts and Culture Journalism Symposium**, 2016, African Centre for Media Excellence, Kampala
- **Commonwealth People's Forum 2015**, Nov 23-26, 2015, Malta
- **Ake Arts and Book Festival/Moving Africa**, Nov 17-21, 2015, Goethe Institut Lagos

PANELS/ARTIST TALKS/PRESENTATIONS

- **Ecologies of Publishing: Zines and Alternative Publishing Practices**, November 2023, University of London Institute in Paris, online
- **Queering Funding/Funding Queerness**, September 2023, Prince Clause Fund, online
- **Zines and Queering the Form**, December 2021 MASCLAB, Columbia University
- **Pride and Protest: Out Film Festival**, November 2018, Goethe Institut Nairobi, Kenya
- **Kampala Writes Bremen**, March 2015, Goethe Zentrum Kampala

VOLUNTEER WORK

- **FAMACE fundraising and programs**, 2020 – present, Kampala, UG
 - Support fundraising and programs for FAMACE healing studio for LGBTQI+ persons in need of shelter and support after evictions and traumatic experiences
- **Judge, Teen Poetry Slam 2023**, June 2023, MOTIV, Kampala, UG
- **Drop-in Sessions**, April 2022, 32° East
 - Proofread, edit and support writing of artists' grant and residency applications, bios, artist statements and CVs
- **Proofread and edit artist CVs, bios, artist statements and applications**, 2016 – present, Kampala, UG