GHATTCES
TECHNOLOGY, TOURISM AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE SUMMIT-USA

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Connecting Ghana and the United States through Innovation, Heritage and Culture

7-9 DECEMBER 2026

2004 Sierra Commons Road, Dickinson, ND 58601 North Dakota, United States of America



CONCEPT NOTES BOOKLET

GHATTCES 2026

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The summit at a glance

Event detail	Arrangement
Dates	7-9 December 2026
Venue address	2004 Sierra Commons Road, Dickinson, ND 58601, North Dakota, United States of America
Main organiser in the United States	EL Peniel, LLC
Organising collaborators from Ghana	Africom Trade Commerce; Nauh and Moon Ocean Ltd.
Summit format	Three-day summit, technology demonstrations, cultural showcase and partnership meetings
Attendance target	60-100 participants
Institutional participation	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts, Ghana

Executive Summary

The Technology, Tourism and Cultural Exchange Summit-USA is a Ghana-United States engagement platform leading towards Ghana's 70th Independence Anniversary on 6 March 2027. Scheduled for 7-9 December 2026 in Dickinson, North Dakota, it will connect Ghanaian heritage and tourism with practical technology applications, creative collaboration and cultural exchange.

The summit will bring together tourism operators, cultural practitioners, technology providers, diaspora professionals, educators, institutional representatives and interested United States businesses. Its purpose is to build partnerships and prepare practical initiatives that can continue into the anniversary year.

The summit is organised by EL Peniel, LLC, the main organiser in the United States, in collaboration with Africom Trade Commerce and Nauh and Moon Ocean Ltd., the organising collaborators from Ghana, with participation from Ghana's Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts. EL Peniel, LLC leads United States host coordination and event delivery, while Africom Trade Commerce coordinates Ghanaian engagement, delegation preparation and cultural participation.

Principal outputs will include a GHATTCES Partnership Action Plan, a small portfolio of tourism and cultural technology project briefs, a consent-based opportunity directory and a programme of follow-up activities towards March 2027.

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Background and Rationale

The summit creates an opportunity to consider how Ghana's heritage, creative talent and visitor experiences can reach international audiences while generating practical value for participating businesses and communities.

Tourism and cultural organisations need effective marketing, accessible information, reliable booking and customer service, and opportunities to connect with buyers and collaborators. Technology can support these functions through AI-assisted communication, digital storytelling, online promotion, virtual interpretation and operational tools.

Cultural exchange adds a human dimension to this work. It creates space for artists, entrepreneurs and communities to share experiences, develop understanding and explore collaboration. Diaspora networks can contribute professional expertise, introductions and market access.

The summit will connect these activities through a focused programme. It will treat the anniversary as a starting point for sustained engagement rather than a single celebratory occasion. Technology sessions will prioritise practical use cases; cultural presentations will respect the permissions and interests of creators and heritage custodians.

Positioning and North Dakota Connection

The summit is a cultural exchange programme connecting Ghanaian tourism, heritage and cultural expression with audiences and collaborators in the United States. Its identity centres on GHATTCES and the theme of innovation, heritage and culture.

Dickinson, North Dakota, is the host location. EL Peniel, LLC coordinates engagement with local businesses, educational institutions, community organisations and cultural audiences. The local programme connects Ghanaian participants with United States counterparts through dialogue, demonstrations and structured meetings.

The exchange focuses on hospitality practice, digital innovation, cultural education, community engagement and tourism development. The summit combines Ghanaian participation with a local audience to support reciprocal learning and sustained relationships.

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Overall Goal

To strengthen Ghana-United States collaboration through technology-enabled tourism, cultural exchange and enterprise partnerships in preparation for Ghana’s 70th Independence Anniversary.

Specific Objectives

• Promote understanding and appreciation of Ghanaian heritage, destinations and creative arts.

• Demonstrate practical technologies that improve tourism marketing, visitor services and cultural interpretation.

• Connect Ghanaian and United States businesses, practitioners, educators and diaspora networks.

• Support cultural exchange through presentations, exhibitions, dialogue and appropriately arranged performances.

• Develop feasible partnership and project proposals with owners, milestones and follow-up dates.

• Prepare an action plan for selected cultural exchange and anniversary-period activities through March 2027.

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Programme Pillars

Technology for Tourism and Visitor Services

Demonstrations will address AI-assisted destination marketing, enquiry handling, multilingual information, itinerary support, booking workflows and guest feedback. Participants will assess affordability, accuracy, staff training and integration requirements. Customer-facing information will require verification and human supervision.

Digital Heritage and Cultural Storytelling

Sessions will explore digital exhibitions, virtual heritage experiences, multimedia storytelling and appropriate presentation of Ghanaian history and traditions. The cultural coordination team obtains creator and custodian permissions, provides attribution and documents terms for the use of cultural materials.

Tourism and Cultural Development

Tour operators, accommodation businesses, event organisers, designers, artists and cultural producers will present products and partnership opportunities. Discussions will address distribution, promotion, buyer engagement, service standards and enterprise readiness.

Ghana-United States Cultural Exchange

Facilitated conversations, cultural demonstrations and educational presentations will encourage reciprocal learning. United States contributors will be invited to share local perspectives alongside Ghanaian participants. The programme presents both cultures through accurate information, respectful interpretation and authentic contributor perspectives.

Diaspora Engagement and GHATTCES Preparation

Diaspora professionals and business networks will consider mentoring, market introductions, collaborative projects and anniversary-period engagement. The summit will identify activities that can realistically be delivered between December 2026 and March 2027.

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Participants

The summit brings together tourism and hospitality operators; artists and cultural entrepreneurs; technology developers and digital service providers; educators and researchers; business associations; diaspora professionals; investors and buyers; students and young entrepreneurs; and public institution representatives.

Ghana's Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts participates in the summit alongside tourism, cultural and technology stakeholders. Formal institutional coordination supports delegation preparation, programme contributions and follow-up.

The summit attendance target is 60-100 participants. Registration and delegate coordination are managed by the summit secretariat in accordance with the event's operational arrangements.

Event Format and Signature Activities

The summit will combine short keynote contributions, moderated panels, practical demonstrations, workshops, enterprise presentations, curated networking and structured business meetings.

A Ghana Heritage and Culture Showcase features textiles, fashion, visual art, destination information, books, crafts and multimedia storytelling. Cultural demonstrations are coordinated through the programme and logistics teams. Contributor agreements govern performances, screenings, exhibitions and recording permissions.

A Technology for Tourism Demonstration Lab will show selected tools using demonstration or anonymised information. A GHATTCES Partnership Clinic will help participants translate ideas into short proposals. A closing action session will assign owners and review dates to the proposals selected for follow-up.

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Three-day programme

Day One Monday 7 December 2026

Focus: GHATTCES, heritage and international connections.

Time	Activity
08:30-09:00	Registration and welcome networking
09:00-10:00	Opening session and introduction to the GHATTCES summit purpose
10:00-10:45	Keynote dialogue on innovation, heritage and culture
10:45-11:15	Networking break
11:15-12:30	Ghana tourism, heritage and creative arts presentations
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-15:00	Ghana-United States cultural exchange and local stakeholder dialogue
15:00-15:30	Networking break
15:30-16:30	Heritage and cultural showcase with facilitated introductions
16:30-17:00	Day One synthesis and partnership interests

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Three-day programme

Day Two Tuesday 8 December 2026

Focus: Technology applications and practical enterprise skills.

Time	Activity
09:00-10:30	Technology for Tourism Demonstration Lab
10:30-11:00	Networking break
11:00-12:30	Workshops on digital marketing and visitor services
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-14:30	Digital heritage, storytelling and cultural permissions
14:30-15:00	Networking break
15:00-16:00	Tourism and cultural presentations
16:00-17:00	Scheduled business meetings and project discussions

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Three-day programme

Day Three Wednesday 9 December 2026

Focus: Partnerships and the roadmap towards March 2027.

Time	Activity
09:00-10:30	Diaspora engagement and enterprise collaboration roundtable
10:30-11:00	Networking break
11:00-12:30	GHATTCES Partnership Clinic and project development
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-15:00	Agreement on priorities, project owners and milestones
15:00-15:30	Networking break
15:30-16:30	Presentation of the Partnership Action Plan and closing session
16:30-17:00	Final networking and departure coordination

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Organising Structure and Responsibilities

EL Peniel, LLC is the main organiser in the United States. It leads host coordination, venue operations, local outreach, service providers, participant reception and on-site delivery.

Africom Trade Commerce and Nauh and Moon Ocean Ltd. are the organising collaborators from Ghana. Together, they coordinate Ghanaian participation and support summit delivery. Africom Trade Commerce leads Ghanaian stakeholder coordination, cultural submissions, delegation preparation, partnership matching and follow-up in Ghana.

Ghana's Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts participates in the summit, contributing sector perspectives to tourism, cultural heritage and creative arts discussions. Institutional liaison is managed through designated focal persons.

The joint steering committee oversees programme delivery, public communications and coordination between the organisers. The summit secretariat manages registration, speaker liaison, scheduling, documentation and participant support. Named team leads coordinate technology sessions, cultural activities, logistics, protocol and post-summit reporting.



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Outputs and Performance Targets

Output	Target
GHATTCES Partnership Action Plan	One agreed plan with owners, resources and milestones
Project briefs	Three to five practical proposals
Technology learning	At least three demonstrations and two workshops
Business engagement	At least 15 facilitated meetings
Cultural exchange	One curated showcase with documented contributor permissions
Opportunity directory	One consent-based participant and enterprise directory
Summit report	Issued within 14 days after the event
Learning outcome	At least 80% of survey respondents report useful learning or connections

The secretariat measures delivery against these targets through attendance records, session reports, meeting outcomes and participant feedback.

Partnership Development Priorities

The partnership development programme focuses on a multilingual destination information assistant using verified content; a digital Ghana heritage showcase; a joint promotion initiative for participating tourism SMEs; a cultural education exchange; and a diaspora mentoring programme for tourism or creative entrepreneurs.

Each project brief defines the problem, intended users, participating parties, required permissions, approximate cost, delivery owner, success measures and review date. The steering committee prioritises projects with clear benefits, identified owners and realistic delivery capacity.

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Preparation and Delivery Timeline

The preparation schedule coordinates programme delivery, institutional liaison, cultural participation, technology readiness and delegate arrangements ahead of 7 December 2026.

Period	Required actions
5-12 November 2026	Agree organiser responsibilities; assess venue; confirm core resources; identify local stakeholders
13-20 November 2026	Confirm core funding and booking; issue invitations; recruit speakers, demonstrators and cultural contributors
21-27 November 2026	Review attendance feasibility; finalise core programme, suppliers, accommodation information and matching process
28 November-4 December 2026	Confirm delegate arrangements; rehearse technology; approve materials and operational plans
5-6 December 2026	Complete venue readiness checks and confirmed arrival support
7-9 December 2026	Deliver summit and record agreed actions
By 23 December 2026	Circulate report, action register and project ownership
January-February 2027	Review pilot progress and prepare agreed anniversary-period activities
March 2027	Review results and deliver any separately approved anniversary activities

A readiness review on 20 November assesses venue operations, participant coordination, speaker arrangements and technical requirements. The secretariat maintains remote contribution arrangements and contingency materials to support programme continuity.

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Logistics Security and Delegate Welfare

The logistics team manages venue suitability, occupancy, accessibility, sanitation, internet, audio-visual facilities, catering and emergency access. Venue readiness forms part of the pre-event operational review.

The operations plan covers registration, identification, transport information, accommodation guidance, dietary requirements, accessibility requests, first aid and participant support. December conditions in North Dakota require preparation for winter travel disruption and safe transfers.

A designated lead will coordinate controlled entry, emergency exits, incident reporting and response responsibilities. Official delegation arrangements are coordinated through authorised focal persons. Security responsibilities, access procedures and emergency response contacts are documented in the event operations plan.

Participants remain responsible for applicable travel and entry requirements unless other arrangements are agreed. Invitation letters will describe the event accurately and will not promise entry to the United States.

Conclusion

The Technology, Tourism and Cultural Exchange Summit-USA will create a practical platform for celebrating heritage while developing new forms of collaboration. Its contribution will be measured through useful learning, authentic exchange, stronger enterprise connections and projects that continue beyond December 2026.

By linking innovation with heritage and culture, the summit enables participating Ghanaian and United States stakeholders to turn anniversary engagement into lasting relationships and shared opportunities.

INNOVATION / HERITAGE / CULTURE

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