

Unleash your potential

at the Nexford 2023 graduation!

The 2023 graduation ceremony is upon us! On the 30th of September we will be getting together to celebrate your hard work and recognize this major accomplishment in your career.

Alongside your graduation ceremony, we are excited to be hosting three other events:



**startup
demo**
and exhibition



career fair
with Nigeria's leading
companies



**MASTER
CLASSES**



Landmark,
Event Center

Saturday,
30 September

Event starts at
11.30AM

11:30am - 11:50am

Arrival of guests & graduates

Please arrive by 11:30am promptly to allow for time to registration and of course some pre-event pictures!

11:50am - 12:00pm

Academic procession

Chief Academic Officer, Cathy Plunkett will lead other NXU faculty into the hall.

12:00pm - 12:10pm

Opening remarks by MC Frank Edoho

As the host of Who Wants to be a Millionaire, he will definitely make you feel like a million dollars.

12:10pm - 12:20pm

Welcome Speech by Fadl Al Tarzi

Joining us all the way from Washington DC, Nexford's Founder and CEO, Fadl Al Tarzi will be delivering the welcome speech. As a fellow African, he is truly committed to the future of this continent.

12:20pm - 12:30pm

Commendation Speech by Dr. Oby Ezekwesili

Former Nigerian Education Minister Dr. Oby Ezekwesili and NXU board member will be starting us off with an inspiring speech.

12:30pm - 1:10pm

Roll Call of BBA and MBA 2023 graduates

Your name will be called and as you come on stage you get to fist pump with dignitaries, and if you are a graduate, get to have a group picture taken with faculty and VIP guests.

1:10pm - 1:20pm

Special awards

Like the Oscars, 5 special awards will be presented to outstanding graduates who have really excelled. Will it be you?

1:20pm - 1:30pm



Conferment of degrees by Dr. Cathy Plunkett

Joining us all the way from Washington DC, Dr. Cathy Plunkett, Nexford's Chief Academic Officer will take to take the stage, confer degrees, and deliver the charge speech to get you all fired up. This is the moment you'll get to throw your hats in the air.

1:30pm - 1:35pm

Congratulatory message from NXU staff

We know exactly how much blood, sweat, and tears it took to get your degree. To acknowledge your hard work and determination, a few Nexford staff members who couldn't be with us in person have put together a congratulatory video for you all.

1:35pm - 1:55pm

Keynote address by Tonye Cole

As the Co-founder and former Group Executive Director of Sahara Group, today employing over 4,000 people across 38 countries with an annual turnover exceeding \$11 billion, Tonye knows a thing or two about starting and running a successful company. Listen carefully!



1:55pm – 2:05pm

Musical performance

Time to enjoy a curated cultural performance for your viewing pleasure.

2:05pm – 2:10pm

Class representative remarks

The 2023 class representative will take to the stage to deliver remarks on behalf of the class and share some personal success stories.

2:10pm – 2:15pm

Recognizing Nexford's Corporate partners

Oghogho Inneh, Nexford's Nigeria Country Director will show our gratitude to our wonderful partners. Special mention to Abubakar Suleiman, Sterling's Managing Director who is a visionary leader prioritizing L&D across his organization. Sterling Bank has sponsored over 220 of their staff so far in Nexford's MBA program.

2:15pm – 2:25pm

Closing speech

Sadly all good things must come to an end. So, in closing, Oghogho Inneh will talk about how NXU will be helping you move forward in your careers and businesses, and some of what our wider community can look forward to over the next year.

2:25pm – 2:30pm



Introduction of exhibition and masterclasses

Frank Edoho will introduce the masterclass speakers and their sessions, career exhibition and founders pitch session. While he is doing that be sure to have your confetti poppers out of your bags and prepare to pop them in unison.

2:30pm – 2:40pm

Photo break for speakers, VIPs, and award winners

In this final slot of the ceremony, Frank Edoho will direct order of photos onstage:

1. Awardees and speakers, MC Frank
2. Awardees & NXU faculty
3. Speakers, special guests, NXU faculty and MC Frank
4. Sterling graduates and Sterling team
5. All corporate partners & their grads

2:40pm – 3:30pm



Cocktails and refreshments

Toast to your success with fellow graduates, and if you're chosen, you'll be interviewed on the red carpet where you'll be able to tell your personal graduation story. Plus, there'll be a photo session with all graduates, speakers, and special guests.

3:30pm-5:00pm

Kick-start your career

startup demo
and exhibition

career fair
with Nigeria's leading companies

MASTER CLASSES

5:00pm onwards

Wind down time

The End of the official event but the beginning of a lot more for you! Lets keep the celebration going on #NXUGrad





career fair & Career Advice

Meet and network with employers currently hiring, understand what they're looking for and get live feedback on how the employment market is evolving. LSETF will be hosting career workshops to help you improve your CV and your interviewing skills.

Employers include:



startup demo and exhibition

Startups pitches and exhibition

VC Panel includes:

*Olubunmi Adeoye, ACA Capital
Iyin Aboyeji, Future Africa*

Eight shortlisted founders will be pitching live to a panel of VCs. Join them - listen in and gain valuable insights on how to pitch and learn from live VC feedback. VC panelists will include founder turned investor Iyin Aboyeji of Future Africa, Iyin co-founded two unicorns; Flutterwave and Andela. At the exhibition you'll be able to meet and network with NXU alumni founders as they exhibit their own startups. A number of shortlisted startups will be displaying their product offerings and will be available to talk to you about their own entrepreneurial journeys.





3.30pm - 3:45pm

1st Masterclass Session: Building & Scaling Your Startup

Napa Onwusah is a seasoned business leader with 20+ years of experience working in renowned blue-chip companies. Currently, she serves as the Leader for AWS Startups in Africa and has held leadership roles at Google, Visa, Nokia, SAP, Cisco, and Microsoft. Her masterclass "Building and Scaling your Startup" will provide access to key industry insights and valuable lessons from her wealth of experience.

3.45pm - 4.00pm

2nd Masterclass Session: Designing a Fulfilling Career

Shakiru Lawal, HR Manager at Nestle will help you design your career path balancing between ambition, purpose and goals.

4.00-4.15pm

3rd Masterclass Session: Becoming globally relevant

Obinna Ukachukwu, Division Head at Sterling Bank, and renowned Product Leader will lead this masterclass around the future skills you need to become globally relevant. Drawing from 20+ years of experience, and his MBA, Obinna will guide you on how digital transformation is transforming organizations across the world and the skills you need to stand out from the crowd.

4.15-4.30pm

4th Masterclass Session: Sales Skills for Founders

Everyone needs to know how to sell, in this masterclass, Stanford Business School graduate and speaker Michael Adesanya will draw on a decade of experience from companies like P&G and Accenture to help you build the skills you need to sell any product or service!

4.30pm-4.45pm

5th Masterclass Session: Succeeding in a Remote Job Environment

The 'Global Grid' is real with millions of jobs going online, speaker Ganiu Odewale will guide you on where the jobs are coming from, what are those jobs, how to land them and most importantly how to succeed in them.

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