

FOLA // SHODAY // MAVO // CHELLA // AYO MAFF // RYBEENA // FAMOUS PLUTO // SIRAEEM // ZAYLEVELTEN CUPID SZN // ELESTEE // REEHA

UNILAG'S  
56TH  
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# Acada Magazine

SPECIAL  
EDITION  
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PHONES  
THAT ARE  
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## LEADERS OF THE NU SKOOL

12 YOUNG AND POPPIN' ACTS TO WATCH OUT FOR IN 2026

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## N50m Student Venture Capital Grant: FG Launches Portal

The Federal Government has opened the application portal for the Student Venture Capital Grant (S-VCG), a programme designed to support student-led ventures with equity-free grants of up to N50 million.

The initiative was announced in a statement by Boriowo Folasade, Director of Press and Public Relations at the Federal Ministry of Education.

According to the Minister of Education, Chief Dr. Tunji Alausa, the programme is part of the government's effort to discover high-potential innovations within higher institutions.

“The President has challenged us to look for the next moonshot within our tertiary institutions. We are not just looking for projects; we are scouting for future Nigerian unicorns whose roots will be planted right here in our universities and colleges. This is an equity-free seed investment in Nigeria's future,” he said. The Ministry noted that the grant provides up to N50 million to student innovators in STEMM fields Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medical Sciences.

The S-VCG, also known as the STEMM Up Grant, was first announced in July and officially launched on August 2. It forms

part of the government's Renewed Hope Agenda, aimed at nurturing student innovations into commercially viable, high-impact ventures. The grant specifically targets full-time undergraduate students in 300-level and above

across accredited Nigerian tertiary institutions. Successful applicants will also receive mentorship, incubation support, and business development services to scale their ventures and tackle real-world challenges.

The programme is being implemented in partnership with the Bank of Industry to ensure transparency, accountability, and measurable outcomes.

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION S-VCG

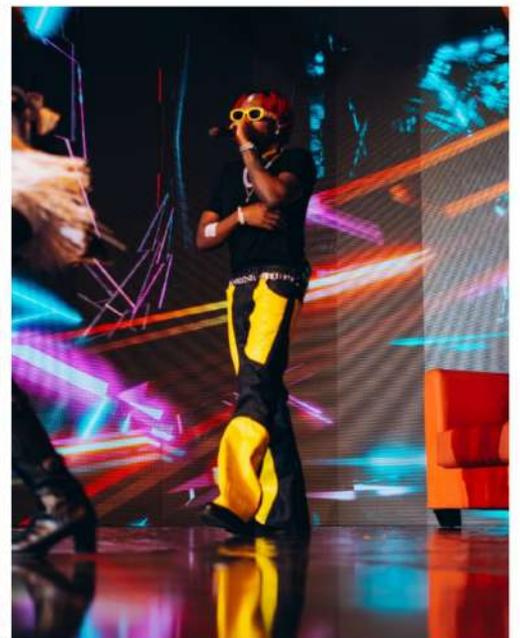
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From the Editor

# 19 YEARS OF CONSISTENCY!

## Turning A New Chapter!

19 Years ago we berthed ACADA Magazine, a youth/campus lifestyle journal that reports activities across various Nigerian campuses and which also celebrates and showcases young people who are excelling in their various chosen fields. ACADA is circulated across Nigerian campuses and abroad for FREE and it has become a reference point for consistency.

At the beginning of every year, it is our tradition to throw spotlights on young and rising Nigerian artistes who are giving the game their all to breakthrough into the mainstream. We have carefully selected 12 of such talents whose songs are already buzzin' and trending.

In this special edition, you will also get to read about how the World's biggest TikToker Khaby Lame Sealed \$975 million Business Deal and Nollywood star actress, Funke Akindele's new deal with MONIEPOINT. There is also a Campus Must Have List for matriculating students.

We also served you exclusive pictures from the 9th AFRIMA Awards held in Lagos; Gov. Sanwo-Olu receiving the One Day Governor; University of Lagos 56th Convocation among many others top events.

You can download our special digital editions via our website, [www.acadaextra.com](http://www.acadaextra.com)

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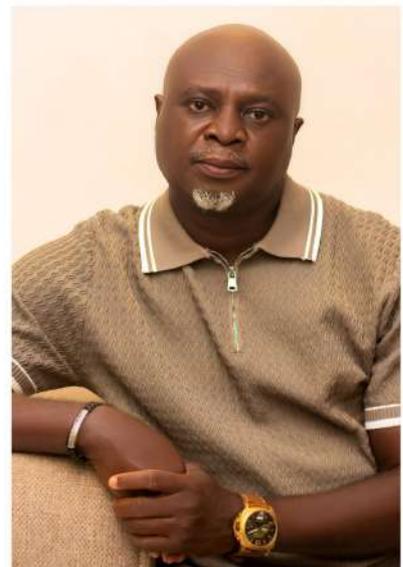
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IT IS THE COURAGE TO  
CONTINUE THAT  
COUNTS."  
— WINSTON CHURCHILL**



*Abiodun Caston-Dada*  
PUBLISHER/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



# CAMPUS MUST HAVES

Moving to a higher institution from home is probably one of the most stressful parts of school life as a first year, apart from exam season. It's easy to over-pack and bring things you'll never use, or worse, forget essentials and scramble to buy it last minute.

Whether you're moving into a dormitory for the first time or just looking for a refresher, here's a guide to the essential items that every student should have.

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# 12

## YOUNG AND POPPIN' ACTS TO WATCH OUT FOR IN 2026

**B**reaking into the mainstream music terrain, getting a viral hit or for you to get noticed in an industry full of great talents is no small feat and requires extra hard work, positioning and putting your music out there, especially on social media platforms for you to get noticed. Every year, many young artistes put out great sounds that uplift their status and get them due recognition, build a community of fan base on social media platforms, most especially on TikTok and Instagram. This new rising stars churns out great sounds, eclectic styles and lifestyle that shapes the music scene, more especially

among their teeming dedicated young fans. Their music and lifestyle generated buzzes that you can't ignore which has huge impact on the Nigerian music and youth culture. With creativity, growing influence, and dedicated fanbases, they are well-positioned to define Nigeria's musical direction in the coming years.

From Afrobeats to Alternative, Street-pop, R&B to Hip-hop, we have carefully curated a list of young Nigerian artistes who are poppin' and who we think should be on your radar in 2026. They are the **LEADERS OF THE NU SKOOL!**

Additional words from NATIVE Magazine





## FOLA



No doubt one of the hottest new artistes in Nigeria. **Fola**, born **Folarin Odunlami** rose to fame in 2022 following the release of his song "Ginger Me", featuring **Bella Shmurda** which was met with critical acclaim and followed up with other singles like "Money Chaser," "Miss You," and "Feeling". But it was "Alone", a 2024 release featuring **BhadBoi OML** that throws him into the spotlight. Post-release, "Alone" worked its way up to number seven on the Official Turntable Top 100 chart a few weeks after its release.

In 2024, he signed with **Dangbana Republik** and released his debut extended play, **What A Feeling**. The EP featured appearances from **Bella Shmurda**, **Magixx**, **Bnxxn**, and **BhadBoi OML**.

In April 2025, Fola released his first official single of the year, "Lost," alongside **Kizz Daniel**. The single peaked at number three on the Official Turntable Top 100 chart. The following month, the duo teamed up again, this time for "Titi," a standout cut from Kizz Daniel's latest project, "Uncle K: Lemon Chase".

His biggest moment yet came when he teamed up with **DJ Tunez** and **Wizkid** for "One Condition." **The Ozedikus** and **DJ Tunez's** house-inspired production single debuted at number four on the Official Turntable Top 100 chart, and it also helped DJ Tunez make history as the first Nigerian DJ to hold the number one spot on both Apple Music Nigeria and **Spotify** Nigeria's charts simultaneously.

In January 2026, the single "Paparazzi" by **Shoday** and **FOLA** reached number 1 on the Official Nigeria Top 100 music chart, becoming their first No. 1 song in Nigeria and marking a major commercial achievement for both artists.



## SHODAY



**S**hoday, born **Shodade Solomon Segun** in 2000, is an Afrobeat artiste and singer-songwriter celebrated for his distinctive sound and engaging melodies. Originating from Ogun State and raised in Lagos, he developed a passion for music early on.

As of December 2024, Shoday has accumulated over 19 million total plays on **Spotify**, with a monthly listenership exceeding 1 Million and a follower count of over 140,000+.

He scored his first viral single in 2022 with “Caution” and dropped his debut album “Hybrid” in 2025.

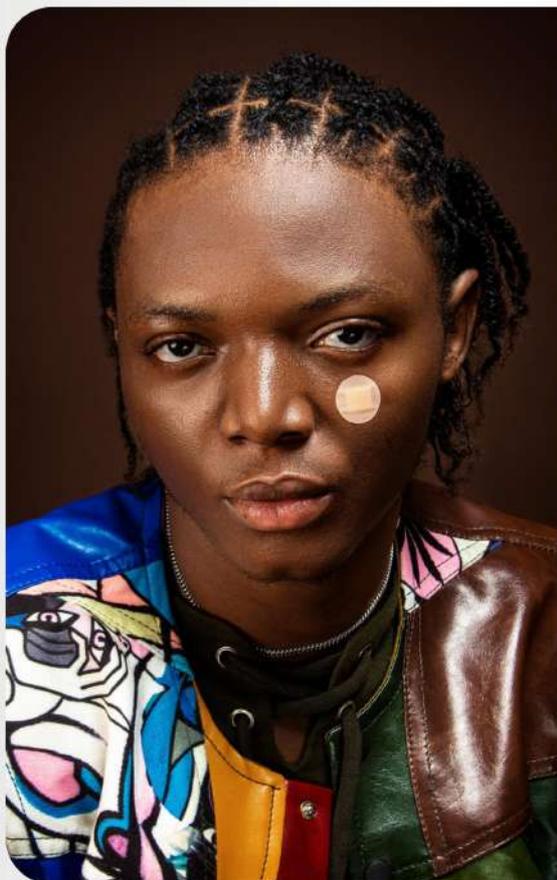
He has under his belt, top collaborations with stars like **Davido**, **Zlatan**, and **Adekunle Gold**.



## MAVO



**O**seremen Marvin popularly known as **Mavo** is one of the fast rising young Afrobeats stars. His rise has been driven by consistency, culture, and strategic artistry. The release of “Escaladizzy” was the viral hit that changed the whole game for Mavo. The track’s success caught the attention of some heavyweight artists such as **Zlatan**, **Ayra Starr** and **Shallipopi**, leading to a high-profile remix that further solidified Mavo’s place in the industry. With this remix, his sound has reached even wider audiences, firmly establishing him as a force to be reckoned with. After early momentum with “Ukanigbe”, “Sanko”, and “Sanko II”, Mavo laid the foundation for his sound and growing community with “Kilometer” a project that strengthened his core fanbase and set the stage for his mainstream breakthrough. The next chapter came with “Kilometer II”, where records like “Escaladizzy II”, “Shakabulizzy” pushed Mavo into the wider Afrobeats landscape, dominating **TikTok** and streaming platforms while attracting international attention. Following the impact of “Escaladizzy”, Mavo entered a high-visibility feature run that further cemented his breakthrough. Most notably, he featured on **CKay**’s “Body (danz)”, alongside major collaborations including “Shakabulizzy (Remix)” featuring **Davido** and “Money Constant” with **DJ Maphorisa**, **DJ Tunez**, and **Wizkid**. These records significantly expanded his reach and elevated his presence across global streaming platforms. With millions of streams, strong chart placements in Nigeria, and a rapidly growing international audience, Mavo has evolved from breakout talent into an artiste with real industry weight.



CHELLA

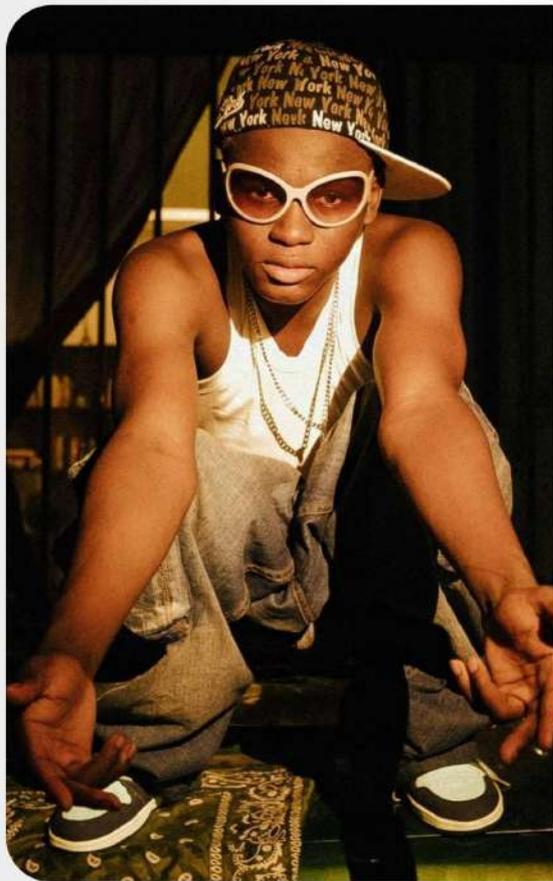
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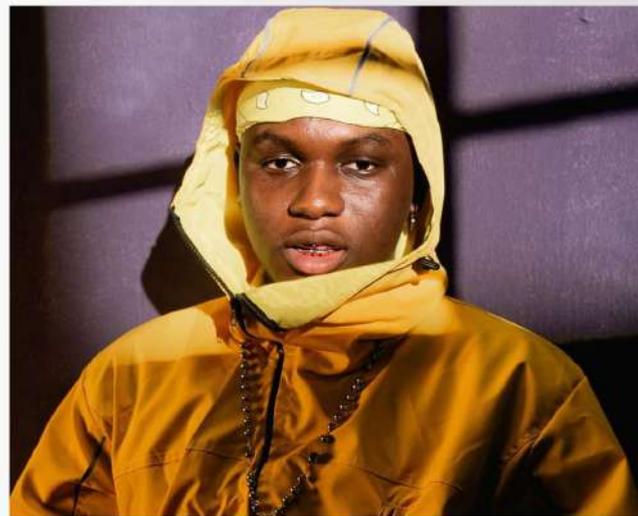
From his Chaplin-esque visuals to the fusion sounds that echo both joy and melancholy, **Chella** is fast becoming one of Afrobeats' most exciting breakout voices - *The Guardian Life*.

Beyond his successful use of 'organised insanity' as a visual marker, Chella is also a consummate hitmaker. His hits including the **Young Jonn**-assisted "Nyansh Na Yansh", "Iweriwe Love", "Wahala", and his most recent opus "My Darling" earned him widespread virality, netting combined plays of at least 34 million **Spotify streams**. The song also became the most **Shazamed** song in the world, alongside unlocking instant **TikTok** virality for the singer. The song also peaked at number 1 on the official Nigeria TurnTable Top 100 songs, and at number 8 on the Billboard U.S. Afrobeats Songs chart. It also soundtracked over 2 million **TikTok video**, and is eligible for South Africa (RISA) Gold certification as of 17 May 2025.

Speaking about the inspiration behind the viral song, "My Darling": *It is a song that is mixed with different vibes and emotions. I wanted to create something to 'feel-good', and also make some 'feel-sad' song; it's about a girl feeling insecure. I was reflecting on it like, "Emerem Ogini? (Did I do anything wrong?), my darling?" I went on to ask, "You know, tell me what I owe you. Tell me what you want me to give to you." So, these moments were the inspiration.*



## AYO MAFF



**B**orn **Ayorinde Mafoluku Ayodele** and goes by the stage name **Ayo Maff**, the singer and songwriter gained recognition with his single "Dealer" featuring **Fireboy DML**, which topped various music charts.

Ayo Maff released his debut single "Jama Jama" in 2023. He subsequently released a two-track project, **Street Anthem / 7 Days**, in January 2024. On 15 August 2024, Ayo Maff released his debut extended play, **Maffian**, a seven-track project that includes the single "Last Week".

Ayo Maff's dropped his highly anticipated debut album **Prince Of The Street** in 2025 and had a fantastic year with three nominations at the **17th Headies Awards: Next Rated, Best Street-Hop Artiste, and Headies Viewer's Choice.**

Prince Of The Street includes features from artists like **BNXN, Seyi Vibe** and South African duo **Jazzworx & Thukuthela** while producers like **SPACEBOY Mercury, Decs, Larrylanes, Young Daddy** and **Magicsticks** and a few others are credited across the album's 13 tracks.

In a recent **Apple Music** interview with **Nandi Madiba**, the singer explains how **Bariga**, his birthplace, influences a lot of his music. "Growing up in Bariga helped me and I would even say it's influenced my music in lots of ways. It allowed me to sing the reality, where I'm from, and the genuine lifestyle," he says candidly. "I can't be singing like I'm 30 when I'm still in my young age, so I don't sing about things I don't know. All the things I do sing about, people are also facing, so it's all a reality check."



## RYBEENA



**R**ybeena is one of the rising stars whose music is adding much-needed diversity to Nigerian street pop.

Born **Adewale Atanda**, **Rybeena** is an artiste who has rapidly emerged as a dynamic voice in the Afrobeats scene. His innovative style has captivated audiences, carving out a unique space within the street-hop community. His music vividly reflects the vibrancy of urban Nigerian life, earning him loyal and growing fanbase. **Tobisneh Records**, founded by music executive **Tobisneh**, played a crucial role in shaping Rybeena's career, providing essential resources and industry connections that helped him refine his sound and gain exposure. He gained prominence with his breakout single "ID.ME", a viral hit on **TikTok** that attracted the attention of **Ademola Alugo**, Senior VP of **Dvpper Digital**. He continued to rise with his **Wise 2.0** EP featuring **Olamide** and his 2024 single "Prodigal". With his undeniable talent, Rybeena is set to expand his influence in the global Afrobeats scene.

Since breaking into the mainstream, the singer has become one of the exciting Street hop stars whose music is documenting the realities of life in the inner cities. Rybeena is signed to Nigerian music label **Dapper Music**.

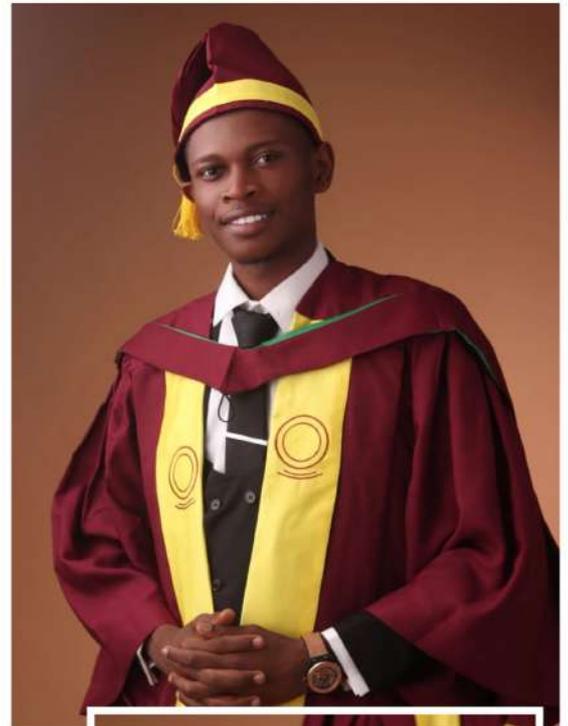
# UNILAG'S 56TH CONVOCATION

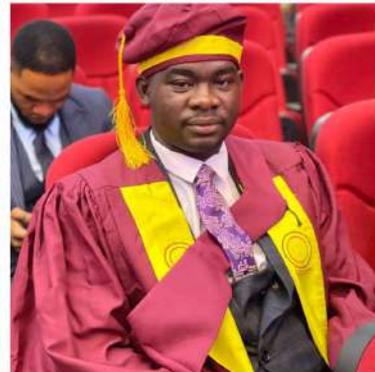
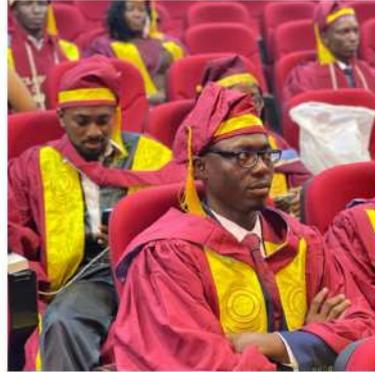
## Umeozor Benedict

### Emerges as UNILAG's Overall Best Graduating Student with Perfect 5.00 CGPA

...*"I just wanted to get a First Class."*

In a remarkable display of academic prowess, **Umeozor Chukwuzubelu Benedict** has been named the Overall Best Graduating Student for the University of Lagos (UNILAG) 2024/2025 session, achieving a flawless **Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 5.00 in Business Administration**. This historic feat not only crowns him as the top performer in the Humanities but also highlights the 56th Convocation Ceremonies, where a total of 16,506 students are set to graduate. Benedict's journey to perfection was far from effortless. As the first in his nuclear family to attend university, he entered UNILAG with a simple ambition: to secure a first-class degree. "I just wanted to get a first class," he reflected in an exclusive interview. He never imagined topping the entire institution, viewing such an honor as reserved for "geniuses with two heads." His path was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic and prolonged ASUU strikes, forcing a shift to online learning a format he initially struggled with, especially for calculation-heavy courses. "Mathematics was my lowest score in UTME," he admitted, but he adapted by turning to YouTube tutorials, eventually mastering and even preferring those subjects. Benedict's success stemmed from discipline, strategic friendships, and relentless consistency. He joined the "Achievers" study group, a circle of peers all aiming for strong first-class honors. "I had to make friends who shared the same goals with me... Sometimes just seeing them reading motivated me," he shared. He made reading a daily habit, even if just for an hour, and maximized daytime study to avoid late nights. Balancing academics with side hustles like working as a front-end developer, tutoring at organizations such as Early Bright and Smart Hub Academy, and co-owning a paid tutorial service required meticulous time management. "Proper time management helped me balance everything out. It wasn't all smooth because some aspects of my life suffered like the social aspect," he noted, sacrificing departmental parties for his goals. Faith played a pivotal role in his resilience. As a practicing Catholic, Benedict relied on prayer during tough moments, such as a challenging 400-level exam where he scored a 70 despite feeling unprepared. "Before every examination, I do the sign of the cross and hope the questions favor me," he said. Mentorship from seniors, an educational consultant in the UK, and tech industry figures further guided him. His achievements have already opened doors, including a remote job secured via his X profile and recognition from the National Federation of Catholic Students.







## FAMOUS PLUTO



**F**amous Pluto is another Benin City bred talent currently disturbing the airwaves with his hit songs.

Born **Osahon Grandeur Uzama**, he is a singer and songwriter. He inked a deal with **Shallipopi's Plutomania Records** in 2025, and rose to mainstream fame with the release of his debut single "Na Scra", that same year. Its success led to the release of his debut extended play **Uzama The 3rd** (2025).

Famous Pluto began his music career in 2015 alongside his elder brothers, **Shallipopi** and **Zerrydl**. Initially, he was reluctant to sing, but Shallipopi encouraged him, and he drew inspiration from **Wizkid**. He gained recognition after being featured on **Outsyd DJ's** 2024 single "Feel D Mood", which went viral on **TikTok** and topped the Nigerian TurnTable 100 charts. In 2025, Pluto signed with Plutomania Records and released his debut single "Na Scra", which also debuted at the top of the TurnTable Charts. Later, he collaborated on the remix of **Zhus Jdo's** single "1 Work" alongside **Smur Lee**. On June 20, 2025, he released his debut extended play **Uzama The 3rd**, featuring **Shallipopi**, **Zerrydl**, and **Jeriq**.



## SIRIHEEM



**B**orn **Subomi Okoya**. Afrobeats rising star, **Siraheem** is the son of billionaire industrialist **Chief Rasaan Akanni Okoya** popularly known as Eleganza, and his wife, **Dr. Shade Okoya**, a prominent philanthropist and socialite. Despite his family's prominence in the business world and coming from a privileged background, **Siraheem** has chosen to forge his own identity through music, earning respect for his dedication and creativity and he is putting in the extra work to get to the top of the game. His songs often explore themes of love, resilience, and personal growth, resonating with a diverse audience. Siriheem made an entry into the ever competitive Nigerian music industry with the single, "Which Type Woman" in 2022 but caught the attention of music fans with his 2024 viral song "Bad Bitch Syndrome" that was heavily promoted online. According to Siriheem, the song is all about celebrating confidence, independence, and breaking free from stereotypes. He enlisted **Teni, Yosa** and **Big Fish** in his latest project "Trust Fund". According to **Not Just Okay**, the song is a flashy, tongue-in-cheek anthem celebrating wealth, privilege, and elite lifestyle culture. The lyrics revolve around being a "trust fund kid," highlighting luxury cars, yachts, designer shopping, political connections, and exclusive networking. Blending satire with braggadocio, the song captures the extravagance, confidence, and social status associated with inherited wealth and high-society living in Lagos and beyond. His artistry reflects not only his talent but also his ability to connect with listeners on a deep level, making him one of the most promising young artists in Nigeria today.

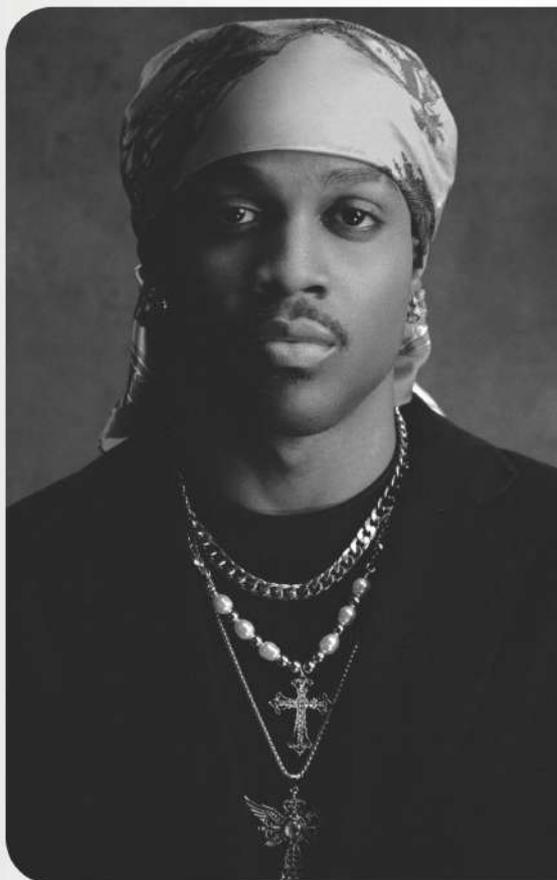


## ZAYLEVELTEN



**C**hisom Lucky Okoro, better known as **Zaylevelten** or **Tenski**, is a rapper and record producer from Ikorodu, Lagos. He is of Igbo descent.

While his early music is reminiscent of American rappers such as **Yeat** and **Ken Carson** due to the instrumentals and vocal delivery, his recent switch to a hybrid of Nigerian and American influence brings a refreshing sound to Nigeria and the world. He began recording music in 2021, however, his earliest project still available on streaming platforms is the July 2024 EP **Locked 1n** and this was followed by **Before 1t Got Crazy** and later its deluxe edition was also released. He released another project in 2024 titled **Tenski** but it was taken down due to sample issues. **Zaylevelten** started garnering attention in February 2025 with the track "Watching Me". He then gained much more traction with his mixtape then **1t Got crazy**, released through **Lizzy Records** in October 2025. This tape included more Nigerian Pidgin than his previous projects, a deliberate decision in an effort to sound more unique. This was followed by the deluxe edition then **1t Got Crazier** in November, which included the track "Wuse Tu" with fellow rising star **Mavo**. Zaylevelten has produced most of his own songs so far, under the producer name 'Tenski'. Today, the tagline '*tenski, save me*' has become so integral to his branding and the popular perception that he has come to salvage the state of hip hop in Nigeria for the next generation.



# 100

## CUPID SZN



**F**rom posting freestyles in 2020 to composing his first original song, **CupidSZN** showcases an innate gift for creating melodic and harmonic compositions. His music is stylishly influenced by a range of modern-day music creators from the Afrobeats genre to international sounds like trap.

In 2023, a cover of “Jaga Jaga” by **Victony** and **Babyboy AV** that **CupidSZN** shared on **TikTok** went viral, earning him recognition from **Ozedikus**, the revered music producer admired for his collaborations with emerging artists. The events led to his **Ozedikus** collab, “Ifeoma”, currently sitting at over 20 million **Spotify** streams. He later independently released his first single, “Finito”. Born **Stevenson Njoku Anyinachiso**, **CupidSZN** grew up in Nigeria’s Garden City, **Port Harcourt**. His desire to become a musician was sparked by a **Juice Wrld** video he stumbled upon during a random, boring day at home. Although trap music was his first love, **CupidSZN** decided to venture into Afrobeats on the advice of his father, who told him that to conquer the world, he would first have to conquer home. Thus began his journey as a self-taught Afrobeats artist, learning the ropes on music apps like **Band Lab**.

Upon completing his secondary school education, **CupidSZN** made a daring decision to forego university in order to pursue a full-time career in music. Although his parents were not sold on the idea initially, **CupidSZN** continued to forge ahead, doing everything possible to help them see the vision. His hard work eventually paid off, and in 2023 his entire family made the decision to move with him to Lagos to help him make his dreams a reality tremendous act of support that has led to **CupidSZN** being signed to the biggest record label in Africa.

Since then **CupidSZN** has raced toward the realization of his vision at a startling trajectory; releasing his first single, amassing over 10 MILLION career streams and landing himself a record deal at **Mavin** in a little over a year. With his unveiling now upon us, it is safe to say that **CupidSZN**’s journey to conquering the world is well underway.

**CupidSZN** recently released his debut EP, **MYTH-ERA** which include the hit single “Palava”.



## REEHAA



**R**eehaa launched her debut EP, **Vibes for the Soul**, in early 2023. The six-track project reflects her ambitions, inner drive, and voice as a representative of her generation.

Songs like “Shako” and “Not Enough” reveal her lyrical honesty and emotional depth, establishing her as a compelling songwriter. Through her music, she shares personal experiences, aspirations, and relatable struggles, capturing the hearts of a growing audience.

**Reehaa**, born **Reemah Abdulkareem** on September 18, 1996, in Lagos, Nigeria, is a singer, songwriter, and performer known for her unique fusion of Afrobeat, pop, and soul music. **Reehaa** has quickly gained recognition for her captivating voice, melodic rhythms, and powerful stage presence, positioning herself as one of the emerging talents in the Nigerian music scene. **Reehaa**'s passion for music began in her early years, where she was influenced by a range of musical genres and artists. She started her journey in music by performing in local events and honing her craft as a songwriter. Her breakthrough came with the release of her debut single “Dance With Me”, which received positive attention and showcased her unique blend of Afrobeat and pop sounds. Since then, **Reehaa** has continued to release popular singles like “Body Talk,” “Blessings,” and “Baby”, each highlighting her versatility and ability to captivate listeners with her distinctive style. With her growing fanbase and her ability to seamlessly blend contemporary African sounds with global influences, **Reehaa** is set to make an even bigger impact on the international music stage in the years to come.



## ELESTEE



**E**lestee (formerly known as *Lifesize Teddy*), was born and raised in the bustling city of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Christened **Treasure Apiafi Banigo, Elestee** has been writing music since she was just 9 years old. **Elestee's** first notable moment in the limelight came in 2018, when she opened for her fellow **Mavin** signee **Ladipoe** at one of his shows. After a three-year stint in the academy that has birthed some of Africa's biggest and brightest stars, **Elestee** was finally unveiled as **Mavin's** latest signee in 2023. She marked this pivotal moment with the release of her self-titled debut EP, which was described by the Guardian as a testament to her “*impressive range, artistic intelligence, and sonic talent*”.

Showing no signs of slowing down, the Bonny Island Native released a follow up EP less than six months after her debut. **POISN** cemented **Elestee** as a true musical chameleon with a razor sharp pen to boot. Since then she has consistently redefined the sound of Afrobeats through an infusion of a range of genres, resulting in gems like “Many Men” and “Selina” featuring **Major AJ**.

# Lifestyle

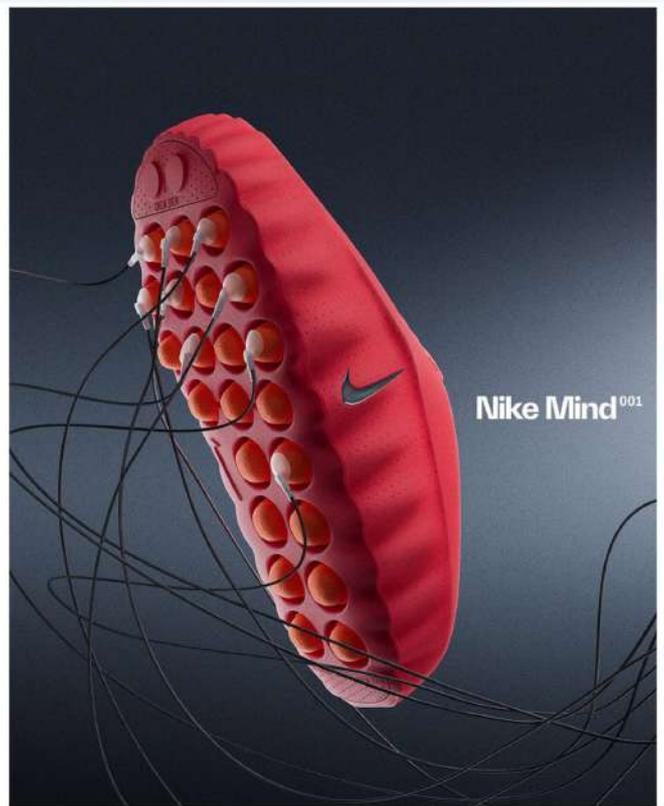
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Nike Mind<sup>001</sup>

## Top 8 Phones That Are 'Better' Than iPhone 17

Mobile Phones keep getting smarter and more advanced daily. There are many flagship phones from top brands that are now given the iPhone a run for their money. They come with sleek designs, crispy cameras for videos and photography, long-lasting battery

and of course affordable pricing. These brands are giving the iPhone that is known to be on top of the competition a good fight for the top spot. In this article, we are going to spotlight 8 of such flagship phones that are great alternative to the iPhone 17.

### Samsung Galaxy S25 Ultra

The Samsung Galaxy S25 Ultra is a flagship Android smartphone released on February 7, 2025, known for its powerful Snapdragon 8 Elite for Galaxy processor, a versatile quad-camera system, and extensive AI features. It serves as a strong competitor in the premium smartphone market, offering a large 6.9-inch display and a long-lasting 5,000mAh battery.

#### Key Features & Specs:

**Processor:** Features the exclusive Qualcomm Snapdragon 8 Elite for Galaxy chipset (3 nm process), providing significant performance enhancements and improved AI processing capabilities.

**Display:** Boasts a 6.9-inch Dynamic LTPO AMOLED 2X display with a QHD+ resolution (1440 x 3120 pixels), 120Hz adaptive refresh rate, and an impressive peak brightness of 2600 nits. It is protected by Corning Gorilla Armor 2 for enhanced durability and reduced glare.

**Camera System:** Equipped with a professional-grade quad-camera system with a 200MP main sensor, a 50MP ultrawide sensor, a 10MP telephoto lens (3x optical zoom), and a 50MP periscope telephoto lens (5x optical zoom). It includes AI-enhanced features like Audio Eraser for video and generative editing tools.

**Design & Build:** Features a premium titanium frame with



sleek, rounded corners and a slightly lighter, thinner build than its predecessor. It has an IP68 rating for water and dust resistance.

**S Pen:** Includes a built-in S Pen stylus for note-taking and drawing, though the Bluetooth connectivity for air gestures and remote camera shutter has been removed in this model.

**Software & Updates:** Launched with Android 15 and Samsung's One UI 7, the phone is promised seven years of OS and security updates, making it a long-term investment.

**Battery & Charging:** Powered by a 5,000mAh battery supporting 45W wired fast charging (up to 65% in 30 minutes) and 15W wireless charging with Qi2 support (requires a compatible case for magnetic accessories).

### Google Pixel 10 Pro XL

The Google Pixel 10 Pro XL is a high-end smartphone, likely released in late 2025 or 2026, known for its advanced AI features, powerful camera system with 100x Super Res Zoom, and a large 6.8-inch Super Actua display, featuring Google Tensor G5 chip, 16GB RAM, and implementing a MagSafe-like magnetic system called Pixel Snap for accessories. It boasts premium build quality with Gorilla Glass Victus 2, IP68 water resistance, long battery life, and supports features like 8K video recording and Pro camera controls, aiming to offer a top-tier Android experience with deep AI integration.

#### Key Features & Specs:

**Display:** 6.8-inch LTPO OLED Super Actua, up to 120Hz. Processor: Google Tensor G5.

**RAM:** 16GB.

**Cameras:** 50MP Wide, 48MP Ultrawide, 48MP Telephoto (4.5x optical, 100x Super Res Zoom), 42MP Front.

**Video:** Up to 8K recording, Night Sight Video, Pro video



controls.

**Battery:** All-day (24+ hrs), fast wireless charging, over 100 hrs with Extreme Battery Saver.

**Build:** Gorilla Glass Victus 2, Aluminum frame, IP68.

**Connectivity:** Nano-SIM/eSIM, Pixel Snap (MagSafe compatible).

**Software:** Android 16, advanced Google AI, up to 7 OS upgrades.

## OnePlus 15

The OnePlus 15 is a high-end smartphone featuring the powerful Snapdragon 8 Gen 5 chip, a massive 7,300mAh battery with super-fast charging, a 165Hz AMOLED display, and advanced cooling, targeting peak performance with a focus on gaming and durability, boasting IP66/68/69/69K ratings and Gorilla Glass Victus 2, with a versatile 50MP triple camera system and Android 16.

### Key Features & Specs:

**Processor:** Snapdragon 8 Gen 5 Mobile Platform, with a Tri-Chip System for enhanced performance.

**Display:** 6.78-inch AMOLED with up to 165Hz adaptive refresh rate.

**Battery:** 7,300mAh Silicon NanoStack battery, 80W SUPERVOOC & 50W AirVOOC charging.

**Camera:** 50MP main, 50MP ultrawide, 50MP telephoto, 32MP front camera, 4K 120 FPS Dolby Vision video.



**Durability:** IP66/IP68/IP69/IP69K ratings, Gorilla Glass Victus 2, Aerospace-style frame.

**Cooling:** Cryo Velocity 3D Vapor Chamber & Aerogel technology.

**Memory/Storage:** Options include 12GB/16GB RAM & 256GB/512GB/1TB storage.

**OS:** Android 16 (with OxygenOS/ColorOS).

## Oppo Find X9 Pro

The Oppo Find X9 Pro is a high-end flagship smartphone featuring a MediaTek Dimensity 9500 chip, a premium Hasselblad camera system with a 200MP telephoto lens, a 7500mAh battery, and a 6.78-inch ProXDR display, running on ColorOS 16 based on Android 16. Key highlights include a physical camera button, customizable "Snap Key," advanced cooling, 80W SuperVOOC charging, and strong camera performance, positioning it as a top contender in the premium smartphone market.

### Key Features & Specs:

**Display:** 6.78-inch LTPO AMOLED, 120Hz refresh rate, 3600 nits peak brightness, ultra-thin bezels.

**Processor:** MediaTek Dimensity 9500 with integrated AI and efficient cooling system.

**Camera:** Hasselblad-tuned system with 50MP main, 50MP ultrawide, and a 200MP periscope telephoto lens; 50MP front camera; 4K 120fps video.

**Battery:** Large 7500mAh silicon-carbon battery, 80W



wired charging, 50W wireless charging.

**Design:** Premium build with fingerprint-resistant finishes (Titanium Charcoal, Silk White) and IP69 rating, customizable buttons, and a camera button for physical control.

**Software:** ColorOS 16 (Android 16), offering AI features and smooth performance with long-term update support (5 years Android, 6 years security).

## Huawei Pura 80 Ultra

The Huawei Pura 80 Ultra, released in mid-2025, is a top-tier flagship featuring a 6.8-inch 120Hz LTPO OLED display, 16GB RAM, and a powerful 50MP 1-inch main sensor with XMAGE technology. It boasts a unique switchable dual telephoto lens system and is powered by a Kirin 9020 chipset. The phone is noted for excellent low-light photography, 100W/80W charging, and durable Kunlun Glass.

### Key Features & Specs:

**Camera System:** A 1-inch 50MP Ultra Lighting HDR Camera (F1.6~F4.0), 40MP Ultra-Wide, and 50MP/12.5MP dual telephoto lenses for superior zoom and 4K video.

**Display:** 6.8-inch LTPO OLED with 2848 × 1276 resolution and 1-120 Hz adaptive refresh rate.

**Performance:** Kirin 9020 chipset, 16GB RAM, and 512GB/1TB storage options.



**Battery & Charging:** 5170 mAh battery, supporting 100W wired and 80W wireless HUAWEI SuperCharge.

**Design & Durability:** IP68/IP69 water and dust resistance, 2nd-gen Crystal Armour Kunlun Glass.

**OS:** HarmonyOS 5.1/EMUI 15 (depending on region).



## Poco F8 Ultra

The Poco F8 Ultra is a high-end flagship smartphone from Poco that was released in November 2025, featuring top-tier hardware, a large display, and a powerful camera system.

### Key Features & Specs:

**Processor:** It is powered by the flagship Qualcomm Snapdragon 8 Elite Gen 5 chipset, along with a dedicated VisionBoost D8 chipset for improved display and AI features.

**Display:** The device boasts a large 6.9-inch AMOLED display with a 120Hz refresh rate, 1200x2608 resolution, and an impressive peak brightness of 3500 nits, protected by Poco Shield Glass.

**RAM and Storage:** It is available in configurations of 12 GB or 16 GB of LPDDR5X RAM and 256 GB or 512 GB of UFS 4.1 storage (no expandable memory slot).

**Cameras:** The rear setup is a versatile triple-camera system, with all three lenses featuring 50 MP sensors: a main wide lens, a periscope telephoto lens with 5x



optical zoom, and an ultrawide lens. The front-facing camera is 32 MP.

**Battery and Charging:** It includes a large 6500 mAh battery with support for 100W wired HyperCharge, 50W wireless charging, and 22.5W reverse wired charging.

**Audio:** The phone features a unique 2.1 speaker system with a dedicated woofer, with sound tuning by Bose for a premium acoustic experience.

**Durability:** It has an aluminum alloy frame and a glass front, with an IP68 dust and water resistance rating.

## Sony Xperia 1 VII

The Sony Xperia 1 VII is a 2025 flagship smartphone featuring a 6.5-inch 120Hz FHD+ OLED display, Snapdragon 8 Elite chipset, and a triple 48-52MP camera system. Key features include a 3.5mm headphone jack, microSD expansion, 12GB/16GB RAM, and 5000mAh battery. It focuses on content creation, with AI-enhanced cameras, improved, brighter screen, and a refined, textured design.

### Key Features & Specs:

**Processor:** Qualcomm Snapdragon 8 Elite.

**Display:** 6.5-inch FHD+ HDR OLED, 120 Hz refresh rate.

**Memory/Storage:** 12GB or 16GB RAM, 256GB or 512GB UFS 4.0 storage, with microSDXC support.

**Camera:** 52 MP wide, 50 MP ultrawide, and 12 MP telephoto (3.5x/7.1x optical zoom) with OIS.

**Battery:** 5000 mAh with 30W fast charging and Qi



wireless charging.

**Audio/Build:** 3.5mm jack, full-stage stereo speakers, IP65/IP68 water resistance.

**Software:** Android 15 (with up to 4 OS upgrades and 6 years of security updates).

## Xiaomi 15 Ultra

The Xiaomi 15 Ultra is a 2025 flagship smartphone focusing on photography with a Leica-powered quad-camera system, including a 200MP periscope telephoto lens. Powered by the Snapdragon 8 Elite chipset and Android 15 (HyperOS 2), it features a 6.73" 120Hz LTPO AMOLED display, a 5410mAh battery with 90W charging, and a 200MP telephoto camera.

### Key Features & Specs:

**Camera:** The device features a 50MP main sensor (1-inch type), a 200MP periscope telephoto (4.3x optical zoom), a 50MP telephoto (3x), and a 50MP ultra-wide.

**Performance:** Equipped with the Qualcomm Snapdragon 8 Elite processor and up to 16GB RAM.

**Display:** 6.73-inch 1440x3200px AMOLED, 120Hz,



with up to 3200 nits peak brightness.

**Battery:** 5410mAh (6000mAh in China) with 90W wired and wireless charging.

**Design:** Features an IP68 rating, Xiaomi Guardian Structure, and is available in options like silver chrome, black, and white.

# PHOTO STORY

Lagos State governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu received Miss Etiyemonu Esther, the One Day Governor and overall winner of the 21st Lagos Spelling Bee Competition, a brilliant student of Lagos State Senior Model College Igbokuta, at Lagos House, Marina.



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# Funke Akindele

## inks MonieWorld deal to boost Nigeria's Diaspora Remittances



£93,094 at the box office in the UK and Ireland, in Odeon cinemas in Greenwich, Streatham, Milton, Birmingham New Street, Coventry, Manchester Great Northern, Chatham and other cities.

MonieWorld's services are looking to tap these markets, in similar locations, making financial transactions between countries more accessible and reliable. The company says the collaboration will focus on highlighting how financial services can support everyday needs such as family support, education, healthcare, and business activities across borders.

Speaking on the partnership, Ravi Jakhodia, Chief Executive Officer of MonieWorld, said, "The company was built for people managing financial commitments in more than one country. He noted that Akindele's career, which spans local and international markets, reflects the experience of many Nigerians in the diaspora who continue to stay connected to home while building lives abroad."

Akindele began her career in television before transitioning into film production and directing. Over the years, she has produced and starred in several commercially successful Nollywood films, contributing to the growth of cinema attendance and box-office revenue in Nigeria. 'Behind the Scenes' officially broke records, hitting over N2 billion at the box office and becoming the first Nollywood film in West Africa to cross the N2 billion mark.

Commenting on the announcement, Akindele said the partnership aligns with her personal experience and career journey. She stated that maintaining financial ties to home is important for Nigerians living abroad, and that MonieWorld's services address this need.

Dolapo Omotoso, Head of Growth at MonieWorld, said, "The company's customers are often managing school fees, medical bills, business expenses, and household support from outside the country. According to her, the platform is designed to ensure that distance does not disrupt these responsibilities."

**M**onieWorld, a digital financial service by Moniepoint Inc., has announced a partnership with Funke Akindele, Nigerian actress and filmmaker, as its brand ambassador to promote cross-border

transactions for Nigerians across continents. MonieWorld, one of Nigeria's financial services, provides payments, banking, credit, and business tools to individuals and businesses for Nigerians living abroad, particularly in the United Kingdom. The platform enables users to send money to Nigeria, support family members, pay bills, and manage cross-border finances. It is designed to support people who earn income overseas while still maintaining financial responsibilities at home. The service is powered by the same infrastructure used by Moniepoint in Nigeria, where the company processes transactions for individuals, small businesses, and large enterprises. Through her work in film and television, Funke Akindele has built a career that connects audiences in Nigeria and in the diaspora. Over the years, Akindele has premiered films in the UK with movies like 'Behind The Scenes', grossing

# MILESTONE

## I Have Achieved My Goal For Establishing ABUAD

### AFE BABALOLA



**F**ounder and Chancellor of Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti (ABUAD), Aare Afe Babalola, has declared that his lifelong vision of establishing and nurturing a world-class university has been fulfilled.

Babalola spoke during the 16th anniversary of the commencement of academic activities at the university, saying ABUAD has recorded remarkable growth, global recognition, and academic excellence over the last 16 years. The legal luminary said the university, which commenced academic activities on January 4, 2010, with just 240 pioneer students, has grown into a globally competitive institution that has not only surpassed many older universities but has also become a

reference point for quality and functional education in Nigeria and beyond.

Highlighting ABUAD's achievements, Babalola noted that the university has consistently ranked among the best universities globally, referencing its placement by Times Higher Education Impact Rankings among the top 100 universities in the world and its recognition as the number one university in Nigeria in 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

He added that the feat confirmed that age is no barrier to success, noting that he founded the university at about 80 years old.

According to him, ABUAD has emerged as a clear leader in key disciplines such as Law, Medicine, and Engineering, surpassing many

older institutions and firmly establishing itself as a global brand in higher education.

He expressed gratitude to God for divine guidance and sustaining grace since the inception of the institution, describing the journey as one marked by faith, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to quality and functional education.

He also commended the management and staff of the institution, under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Smaranda Olarinde, for translating his vision into a flourishing academic reality admired both within and outside Nigeria.

The elder statesman cautioned against complacency, stressing that sustaining success requires even more effort than attaining it.

## Nigeria's Yakubu Sets Guinness Record For Longest Programming Lesson

**A**bel Yakubu, a Nigerian-born cloud engineer with NexEdge Technologies in Germany, has been officially recognised by Guinness World Records for leading the longest computer programming lesson. The record-breaking event took place in Abuja from 21 to 23 November 2025, spanning a continuous 60-hour session. Yakubu was supported by 30 participants and observed by 20 independent witnesses during the marathon lesson.

"I, Abel Yakubu of NexEdge Technologies, with the support of 30 committed participants and 20 independent witnesses, have been approved as the Guinness World Record title holder for the Longest Computer Programming Lesson," Yakubu said.

The session, streamed live across major social media platforms, involved 60 students and over 25 official



witnesses. It focused on cloud computing platforms, including Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud and Microsoft Azure, reflecting Yakubu's more than a decade of experience in the field.

Yakubu explained that the aim of the exercise was to push the boundaries of

skill development and collaboration. "I undertook this challenge to inspire young tech enthusiasts to develop strong tech skills, especially as AI adoption continues to rise globally," he said. He highlighted teamwork, proper planning and shared commitment as central to achieving the milestone.

The engineer revealed that preparation for the marathon spanned two months, with overnight sessions proving the most challenging. He has trained more than 200 young Nigerians over the past year and urged the nation's youth to embrace technology, while encouraging parents to support digital skill acquisition.

The previous global record of 48 hours and 15 minutes was surpassed by Yakubu's continuous session, which ran from 11 a.m. on Friday, 21 November, to 11 p.m. on Sunday, 23 November.

Guinness World Records' confirmation of the feat underscores the importance of strategic planning, perseverance and collective effort, while spotlighting Nigeria's growing role in global technology education.

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