Northbound 2026

The conference for people who ship documents · Harbour Convention Centre

Day 2

Wednesday 9 September

8–10 September 2026 · Portland, Oregon

TIME	Engineering HARBOUR HALL · 420 SEATS	Design STUDIO 1 · 180 SEATS	Operations STUDIO 2 · 180 SEATS	Workshops LOFT, LEVEL 4 · 60 SEATS
08:30 –09:00	**Registration, coffee and badge pickup** Main foyer			
09:00 –09:45	**Opening keynote — Documents are an interface, not an artefact** Dr. Amara Nwosu — Chief Scientist, Meridian Labs Harbour Hall (streamed to all rooms)			
10:00 –10:45	**Deterministic PDF output at scale** **Priya Raghunathan** Northwind Studio ADVANCED	**Typesetting for the printed page in 2026** **Tomás Errázuriz** Studio Errázuriz INTRO	**Running a render farm on a budget** **Ben Achterberg** Larkspur Cloud INTERMEDIATE	**Hands-on: your first template in 45 minutes** **Nadia Farouk** Northwind Studio WORKSHOP
11:00 –11:45	**Fonts, fallbacks and the CJK problem** **Kenji Watanabe** Type Foundry Kyoto ADVANCED	**Designing forms people can actually fill in** **Sarah Lindqvist** Civic Design Collective INTRO	**Observability for headless browsers** **Roland Meier** Kestrel Systems ADVANCED	—
11:45 –13:00	**Lunch and sponsor exhibition** Harbour Terrace · vegetarian and halal options at the north counter			
13:00 –13:40	**Panel — Accessibility is not a post-processing step** Moderated by Diane Okafor — with H. Barros, K. Watanabe and A. Nwosu Harbour Hall			

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13:50 –14:35	**Tagged PDF and the accessibility tree** Helena Barros Access Ledger INTERMEDIATE	**A colour system that survives greyscale printing** Marta Kowalczyk Freelance INTRO	**Queue design for bursty render traffic** Josef Halloran Kestrel Systems ADVANCED	**Hands-on: paged media and running headers** Martin Vance Northwind Studio WORKSHOP
14:45 –15:30	**Streaming multi-gigabyte PDFs without the memory bill** Claire Dunmore Sable Data ADVANCED	**Template libraries that teams will actually reuse** Tomás Errázuriz Studio Errázuriz INTERMEDIATE	—	**Clinic: bring your broken template** Northwind engineers Drop-in, no booking CLINIC
15:30 –16:00	**Afternoon break** Main foyer			
16:00 –16:45	**Testing what a renderer draws, not what it logs** Priya Raghunathan Northwind Studio INTERMEDIATE	**Data visualisation that prints** Nadia Farouk Northwind Studio INTERMEDIATE	**Archival formats and the thirty-year document** Dr. Amara Nwosu Meridian Labs INTRO	**Hands-on: barcodes, seals and inline SVG** Marta Kowalczyk Freelance WORKSHOP
17:00 –17:30	**Closing remarks and the Day 3 preview** Diane Okafor — Programme Chair Harbour Hall			

ROOMS AND CAPACITY

Workshop seats are **first come, first served** and the Loft holds 60. Doors close five minutes after each session starts.

RECORDING

All Harbour Hall sessions are recorded and published within 72 hours. Studio rooms are **not recorded** at the speakers' request.

HELP DESK

Volunteers in purple lanyards can re-print badges, arrange accessible seating and hold luggage. Desk is by the north entrance until 18:00.

Session levels: Intro (no prior knowledge), Intermediate (familiar with the tooling), Advanced (deep implementation detail), Workshop (bring a laptop). Schedule correct at time of printing; live updates on the event board in the main foyer.