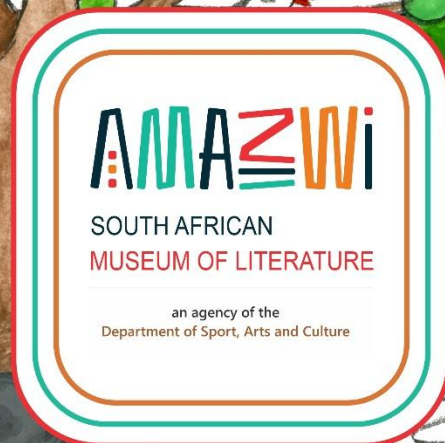
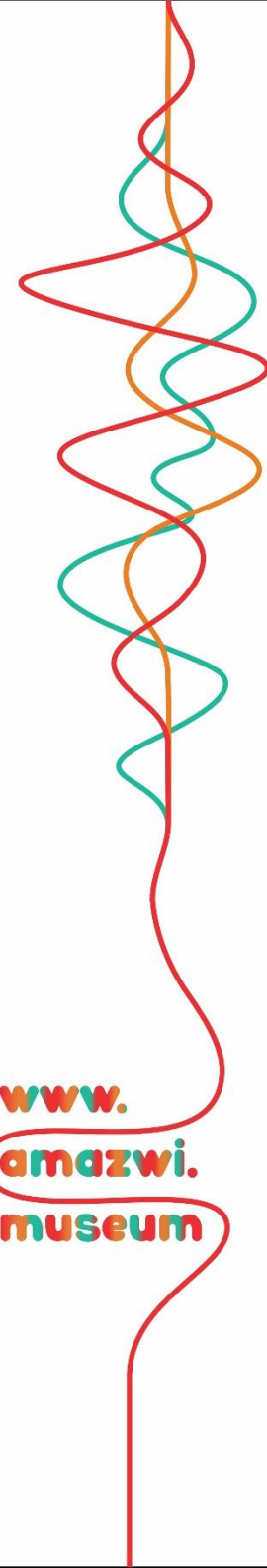




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PROGRAMME



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Amazwi Children's Literature Conference 2026

Programme | Tuesday 8 September

08:30 – 09:00

Registration

Session 1 | 09:00 – 10:00

Time	Presenter	Title
09:00 – 09:10	Mr Musawakhe Mazibuko CFO of Amazwi	Welcome to the 2025 Amazwi Children's Literature Conference
09:10 – 09:15	Ms Crystal Warren Manager, Amazwi Curatorial Division	Introduction to Keynote Speaker
09:15 – 10:00	Selloane Mokuku Rhodes University, ASSITEJ, and Author	KEYNOTE ADDRESS MOLLONG: Writing with the child in mind, how and why it matters. Musings of a writer.

10:00 – 10:30

Tea

Session 2 | 10:30 – 12:30

Time	Presenter	Title
10:30 – 10:50	Ms Katlego Gabashane Author	Code switching as a literary tool in children's literature
10:50 – 11:10	Prof Mantoa Motinyane University of the Western Cape	Cultivating empathy and intercultural understanding through children's literature: A theory of mind perspective from multilingual south africa
11:10 – 11:30	Ms Zintle Bangiso Rhodes University	Reading for enjoyment as informal language intervention: A parent's reflective account of children's literature in emergent bilingual development

11:30 – 12:00

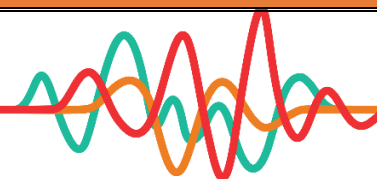
Discussion

12:00 – 12:30

Storytelling session with children

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch





Amazwi Children's Literature Conference 2026

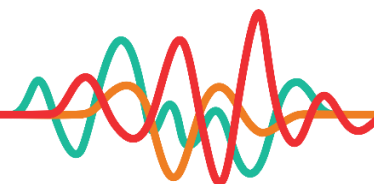
Programme | Tuesday 8 September

Session 3 | 13:30 – 15:00

Time	Presenter	Title
13:30 – 13:50	Ms Marike Beyers Amazwi	Travelling with an angel: Laughter and hope in <i>Brahm and the Angel</i> by Marietjie de Jongh
13:50 – 14:10	Professor Molly Brown University of Pretoria	The shaman in the machine: Ethnicity in post-apocalyptic South African fiction
14:10 – 14:30	Ms Cathy Gush Lebone Centre	Helping children fall in love with books: Reading aloud in the classroom
14:30 – 15:00	Discussion	
15:00 – 15:30	Tea	

Session 4 | 15:30 – 16:40

Time	Presenter	Title
15:30 – 15:50	Dr Beth Jeffery Author and Illustrator	Children's books: The practicalities of traditional publishing or self-publishing
15:50 – 16:10	Ms Thembeke Maila Author	The journey of a self-published children's author: Turning a passion into purpose
16:10 – 16:40	Discussion and close	



Amazwi Children's Literature Conference 2026

Programme | Wednesday 9 September

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

Session 1 | 09:00 – 10:30

Time	Presenter	Title
09:00 – 09:20	Dr Rod Amner Rhodes University	From iintsomi to YouTube: Reanimating Xhosa oral performance as multimodal children's read-aloud video
09:20 – 09:40	Mr Asakhe Cuntsulana IThala leAfrika, Author / Composer	IThala leNgoma: Awakening indigenous stories through song
09:40 – 10:00	Discussion	
10:00 – 10:30	Storytelling session with children	
10:30 – 11:00	Tea break	

Session 2 | 11:00 – 12:30

Time	Presenter	Title
11:00 – 11:20	Ms Wendy Zindle Mlangeni Nzambenang Film Productions, Author	The light within: Nurturing Identity, faith, and emotional resilience in children through storytelling
11:20 – 11:40	Ms Iviwe Mcobothi Amazwi	Animal Stories, memory and meaning: Empowering young readers through children's literature
11:40 – 12:00	Ms Zandile Maureen Buthelezi Independent	Shaping future careers through children's literature
12:00 – 12:30	Discussion	
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break	



Amazwi Children's Literature Conference 2026

Programme | Wednesday 9 September

Session 3 | 13:30 – 15:00

Time	Presenter	Title
13:30 – 13:50	Ms Nolubabalo Rani Author & Storyteller at Balisa Nathi	The importance and the value of reading clubs to improve reading skills amongst young children.
13:50 – 14:10	Ms Theresa Giorza University of the Witwatersrand	Reading picture books differently
14:10 – 14:30	Ms Linathi Mabindisa Independent	Nurturing young minds: The Role of children's literature in advancing literacy development
14:30 – 15:00	Discussion	
15:00 – 15:30	Tea	

Session 4 | 15:30 – 16:40

Time	Presenter	Title
15:30 – 15:50	Ms Zandile Mnisi LaMvuleni Rhodes University	Bridging the creative-civic divide: Utilizing student-led community engagement and multilingual children's literature for transformative literacy in the eastern cape
15:50 – 16:10	Ms Sinxolo Hashe Little Zebra Books	Building literacy through community and collaboration
16:10 – 16:40	Discussion	

CLOSE OF THE 2026 AMAZWI CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Thank you for being part of the

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