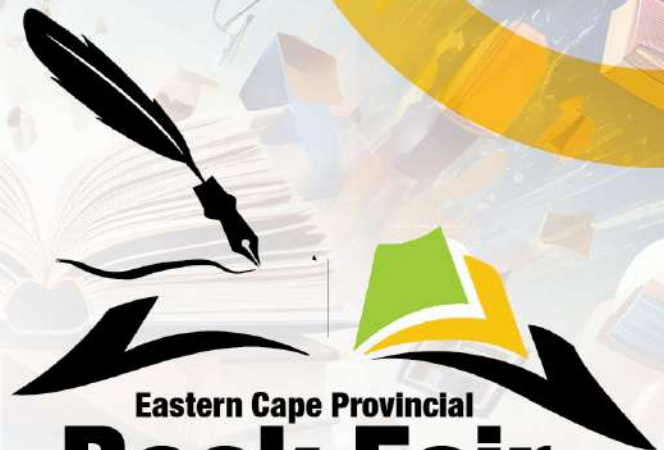




Eastern Cape Provincial

Book Fair

A literary experience rooted in language, identity, and imagination

Meet our
SPEAKERS



3rd - 5th October 2025

Bush Christian Camp,
Cove Ridge, East London,

'A United, Active and Winning Province Through Sport, Recreation, Arts, Culture & Heritage'



Your story matters



METROPOLITAN

SUPERSPAR

Meet Our Speakers



Dudu, also known as 'The peaceful one' on social media, is a witty and straight-talking dating coach who tackles social issues, particularly relating to relationships and black family dynamics. She provides regular commentary on local radio and TV stations on relationship matters. Dudu holds multiple degrees and pivoted from a banker to a healthcare strategist by completing an MBA in healthcare innovation. Her aim is to build one black family at a time by fostering deep conversations around how our history as a country, social issues, and social conditions impact the way people form interpersonal relationships.

DUDU MADONSELA



Prof Eddy Maloka is a distinguished diplomat, academic, author, and poet with over 30 years of experience across government, international organizations, and academia. He served as CEO of the African Peer Review Mechanism (2016–2024). Previously, he held senior advisory roles in the South African government and led the Africa Institute of South Africa (1999–2006) as it evolved into a post-apartheid policy think-tank. A former lecturer at UCT and UWC, he holds a Ph.D. in History from UCT, along with degrees from the Graduate Institute in Geneva and Rhodes University, and has held fellowships at Princeton, Brown, and SOAS. Currently, he is a Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg's Institute for Pan-African Thought and Conversation.

PROF EDDY MALOKA



Dr. Gcina Mhlophe is an acclaimed South African author, storyteller, and founding director of the Gcinamasiko Arts & Heritage Trust. Renowned for works like *Have You Seen Zandile?*, her writing has been translated into many languages, including Braille, and her plays have been staged worldwide. A passionate advocate for preserving oral heritage, she created the first national directory of storytellers and leads initiatives such as the Nozincwadi Literacy Campaign and International Storytelling Festival. Honoured with eight honorary doctorates and numerous awards, from SAMAs and SAFTAs to international theatre prizes, she continues to inspire through books, performances, and her award-winning podcast *African Story Magic*.

DR GCINA MHLOPHE

Meet Our Speakers



Led by Shepherds begins with twelve-year-old Jeffrey Rakabe leaving his village to attend an initiation ceremony, believing it to be the key to his manhood. But the weeks-long rite of passage in the mountains is a far cry from the adventure he'd imagined. Years later, as a student, Rakabe discovers the nurturing world of books and thrives within the hush of the Johannesburg Public Library. The presence of caring women in his life, from his concerned mother and supportive partner to a librarian who feeds his intellectual curiosity with a steady supply of literature, spur Rakabe to investigate the possible links between the koma ritual, awash with misogynistic language, and gender-based violence in SA.

JEFFREY RAKABE



Dr. Jerry Mofokeng wa Makhetha is a legendary South African actor, author, director and theatre mentor. Trained at Wits Drama School and Columbia University (MFA, Fulbright Scholar), his passion lies in theatre directing, with acclaimed productions including The Blood Knot, The Island, Boesman and Lena, and Mantsopa. A dedicated trainer and mentor, he has taught and guided creatives across institutions and community programmes, and continues to lead Masterclasses in Southern Africa. His acting career spans over 50 film and television credits, including Tsotsi and Five Fingers for Marseilles. Dr. Jerry holds multiple awards, including three lifetime achievement awards and an honorary doctorate from the University of the Free State.

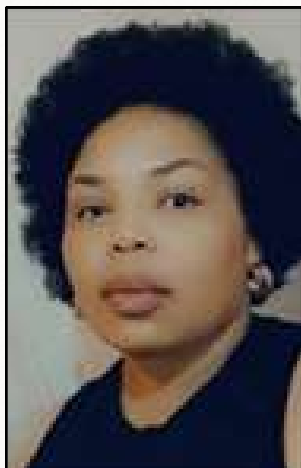
DR JERRY MOFOKENG
WA MAKHETHA



Khaya Dlanga is Managing Partner at Delta Victor Bravo, a leading marketing and innovation strategy consultancy. His distinguished career includes senior roles at global brands like Coca-Cola, where he contributed to the success of the Share a Coke campaign. Khaya made history as the first black South African to win a Cannes Gold, the advertising industry's highest honour. A bestselling author of five books, including the award nominated To Quote Myself, Khaya is also a sought-after speaker. At TED2025 in Vancouver, he spoke on storytelling, human connection, and AI's role in shaping authentic engagement.

KHAYA DLANGA

Meet Our Speakers



Michelle Myeko Kekana was a 2021 JIAS writing fellow. She has been published in an anthology of essays about post-apartheid South Africa. Michelle is a former teacher but an eternal student who is passionate about creating the things she wishes existed. She is an adoring mother of 4 children, ranging from ages 10 to 25.

MICHELLE KEKANA



Mrs. Nomzekelo Siko was born and raised in Willowvale, a small town in South Africa's Eastern Cape. One of six siblings, she grew up in a loving home built by her parents and is a proud honours graduate from the University of Pretoria. An educator by profession, she married Mr. Mteteli Siko in 1986 and has drawn strength and wisdom from her own marriage journey. Through her writing, she shares insights to inspire couples to persevere and find hope, no matter the challenges they may face.

NOMZEKELO SIKO



Oliver Dickson is an award-winning broadcaster, writer, and world-renowned debater. He anchors prime-time news at SABC and hosts on SAfm, while also contributing political analysis to platforms such as TRT World, The Washington Post, Business Day, TimesLIVE, Daily Maverick, and News24. Over the past three years, he has moderated and hosted high-level panels at conferences and summits attracting over 20,000 attendees, engaging with business leaders, heads of state, political figures, and citizens alike.

OLIVER DICKSON

Meet Our Speakers



Ronnie Kasrils started off his career as a film script writer, but soon after the Sharpeville massacre in 1960, became involved full time in the liberation struggle. He was involved in Umkhonto we Sizwe's (MK) initial sabotage operations, and served the SACP and ANC in exile until 1990, at one stage as Chief of Military Intelligence for MK. He served in the new democratic government from 1994 to 2008, in various ministerial posts, and is the author of several books, including the award winning *The Unlikely Secret Agent* (Jacana).

RONNIE KASRILS



Siphokazi Vanessa Mpofo is a South African author and cultural activist best known for her acclaimed isiXhosa novel *Zajik'izinto* (2021). Her work bridges heritage, lived experience, and untold narratives to spark dialogue, remembrance, and community healing. As founder of the Isililo seZibazana Healing Movement NPC, she uses debates, cultural festivals, and artistic expression to address identity, loss, resilience, and restoration in broken communities. Honoured as a Daily Dispatch Local Hero (2022) and two-time winner of the SABC I Am a Writer competition, Siphokazi is a movement-builder who uses literature and activism to shape conversations that matter.

SIPHOKAZI VANESSA
MPOFU



MEC Zolile Williams was born in Lady Grey to a working-class Christian family and came of age during the political upheavals of the 1980s. His early experiences shaped a deep commitment to community development and cultural preservation. In 2022, he was elected ANC Eastern Cape Provincial Treasurer and appointed MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, where he works to build strong, accountable municipalities while safeguarding the province's cultural heritage. A pragmatic and results-driven leader, Williams has dedicated his career to bridging the gap between governance and tradition.

MEC ZOLILE WILLIAMS