5th Annual Amazwi Literature Heritage Ecology Conference

25 and 26 March 2026 | Makhanda

3rd CALL FOR PAPERS

The annual Amazwi Literature, Heritage and Ecology Conference is an interdisciplinary conference that fosters cooperation between the humanities and the sciences with the aim of helping to resolve the social-ecological crises we face today.

Please note that the 2026 conference is an in-person event and no online presentations will be possible.

Conference theme

The conference theme 'People and Other Animals' invokes ecocritical approaches to animal studies. The arts and sciences shape and are shaped by human understanding of the natural world and our place in it. The conference turns a critical gaze on anthropocentric perspectives on non-human animals and explores the complex interactions between 'us' and 'them'. It questions the boundaries we have created between ourselves and other animals and ponders how these boundaries may be disrupted and reimagined. Presentations are invited that explore the theme of 'People and Other Animals' and all related matters.

NB Presentations should be grounded in at least two of the conference's three entangled areas of interest:

LITERATURE | Encompasses both oral and written traditions and storytelling of all kinds.

HERITAGE | To remember the past is vital for the creation of a better future. Heritage includes history, culture, the arts and indigenous knowledge, and encompasses both cultural and natural heritage.

ECOLOGY | Humanity is embedded in the Earth's natural systems together with all other living things, towards which we have a profound responsibility of care.

Publication of conference proceedings

Amazwi intends to produce a peer-reviewed and edited electronic publication of the conference proceedings. The submission process will be shared with those whose abstracts are accepted for the conference. The museum will contact all those who submit abstracts as soon as possible after the 1 February 2026 deadline for submission has passed.

Conference rates

Standard
After 1 December 2025
Full conference | R2000
Single day | R1000

Concession
Students and retirees
Full conference | R1000
Single day | R500

Deadline for submission of abstracts | 1 February 2026
Submit your abstract here: https://shorturl.at/cY080

Deadline for registration | 10 March 2026
Register for the conference here: https://shorturl.at/VZYZw

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AMAZWI SOUTH AFRICAN MUSEUM OF LITERATURE
an agency of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture