



MEDIA RELEASE

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86TH SOUTH AFRICAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION: NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The South African Museums Association (SAMA) invites the media to its 86th National Conference. This hybrid conference will take place from 6-8 September 2022. A programme of keynote speakers, presentations and a panel discussion will take place on 6 and 7 September at Hazendal Wine Estate in the Stellenbosch Winelands. A panel of experts will use case studies from South Africa, Kenya, USA and the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) to discuss projects that were successfully delivered with limited resources or through overcoming insurmountable challenges. The panel will consist of:

1. Dr Daniel Adams, Chief Director: Basic Sciences and Infrastructure, Department of Science and Innovation.
2. Dr Purity Kiura, Chief Research Scientist: Heritage, National Museums of Kenya.
3. Mr Espéra Donouvossi, Programme Manager: Youth. Heritage. Africa, ICCROM.
4. Dr Paul Gardullo, Director: Center for Study of Global Slavery, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution.

On 8 September, in-person delegates will venture into inner city Cape Town for a cultural heritage precinct excursion, including visits to the Castle of Good Hope, The Desmond and Leah Tutu Foundation at the Old Granary, and the Mandela Legacy Exhibition at the Cape Town City Hall. The conference concludes with a cocktail event at the Rupert Museum in Stellenbosch, home to a superb collection of modern South African art from 1940 to early 2000.

The theme of the 86th SAMA National Conference is '**The Power of Museums**' borrowed from the International Council of Museums' (ICOM) International Museum Day for 2022. The conference will similarly reflect on three main topics including the power of achieving sustainability; innovating on digitisation and accessibility; and community building through education. How does this 'Power of Museums' manifest in the cultural landscape of South Africa? The exploration of these key areas is critical in the comprehension of the power of museums, and their relevance to society and its citizens.

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