

Stellenbosch University

8th Africa Day Lecture

Date: 27 May 2026

Time: 17:00

Venue: Stellenbosch University Museum



Meet the speaker

Dr Panashe Chigumadzi, a historian and Assistant Professor of African History at Brandeis University, earned her PhD from Harvard University.

A rapporteur for the African Union's Committee of Experts on Reparations for Slavery, Colonialism, and Apartheid, she conceptualised and drafted the AU framework for Reparations, which provided the structural rationale for the landmark March 2026 resolution passed by the UN declaring the trafficking of enslaved Africans and racialized chattel enslavement as "the gravest crime against humanity." She is an author of award-winning publications. Among these are her memoir *These Bones Will Rise Again*, which was shortlisted for the 2019 Alan Paton Prize, a novel *Sweet Medicine*, which won the 2016 K. Sello Duiker Literary Award, and an essay "What don't you see when you look at me?" which was awarded the 2019 Gordon Parks Foundation Prize.

Her forthcoming book, *Conquer and Incorporate: Ubuntu as an Ethics of War and Conquest under the Nine Wars of Dispossession, 1779–1878*, examines 19th-century discourses of Ubuntu through her recovery of over 500 newspaper texts by Black intellectuals in isiXhosa, isiZulu, seTswana, and seSotho.