

In commemoration of the 45th anniversary of the June 16 Soweto Student Uprising, the Unisa Library & Information Services cordially invite you to a Youth Day Conversation with internationally acclaimed author and speaker extraordinaire

MALAIKA WA AZANIA



When: 25 June 2021 | Time: 16:30

Where: www.facebook.com/unisalibrary

About Malaika

Malaika Mahlatsi, commonly known as Malaika Wa Azania, is the bestselling author of critically acclaimed *Memoirs of a Born Free: Reflections on the Rainbow Nation* (Jacana Media, 2014), published in Africa, the USA and Europe. Her second book, *Corridors of Death: The Struggle to Exist in Historically White Institutions* was published by BlackBird Books in September 2020. She is an award-winning essayist and columnist, published in various publications including *Thought Leader*, the *WOZ* (Switzerland), the *African Independent* and *The Thinker* magazine, to name but a few. She has a weekly column in the *Sowetan* newspaper and a bi-monthly column in the *Herald*.

Malaika has published academic papers in various journals including the *Journal of Public Administration* and *Kulturaustausch* (Germany). She authored the foreword to *We Are No Longer at Ease: The Struggle for #FeesMustFall* by Busani Ngcaweni and Wandile Ngcaweni (eds) and co-authored a chapter in *Mzansi Africa: The Contested Idea of South Africa* by Professor Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni and Busani Ngcaweni (eds). Voted as one of the Top 200 Young South Africans in 2015 and Top 50 Most Powerful Women in South Africa 2020 by the *Mail & Guardian*, Malaika served in the SADC Election Observer Mission in the harmonised elections in Zimbabwe in 2013 and was appointed to the SADC Food and Nutrition Security Committee established by former Malawian president Dr Joyce Banda, in 2014. She served in the committee until 2016.

She has represented South African youth at various national and international platforms including the Human Rights Festival in Mexico, Africa History Week Symposium in Norway and the OAU/AU @ 50 Youth Seminar in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to name but a few. She has also delivered various guest lectures and seminars at several local and international universities including the University of Basel in Switzerland, the National Autonomous University of Mexico, several universities in Latin America including Universidad Iberoamericana and Tecnológico de Monterrey and multiple universities in South Africa. She is a graduate of Rhodes University, where she completed her postgraduate degree in Geography cum laude. She is pursuing a Masters in Public Affairs at the Tshwane University of Technology. Malaika is currently a Senior Specialist in the Office of the Executive Mayor in the City of Ekurhuleni.