

## SPEAKER PROFILES

### Nadeema Musthan



Ms Nadeema Musthan comes from a family of educators. Her passion and specific interests are children, literacy development and the intersections between pedagogies, language and literacy, and context in order to build a more just society. Nadeema is currently the Executive Director of Fundza Literacy Trust, an NPO that aims to broaden multilingual literacy access and support for teens and youth on digital platforms. She serves as the Chair for the Literacy Association of South Africa and is involved in the support and upliftment of literacy at all levels of society.

### Rex Molefe



Mr Rex Molefe is the Chairperson of the National Early Childhood Development Alliance (NECDA). With extensive experience in early childhood education, he has served as Assistant Director at Thabong Educare Resource Centre and Director at Motheo Pre-Primary Education Centre.

A specialist in Training and Skills Development, Mr. Molefe is a motivated leader with strong analytical, problem-solving, and motivational speaking skills. His expertise spans various fields, including early childhood development, quality management, programme design, and advocacy.

### Claire Biesman-Simons



Ms Claire Biesman-Simons is an independent consultant specializing in education and social development. With a strong academic background and experience in the NGO sector and CSI, Claire has a deep commitment to advancing literacy and education through rigorous research, monitoring and evaluation. Her work is driven by the belief that achieving meaningful and sustained impact in education requires approaches that are grounded in evidence, carefully structured, and respond strategically to participants' identified needs.

## Lauren Fok



Ms Lauren Fok is a Programme Manager at the Zenex Foundation. Her background and work experience spans 24 years of working in the development sector in the spheres of labour, health, gender, and information and communication technology for development, in a range of capacities including office management and administration, strategic planning, organisational development and project management.