

Introduction: 70 Years and Beyond

Our speaker today has spent more than five decades on professional stages — from Broadway productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Wiz*, and *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, to stages across the United States, Canada, and Australia.

Born in Greensboro, North Carolina, she studied acting at the NYU School of the Arts and was cast as an original member of the Washington, DC company of *Godspell*, which opened at Ford's Theatre in 1972. Today, she brings those same gifts for storytelling, humor, and human connection to audiences just like you.

In a few moments, she is going to take you somewhere. Back to front porches and party-line telephones. Back to Sunday dinners and the music that was always playing somewhere in the background. Back to the 1950s, '60s, '70s, and beyond — not just to remember, but to *feel* what it meant to be alive in those years.

Get ready to laugh. Get ready to nod. And get ready to leave here wanting to share your own stories.

Please welcome Broadway actress, master storyteller, and author — **Wambui Bahati**.