The Arts & Architecture of CUBA

Havana, Matanzas & Varadero

March 7 to 14, 2015
Dear Friends,

I am delighted to invite you to explore the Arts & Architecture of Cuba with WNET from Saturday, March 7 to Saturday, March 14, 2015.

Travel to Cuba, as you may know, is possible only through special arrangements, and we are fortunate that we have been awarded a cultural license from the Treasury Department. Immerse yourself in Cuba’s fascinating history and distinctive culture, and delight in its warm hospitality, on our “people-to-people” program.

We will discover this captivating Caribbean nation as we enjoy exclusive, behind-the-scenes access to its vibrant arts community, visits to the studios and homes of emerging artists, private tours of top museums, walks through atmospheric Old Havana, and specially arranged performances of music and dance.

Traveling outside of Havana, we will visit Ernest Hemingway’s home, Finca La Vigía, in the hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula, and continue on an overnight excursion to explore the rich Afro-Cuban heritage of Matanzas, known as the “Athens of Cuba.” A short journey further along the coast brings us to Xanadu, the historic Du Pont home near Varadero. We will be able to keep our rooms at the Hotel Parque Central in Havana during our one night away.

We invite you to join us this winter and experience Cuba first hand on an unforgettable journey!

Sincerely,

Neal Shapiro
President and CEO
March 7 MIAMI / HAVANA

Meet at Miami International Airport in the early morning for a regularly scheduled chartered flight to Havana. Upon arrival at the José Martí Airport, transfer to the Hotel Parque Central for lunch and check-in. In the late afternoon, attend a lecture on Cuba’s current social, economic and political reality by a former ambassador and deputy minister for foreign affairs. Our welcome dinner this evening is at a paladar, a privately-owned restaurant often located in the owner’s home.

March 8 HAVANA

Join an architectural historian for a morning lecture, followed by a walking tour of Old Havana focusing on the four main squares: Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja, and Plaza de la Catedral. Conclude with lunch near the cathedral. Afternoon visits are arranged in the homes and studios of some of Havana’s leading artists, where there may be an opportunity to purchase paintings and drawings. In the early evening, drive to the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts, where we will have a presentation on Cuban art. The Foundation President will host a cocktail reception and buffet.

March 9 HAVANA

Learn about Cuba’s agricultural practices with a former official of the Ministry of Agriculture. Then depart for the small, hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula to visit Finca La Vigía, where Ernest Hemingway lived for 20 years. View the rooms of the house through open windows and see his fishing boat, the Pilar. Lunch is at leisure. In the late afternoon enjoy a private concert with a chance to chat with the performers, followed by dinner.

March 10 HAVANA

Visit the National Museum of Fine Arts for a morning curatorial tour focusing on the Cuban art collection. Then drive to Cuba’s leading art school, the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA), for an opportunity to interact with professors and students and see their artwork. Enjoy lunch at the home and studio of artist José Fuster in the nearby village of Jaimanitas, where he has decorated more than 80 houses with ornate murals and domes. Among the creations are a chess park with giant boards and tables, and an Artists’ Wall composed of a quilt of dozens of tiles signed and donated by other Cuban artists. Dinner and the evening are at leisure.
March 11  HAVANA / MATANZAS / CARDENAS / VARADERO
Wednesday
Depart by private motorcoach for Matanzas, stopping en route at the Bacunayagua Bridge, the highest in Cuba, with panoramic views of the nearby valley. Upon arrival, visit Ediciones Vigía, where handmade books are created. Continue to Cárdenas to meet local artists and visit their studios. A late lunch is arranged at historic Xanadu, the beautifully restored mansion built in the late 1920s by French American millionaire Irénée du Pont de Nemours. Dinner and overnight accommodations are at the Meliá Paradisus in Varadero.

March 12  VARADERO / MATANZAS / HAVANA
Thursday
This morning meet local ceramists at their workshop, Taller de Cerámica, in Varadero. After lunch at the hotel, drive to Matanzas for a private concert at the Ermita de Monserrate hilltop chapel, followed by a chance to talk with the performers. Continue to the main square, Parque de la Libertad, surrounded by many historical buildings, and visit the perfectly preserved 19th-century Pharmacy Museum. Meet an outstanding local sculptor in his studio before returning to Havana for an evening at leisure.

March 13  HAVANA
Friday
Attend an informal morning rehearsal of the Contemporary Dance Company of Cuba at the Teatro Nacional, located adjacent to the Plaza de la Revolución. Continue on a visit to the Colón Cemetery. With its ornate monuments commemorating Cuban heroes, statesmen, and novelists, this cemetery has been called the largest sculpture park in Cuba. Lunch is at leisure. In the late afternoon, we have been invited to a private after-hours tour and reception at the Ceramics Museum, followed by our farewell dinner.

March 14  HAVANA / MIAMI
Saturday
After breakfast, depart for the airport and the flight to Miami, arriving in the early afternoon.

Please note that this preliminary itinerary is subject to change. Additionally, throughout the program we have invited special guests to join the group. Architects, museum directors and students, as well as performing and visual artists will be joining us for visits, at meals and individual/group discussions. You are encouraged to actively engage these individuals in conversation. Interpreters are always available on request.

**PROGRAM RATE PER PERSON $5,495**
**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT $595**

- Roundtrip airfare Miami / Havana / Miami via regularly scheduled charter flights
- Seven nights accommodations, double occupancy, at the Hotel Parque Central as per the itinerary, as well as one night at the Meliá Paradisus
- Buffet breakfast daily, five lunches, and five dinners. Bottled water, soft drinks, and coffee/tea with all meals. Local beer and wine with welcome and farewell dinners
- Escorted sightseeing via private motorcoach as per the itinerary, including services of bilingual national guide
- Airport / hotel / airport transfers for all participants
- Taxes, service, and porterage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Cuban Visa fee (excluding Cuban-born travelers), Cuban Departure tax and limited Cuban health insurance policy (for travelers under age 80)

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATE** Airfare between home city and Miami; passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than local beer and wine at welcome and farewell dinners; meals not specified; personal items and expenses; excess baggage charges; trip cancellation insurance; and any other items not specifically mentioned as included.
To reserve a place on this trip, please complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,500 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Academic Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Academic Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

I/We will be traveling to Cuba under a specific OFAC People-to-People license number CT-2014-310070-1

FIRST PARTICIPANT

NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT

MOTHER’S MAIDEN NAME

HOME ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE (HOME)

(BUSINESS)

FAX

E-MAIL

PASSPORT NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE (must be valid for six months after entry into Cuba)

CITIZENSHIP

OCCUPATION

DATE OF BIRTH

GENDER

PLACE OF BIRTH

SECOND PARTICIPANT

NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT

MOTHER’S MAIDEN NAME

HOME ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE (HOME)

(BUSINESS)

FAX

E-MAIL

PASSPORT NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE (must be valid for six months after entry into Cuba)

CITIZENSHIP

OCCUPATION

DATE OF BIRTH

GENDER

PLACE OF BIRTH

Accommodations

Hotel Room Preference

Double

Twin

Single (at a supplement of $595)

I wish to share a room with

Form of Payment

Enclosed is my check payable to Academic Arrangements Abroad.

Credit card (for deposit only; final payment must be made by check.)

NAME AS ON CREDIT CARD & 3- OR 4-DIGIT SECURITY CODE

CREDIT CARD NUMBER & EXPIRATION DATE

Each participant must sign below.

I/We confirm that I/we will fully participate in the licensed cultural exchange activities of this People-to-People Program.

I/We confirm that I/we have fully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this program, including the page on Cuba Travel Restrictions.

I/We agree to the balance due by check, 120 days prior to departure.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DATE

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DATE

For more information, please contact Academic Arrangements Abroad (an OFAC licensed Travel Service Provider)

Telephone: 212.514.8921 or 800.221.1944 | Fax: 212.344.7493 | E-mail: trips@arrangementsabroad.com
Current Restrictions on Travel & American Travelers to Cuba

There are substantial restrictions on travel to Cuba from the United States and for all Americans citizens and American residents. These restrictions apply regardless of where you are traveling from on your way to Cuba or where you travel to following a visit to Cuba. The restrictions include persons who are citizens of other countries as well. Only those who are authorized by the U.S. Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control, known as “OFAC”, may legally travel from the United States to Cuba. There are specially licensed air carriers (CSTD) that provide charter services for authorized individuals between Cuba and the U.S. Further, air arrangements and arrangements for travel and stays within Cuba can only be made through a licensed Travel Service Provider (TSP). Academic Arrangements Abroad is a licensed Travel Service Provider and is authorized to make all travel arrangements to and from Cuba, as well as travel arrangements within Cuba for individuals who possess the following licenses:

Please note that this summary of OFAC travel restrictions is for informational purposes only. For the official requirements please see:

http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Documents/cuba_tr_app.pdf

For your program, you will be traveling under a Specific License. WNET New York Public Media has been granted a Specific License for educational exchanges not involving academic study pursuant to a degree program to promote people-to-people contact. Its members travel under this license and must have a copy of the license in their possession at all times while traveling to and from Cuba.

Specific Licenses: Applications must be submitted to OFAC for a Specific License, either by an individual or institution. OFAC will consider issuing a Specific License for the following:

- Educational exchanges not involving academic study pursuant to a degree program to promote people-to-people contact.
- Educational: An applicant must be traveling for certain clearly defined educational activities, including: participation in a structured educational program that includes at least 10 weeks in Cuba; independent research for writing a Master’s thesis, doctoral dissertation or similar document; participation in a formal course of study or teaching at a Cuban academic institution or sponsoring a Cuban scholar in the United States.
- Persons traveling for religious activities.
- Persons traveling for certain humanitarian projects.
- Persons traveling for free-lance journalism.
- Persons traveling for professional research or to attend a professional meeting that do not meet the requirements of the relevant general license.
- Amateur or semi-professional athletes traveling to participate in a competition held under the auspices of an international sports Federation or for participation in certain public performances or exhibitions.
- Persons traveling for the purposes related to exportation, importation or transmission of information or informational material.
- Persons visiting close relatives who are neither Cuban national or U.S. government employees assigned to the U.S. Interest Section.

For complete information, please see the OFAC website:

http://www.treasury.gov/services/Pages/Cuba-Travel-Licenses.aspx

By participating on this program, you agree to the following restrictions of the Specific License and OFAC regulations on travel to Cuba:
- To travel to and from Cuba with the group
- To participate fully in all program activities
- To abide by the terms of the U.S. Embargo

After reserving your place on the program, you will be informed of exactly what you must bring with you in order to enter Cuba and re-enter the United States according to OFAC.

http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/pages/cuba.aspx
CUBA WITH WNET NEW YORK PUBLIC MEDIA

March 7 to 14, 2015

Wednesday

Dinner and overnight accommodations are at the Meliá Paradisus in Varadero.

Thursday

Learn about Cuba’s agricultural practices with a former official of the Ministry of Agriculture. Then depart

Friday

CITIZENSHIP       OCCUPATION

PASSPORT NUMBER       EXPIRATION DATE

FAX       E-MAIL

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT     MOTHER’S MAIDEN NAME

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

I/We will be traveling to Cuba under a specific OFAC People-to-People license number CT-2014-310070-1

SIGNATURE REQUIRED                                      DATE

I/We agree to the balance due by check, 120 days prior to departure.

I/We confirm that I/we have fully read and agree to the

TERMS & CONDITIONS

AIRFARE Roundtrip air travel between Miami and Havana is via regularly scheduled chartered flights. Business Class is not available. Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA) will be pleased to assist with air travel arrangements from your home airport to Miami, for a processing fee of $40 per person. Domestic airfare will be quoted on an individual basis and is payable by credit card only. Frequent flyer mileage cannot be accepted in conjunction with this program.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE $1,500 per person, payable to Academic Arrangements Abroad, of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Balance due by check, 120 days prior to departure.

HEALTH This is an active program and all participants must be in good health. This program involves extensive walking over uneven surfaces, climbing stairs without handrails at locations that are not handicapped accessible. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation.

INSURANCE TRIP CANCELLATION / EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION / BAGGAGE / ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE PROTECTION IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. CANCELLATION PENALTIES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED. AAA will send an insurance application upon receipt of reservation and deposit, although you may select any insurer of your choice.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of WNET New York Public Media (WNET) and AAA. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares and currency exchange rates in effect at time of brochure printing and are subject to change without notice. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are not permitted.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE The participation of WNET is limited to educational sponsorship of the program described in this brochure (The Program). AAA acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations and all other services, relating to The Program. AAA, WNET and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity that may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any conveyance, ship, train, bus or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of The Program. The passage ticket issued by the carrier is the sole contract between the participant and the carrier. Nor will AAA or WNET and/or their agents be responsible for loss, injury, damages or expenses to persons or property, due to illness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature or other such causes in connection with The Program or anything beyond their reasonable control. AAA is not responsible for transportation or other program delays and changes, nor additional expenses or loss of time that may be incurred. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the participants, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary at any time, without notice to the participants, such alterations will be made without penalty to AAA or WNET. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the participants. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the participant at all times. AAA and WNET reserve the right to accept or decline any person as a participant at any time, or to require any participant to withdraw from The Program at their own expense when such an action is determined by AAA or WNET to be in the best interest of the participant’s health and safety, or the general welfare of the other participants.

CANCELLATION POLICY AAA must strictly adhere to its cancellation policy to offset costs incurred prior to the commencement of The Program, which may include but are not limited to: advance payments to land operators; communication expenses; development and the loss of time that might have permitted resale of reserved space. All cancellations must be in writing to the offices of AAA and are subject to a $500 non-refundable administrative fee. All refunds are limited to amounts actually received by AAA and are the sole responsibility of AAA; WNET shall have no liability for refunds. At the time AAA receives written notification of cancellation, the following cancellation charges will apply: cancellations received between 90 and 61 days before departure, 50 percent of the program cost per person; no refunds will be given for cancellations received within 60 days of departure. No refunds are given for cancellation on or after the day of departure, or for unused portions of the tour, for any reason. Air cancellation charges, if any, will be assessed in accordance with airline regulations. All group fare tickets must be issued no less than 30 days prior to departure. NOTE: Neither AAA nor WNET shall be liable for any airline cancellation penalties incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket. In the case of a cancellation due to shortage of participants, AAA will attempt to notify all participants at least 45 days prior to departure. However, AAA reserves the right to cancel The Program prior to departure for any reason and, in such case, reimbursement of refundable costs of the trip by AAA shall constitute full settlement with the participant. In the unlikely event that a dispute arises between a participant and AAA or WNET, the following conditions will apply: (a) the dispute will be settled by binding arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association in New York, NY; (b) the dispute will be governed by New York Law; (c) the maximum amount of recovery to which a participant shall be entitled under any and all circumstances will be the sum of all monies actually received from the participant by AAA. The participant agrees that this is a fair and reasonable limitation on the damages, of any sort whatsoever, that a participant may suffer. Upon payment of the deposit to AAA, the participant agrees to be bound by the above terms and conditions.

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California Seller of Travel #2059789-40

Academic Arrangements Abroad

On the front cover: Catedral de San Cristobal, Havana. Photo by Danielle Dyble. On the back cover: Chandlier on the ceiling of the Cathedral of Havana (top) and Instituto Superior de Arte, Havana (bottom). Photos by Chas A. Miller, III.
THE ARTS & ARCHITECTURE OF CUBA
Havana, Matanzas & Varadero
MARCH 7 TO 14, 2015

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PHONE: (212) 560-2828

WNET NEW YORK PUBLIC MEDIA
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825 EIGHTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10019-7435

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We will discover this captivating Caribbean nation as we enjoy exclusive, behind-the-scenes access to its rich cultural heritage. Immerse yourself in Cuba’s fascinating history and distinctive culture, and delight in its warm hospitality, on our “people-to-people” program.

We invite you to join us this winter as we travel from Havana to Matanzas to Varadero, delighting in the exceptional architecture in each location. We will stay at the historic Hotel Nacional, which has served as a showcase for both international and local art throughout its history. We will also visit Ernest Hemingway’s Finca La Vigía, Xanadu, and enjoy a night at the historic Hotel Saratoga.

Traveling outside of Havana, we will visit Ernest Hemingway’s home, Finca La Vigía, in the hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula, and continue on an overnight excursion to Xanadu, the historic Du Pont home near Matanzas, known as the “Athens of Cuba.” A short journey further along the coast brings us to Varadero. We will be able to keep our rooms at the luxurious Hotel Inglaterra, which is owned by the Cuban government and has been decorated to reflect the art and architecture of Cuba.

As we travel between Cuba and the United States, we will be traveling under a specific license that allows us to engage in certain activities. The license is issued by the Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control, known as “OFAC.”

For complete information, please see the OFAC website: http://www.treasury.gov/services/Pages/Cuba-Travel-Licenses.aspx

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The restrictions include persons who are authorized by the U.S. government employees assigned to the U.S. Interest Section.

• Persons traveling for the purposes related to exportation, importation or for participation in certain public performances or exhibitions.

• Amateur or semi-professional athletes traveling to participate in a meeting that do not meet the requirements of the relevant general license.

• Persons traveling for professional research or to attend a professional meeting.

• Persons traveling for free-lance journalism.

• Persons traveling for certain humanitarian projects.

• Persons traveling for religious activities.

• Persons traveling for certain clearly defined educational activities, including: participation in a structured educational program that includes at least 10 weeks in Cuba; independent research for a degree program to promote people-to-people contact. Its members travel under this license and must have a copy of the license in their possession at all times while traveling to and from Cuba.

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For your program, you will be traveling under a Specific License. York Public Media has been granted a Specific License for educational exchanges between Cuba and the U.S. Further, air arrangements and arrangements for air carriers (CSTs) that provide charter services for authorized individuals may legally travel from the United States to Cuba. There are specially licensed Service Provider and is authorized to make all travel arrangements to and from Cuba, as well as travel arrangements within Cuba for individuals who possess a valid Specific License, either by an individual or institution.

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