CUBA
The Art & Culture of Havana

February 14 to 21, 2015
Dear Penn Alumni and Friends,

Cuba, though only 90 miles from the United States, remains a mystery to most Americans. Now, by popular demand, Penn alumni can get an insider’s view of this enigmatic country on a unique itinerary that includes the lesser-visited province of Pinar del Río.

Next February, join Sharon Ravitch, Senior Lecturer at Penn’s Graduate School of Education, on our new people-to-people program, *The Art & Culture of Havana*. Immerse yourself in Cuba’s rich history and traditions as you connect with Cubans of diverse backgrounds, from diplomats and museum directors to artists, students, and musicians.

Spend seven nights in Havana at the graceful Hotel Saratoga in the heart of the old city, which we will explore on a walking tour. Meet some of the country’s leading artists on visits to their studios and homes, and at an exclusive reception at the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts. Take a curatorial tour of the Cuban art collection at the National Museum of Fine Arts and enjoy a private, after-hours reception at the Ceramics Museum. Chat with the president of the Jewish Community Center before continuing to the Abdala Recording Studios, a world-class music studio founded by one of Cuba’s most famous composers.

Travel west to spend a day in Cuba’s lush Pinar del Río province, known for its plantations of tobacco and other crops. With the director, discover the vast orchid farm run by the University of Pinar del Río, and take a nature walk through the Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve.

Specially arranged performances of music and dance will enhance your visit, as will lectures on Cuban architecture and contemporary politics. There will also be opportunities to dine in *paladares*—privately owned restaurants often located in the homes of the owners.

I hope you will join us on this educational adventure in Cuba.

With warm regards from Penn,

Emilie C. K. LaRosa
Assistant Director,
Alumni Education & Alumni Travel
February 14    MIAMI / HAVANA
Saturday
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 Saratoga for lunch and check-in. Later in the afternoon attend an introductory lecture by Professor Sharon Ravitch. The welcome dinner this evening is at a lively, local restaurant.

February 15    HAVANA
Sunday
Join an architectural historian for a morning lecture followed by a walking tour of Old Havana, focusing on the four main squares: the 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. Dinner is at leisure and you may wish to dine at a paladar, a privately owned restaurant often located in the owner’s home.

February 16    HAVANA
Monday
Attend a lecture on Cuba’s current realities by a former ambassador and deputy minister of foreign affairs. Then drive to the hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula to visit Finca La Vigía, the house where Ernest Hemingway lived for 20 years. View the rooms of the house through open windows and see his fishing boat, the Pilar. Lunch will be at a paladar. Later an after-hours visit to the Museum of Ceramics will be hosted by its director, including a cocktail reception and a private classical guitar recital. Dinner is at a local restaurant.
February 17
HAVANA
Tuesday
Begin the day at an informal morning rehearsal of the Contemporary Dance Company of Cuba at the Teatro Nacional, located adjacent to the Plaza de la Revolución. There will be time for lunch at leisure before a visit to the University of Havana to learn about higher education in Cuba. In the early evening, attend Professor Ravitch’s second lecture. Then drive to the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts for a presentation on Cuban art and a chance to discuss the arts and other aspects of contemporary life with invited local guests. The Foundation President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace.

February 18
HAVANA
Wednesday
Spend the day in the lush Pinar del Río province, filled with plantations of tobacco, sugar cane, bananas, and other crops. In Soroa, take a director-led tour of the impressive orchid farm run by the University of Pinar del Río. Then spot birds and plants unique to the area on a hike through Las Terrazas, an eco-village within the Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve. Learn about this sustainable community’s conservation practices before visiting a colonial coffee plantation for lunch. Return to Havana, where dinner and the evening are at leisure.

February 19
HAVANA
Thursday
This morning visit the Jewish Community Center for a briefing by its president, Adela Dworin. Following lunch, an afternoon visit to the Abdala Recording Studios has been arranged. Founded in 1998 by renowned Cuban musician Silvio Rodriguez, a member of La Nueva Trova Movement, the studios are considered state of the art. Dinner is at a local restaurant.

February 20
HAVANA
Friday
A morning visit with specialists from the Cuban National Center for Sex Education has been arranged, followed by a curatorial tour of the Cuban art collection of the Museum of Fine Arts. Lunch is at leisure. In the late afternoon, attend a private concert at the Church of San Francisco de Paula, with an opportunity to chat with the performers, followed by our farewell dinner.

February 21
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, meals, and individual/group discussions. You are encouraged to actively engage these individuals in conversation. Interpreters are always available on request.
PROGRAM RATE $5,295 per person, double occupancy
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT $595 (very limited availability)

Rate Includes
- Round-trip flight Miami / Havana / Miami via regularly scheduled charter flight
- Seven nights hotel accommodation, as per the itinerary
- Buffet breakfast daily, five lunches, and five dinners. Bottled water, local beer, soft drinks, and coffee / tea with all meals; local wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Escorted sightseeing via private motorcoach per itinerary, including services of bi-lingual national guide
- Airport / hotel / airport group transfers
- 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)
- Pre-departure material, including reading list and luggage tags

Not Included in Rate  Airfare between home city and Miami; passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than beer and local wine at welcome and farewell dinners; personal items and expenses; trip cancellation insurance; excess baggage; and any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

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 city 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  $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. Penn Alumni Travel (PAT) will send an insurance application upon receipt of reservation and deposit, although you may select your insurer of your choice.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS  The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the PAT 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 PAT 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, PAT, 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 aircraft, 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 PAT 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 PAT. 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 PAT 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 action is determined by AAA or PAT 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 made 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; PAT shall have no liability for refunds. At the time AAA receives written notification of cancellation, the following cancellation charges will apply: cancellations received between 120 and 91 days prior to departure, 20 percent of the program cost per person; those 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 PAT 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 PAT, 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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Academic Arrangements Abroad

On the cover: Entertainers outside of Catedral de la Habana
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 (CSTs) 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. Penn Alumni Travel have 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
RESERVATION APPLICATION | FEBRUARY 14 TO 21, 2015

To reserve a place, 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-2014-309390-1.

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

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