

fundación

amistad

annual report 2002-2003



mission statement

The mission of Fundación Amistad is to promote mutual understanding and respect between the peoples of the United States and Cuba. It advances this mission by sponsoring and organizing academic study programs, research projects and community outreach initiatives in the arts, cultural heritage and the environment. Fundación Amistad performs this unique work on a collaborative basis with a variety of cultural, academic and non-governmental institutions in the U.S. and Cuba, and within the appropriate travel and operating regulations of both countries.

history

Since its founding in 1997, Fundación Amistad has been led by Mariá de Lourdes “Luly” Duke. Through its work, Fundación Amistad has made many important inroads that have resulted in valuable professional collaborations and an increased awareness of that which makes the U.S. and Cuba unique. Fundación Amistad has earned recognition from UNICEF and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

As it looks toward the future, Fundación Amistad is confident that its programs will continue to make a positive impact on the lives of men, women and children in the U.S. and Cuba.

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TRIOLET

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president and founder's letter

Dear Friends,

This has been a year of significant progress for Fundación Amistad. We have taken active steps to strengthen our capacity to manage a growing portfolio of programs. One such step has consisted in bringing Matt Sholler on board as Fundación Amistad's Administrative Director. Matt has made strong contributions to the evolution of our organization in the areas of information technology, accounting, human resources, communications, and grants management. Fundación Amistad's financial growth has also been remarkable, with an operating budget that has increased from \$20,000 six years ago to more than \$700,000 today.



One of the programs that best exemplify our unique work in Cuba is the participation of 14 Robertson Scholars in a cross-cultural exchange and summer internship program. These U.S. students, recognized for their leadership and interest in civic affairs, are young ambassadors of good will to the island. The most positive aspect of this program was the value the students demonstrated as interns (a new concept in Cuba) at non-governmental organizations such as Casa de las Americas and La Colmenita Children's Theater.

I am proud of Fundación Amistad's continued success in transcending barriers with innovative, serious-minded programs that benefit the peoples of the U.S. and Cuba. These special initiatives not only bring our countries closer together, but also reflect the values of intellectual curiosity and cultural appreciation that we know and uphold in the United States. Looking to the future, Fundación Amistad's goal is to continue its leadership in Cuban cultural programming as well as support capacity-building efforts for Cuban cultural institutions. In keeping with our mission, the partnership of similar U.S.-based institutions, private foundations and community-based organizations forms an invaluable part of this long-term effort. In addition to Americans of all backgrounds, I encourage my fellow Cuban-Americans to be actively involved in preserving the cultural heritage of Cuba, which forms an enduring and essential part of the circle of our lives.

I am deeply grateful to all of you for your abiding interest and for your ongoing support for Fundación Amistad. Special thanks go to Cristina Eguizábal of the Ford Foundation and to Conn Nugent of the J. M. Kaplan Fund for their guidance and support. We look forward to continue sharing our future successes with you as valued members of our community.

Warmest and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luly Duke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Luly Duke

President and Founder

administrative director's letter

Dear Friends,

It is a unique pleasure to introduce myself to you as Fundación Amistad's Administrative Director. In my experience working in government, market and non-profit sectors in Latin America and the U.S., I have never come across an organization whose mission is as compelling, as well positioned, or as sorely needed to promote understanding between the peoples of two special countries. I am grateful to Luly Duke and our Board of Directors for investing their confidence in me as we move together to make Fundación Amistad even stronger during this exciting period of our growth.



We have been working hard to improve our operations in a number of critical areas. From an information technology perspective, we have strengthened our wireless office network with the addition of new Macintosh computers and the designation of a central server complete with a FireWire back-up for our electronic files. Several on-site staff training workshops have been organized to improve skills in database management and use of the Mac OS X operating system.

We have also strengthened our financial procedures. We recently acquired a new QuickBooks application designed especially for not-for-profit organizations. This software will allow Fundación Amistad to track its project and administrative costs in a much more sophisticated manner. This also makes the allocation of our operating resources more efficient as our annual budget continues its impressive growth for the last six years. In addition, recently we successfully completed our first audit as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

From a human resources perspective, in addition to myself, Esther Fajo has joined Fundación Amistad to provide critically needed support in managing our new New York office. We have also instituted a six-month performance evaluation process that allows us to set more specific targets for our individual work objectives as they contribute to the achievement of our broader goals as an organization. This evaluation also offers Fundación Amistad an opportunity to explore ways of helping staff achieve their own goals for professional development.

In the year ahead, we will also be fine-tuning our long-term focus in ways that make Fundación Amistad even more effective in advancing our mission in the areas of arts and cultural heritage, sustainable development, and academic study abroad. This extended process involves a careful evaluation of our activities, with feedback from our institutional partners and program participants. It will also incorporate consideration of program areas where Fundación Amistad can continue adding the most consistent value while exploring ways to increase our self-sufficiency as an organization.

We extend our sincerest thanks to those of you who have provided material and moral support for Fundación Amistad since our founding. This support is critical to the success of Fundación Amistad's unique mission and we encourage you to continue forming an active part of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Sholler". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

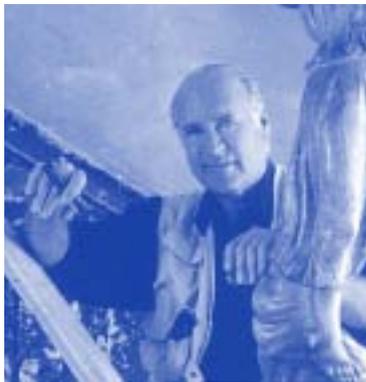
Matt Sholler
Administrative Director

fundación amistad update

FUNDACIÓN AMISTAD SECOND ANNUAL BENEFIT LUNCHEON

November 20, 2003

Fundación Amistad's Second Annual Benefit Luncheon will take place on November 20, 2003 at the Waldorf=Astoria. Luncheon Chairs Luly Duke, Olga Duke, Olga Garay, Marlene Hess, Manuel Gonzalez, Lee McCallum and David Perez have organized a luncheon that will include a silent auction and lectures by Michaela Kerrissey, a Robertson Scholar from Duke University, on her experience in Cuba; and Dr. Michael Connors on his current research on Cuban furniture forms and decorative arts.



Michael Connors, Ph. D., Caribbean decorative arts scholar and Fundación Amistad Board Member

The Luncheon will also feature Fundación Amistad's first Award for Contribution to Cross-Cultural Understanding, which is given to a person whose accomplishments mirror Fundación Amistad's mission to foster understanding between Cubans and Americans.

NILO CRUZ

Recipient of Fundación Amistad's Award for Contribution to Cross-Cultural Understanding

Nilo Cruz, the winner of the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for his play, *Anna in the Tropics*, is the first recipient of Fundación Amistad's Award for Contribution to Cross-Cultural Understanding. Mr. Cruz is the first Hispanic to win the prestigious playwriting award and Fundación wishes to acknowledge his laudable achievements and recognize his contribution to Cuban culture and heritage. *Anna in the*

Tropics has also won 2003 American Theatre Critics/Steinberg New Play award.

Anna in the Tropics is a play set in Ybor City, (Tampa), Florida in 1930. The romantic drama deals with a family of cigar makers whose

loves and lives are played out against the backdrop of America in the midst of the Depression while the main character entertains and informs fellow factory workers with readings from Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*.

Nilo Cruz was born in Cuba and lives in New York. He has written several plays including, *Two Sisters and a Piano*, *A Park in Our House*, *Night Train to Bolina*, *A Bicycle Country*, *Dancing on her Knees*, *The Museum of Dreams* and *Beauty of the Father*. The New York Public Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, McCarter Theatre, South Coast Repertory, Oregon Shakespeare, Florida Stage, The Alliance, The Studio Theatre, New Theatre, Coconut Grove Playhouse and the Children's Theatre of Minneapolis have all developed or produced Nilo Cruz's work. He has received two TCG residency grants, the Alton Jones Award, AT&T Award, Barrie Stavis Award, and his play *Two Sisters and a Piano* received the Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays. He was granted the John Lippman award to travel to Spain, where he wrote *Lorca in a Green Dress*. An alumnus of New Dramatists, Cruz has taught playwriting at Brown University and the Yale School of Drama. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild. Mr. Cruz's new play, *Beauty of the Father*, receives its world premiere at Miami's New Theatre in January.



Nilo Cruz, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright

MATTHEW SHOLLER

New Administrative Director

Matt brings to Fundación Amistad broad, interdisciplinary project experience in Latin America, the U.S. and Europe, as well as a deep-seated appreciation for Hispanic arts, language and culture. Much of his past work has dealt with local and regional planning and development policy. He has provided services in watershed management, transportation systems planning and community participation to the Barcelona Development Authority, the Highway Concessions Control Administration of Argentina, and the Chicago Transit Authority. Matt is also a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, having served as coordinator of a Bolivian pilot program for decentralized water resources management and municipal development.

His interest in Cuban issues and culture stems from a seminal experience he had while participating in a community service-learning program with refugees in Miami as an undergraduate. Matt finds the mission of Fundación Amistad uniquely compelling because “it relies on a serious-minded model of peer-to-peer exchange in a number of professions that provide our U.S. and Cuban participants with powerful, unifying insights on what it means to live and work in each country. My own development as a person and as a professional has benefited tremendously from similar *encuentros*.” He adds that “this is an exciting time of institutional growth for Fundación Amistad and I am very happy to help facilitate this process.”

Matt holds a master’s degree in Urban Policy and Planning from MIT with an emphasis on International Development and Regional Planning, and a bachelor’s degree in Spanish Literature from the University of Michigan.

NELSON VALDÉS AND FUNDACIÓN AMISTAD’S JOINT CUBA PROJECT AT DUKE UNIVERSITY

Nelson Valdés, Ph.D. has been appointed Director of the Joint Cuba Project at Duke University. Dr. Valdés, a Cuban-American, also teaches at the University of New Mexico. He has been published in numerous books, journals, and monographs. He has been a featured lecturer on Cuban sociology at universities here in the United States, Cuba and other countries.

Dr. Valdés is also a Visiting Professor in the Sociology Department at Duke and has organized a Fuqua Business School exchange in Cuba for the spring of 2004. Dr. Valdés also has considerable project management and administrative experience in the academic and non-governmental sectors. Fundación Amistad is very fortunate to count Dr. Valdés as a colleague in advancing its mission and reaching out to the academic community.



Nelson Valdés, Ph. D.



ESTHER FAJO

*New Administrative Associate
and New York Office Manager*

Esther, a Cuban-American, has more than ten years of administrative support and operations oversight experience for domestic and international projects in the health services and financial sectors. Esther's record in these areas is a true asset to the continued organization of Fundación Amistad's new headquarters in New York City. Her identity as a Cuban-American also strengthens the deep, personal commitment that all of Fundación Amistad's staff members bring to its mission. Esther holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Bernard Baruch College.



NEW HEADQUARTERS

Fundación Amistad's Headquarters have relocated from East Hampton, New York to New York City. Our new offices are located at:

845 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10022-6601
Telephone: 212-207-4674
Fax: 212-207-8257



SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Fundación Amistad welcomes undergraduates to submit their resume for an opportunity to work as a summer intern at Fundación Amistad's New York City office. Academic credit may be possible pending arrangement with one's university or college.

FUNDACIÓN AMISTAD NEWSLETTER

Fundación Amistad now has a quarterly newsletter that gives updates of our activities and listing for upcoming musical, artistic, cultural and other events. The first newsletter issued in August 2003 was compiled and written by Natalia Duke, a 2003 Summer Intern and past participant of the Fundación Amistad's 2002 Duke University Summer Study Abroad Program.

The newsletter is available at a yearly subscription rate of \$10, which also entitles the subscriber to a Fundación Amistad membership. Please contact info@fundacionamistad.org for more information.

OCTOBER 9, 2002 FIRST ANNUAL BENEFIT LUNCHEON

On October 9, 2002, Fundación Amistad held its First Annual Benefit Luncheon at the Waldorf=Astoria in New York City. The event was a success in which Fundación's goal of raising \$150,000 was not only met but was surpassed for a grand total of \$160,000 raised.

The luncheon also included a silent auction and a featured lecture on Cuban art by Fundación Board of Directors member, Manuel Gonzalez.

Fundación Amistad would like to thank all who attended and contributed their support, especially Marlene Hess, Ann LeConey, Lee McCallum, Manuel Gonzalez, and Olga Garay.

community and cultural outreach programs

FLORIDA NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CUBA

The Summit was coordinated by the World Policy Institute's Cuba Education Project in collaboration with a consortium of Cuban American groups -- Fundación Amistad, Puentes Cubanos, Cuban Committee for Democracy, the Time is Now Coalition and Cambio Cubano, and Americans For Humanitarian Trade With Cuba (AHTC).



Luly Duke moderates the summit panel, "The Human Dimensions of U.S. policy toward Cuba: Costs and Opportunities"

The Florida National Summit is the second National Summit on Cuba – a concept formulated by the World Policy Institute Cuba Education Project to publicly raise a national debate on how U.S.-Cuba policy affects U.S. national interests, the interests of the Cuban people, the harmonization of the divided Cuban family and the international community. Summit panelists comprised a wide variety of Cuban American, human rights, academic, corporate, community and governmental leaders from the state of Florida, the United States, and the international community.

Fundación Amistad was particularly pleased to include the participation of three panelists recognized for their work in cultural policy, sustainable development and foreign affairs. James Early is Director of Cultural Heritage Policy at the Smithsonian Institute and has considerable experience working on cultural

policy issues in Cuba and other countries. Ken Lindeman is Senior Scientist of Caribbean Programs at Environmental Defense and focuses his research on marine ecosystems management in the Florida Straits. Bill Rogers is former Under Secretary of State for International Economic Affairs and has a distinguished record of government service in Latin American affairs. The day culminated with a dinner and a discussion of historic perspectives on U.S. policy toward Cuba by former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (UNDP) AND FUNDACIÓN AMISTAD

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Cuba and Fundación Amistad have a working relationship in which Fundación Amistad serves as the coordinating U.S. non-governmental organization (NGO) for the development and facilitation of future collaborative projects. This relationship first took shape with Fundación Amistad's Hurricane Michele Relief program, in which 3000 lbs. of medical supplies donated by the Duke University Medical Center were forwarded and shipped to Cuba. Once in Cuba, the supplies were distributed by the UNDP.

Collaborative projects between Fundación Amistad and United Nations Development Program center on the UNDP's sustainable community development programming in Cuba and to date have included projects dealing with following issues:

- ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SERIES - a series of international conferences held in Cuba that address the management and conservation of Cuba's natural resources. In November 2003, Luly Duke and members of the international scientific and cultural community attended the "Workshop for Sustainable Development of Coastal Ecosystems" in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba, which

focused primarily on the ecosystem of “Jardines de La Reina” National Park, an area of great environmental beauty and biodiversity.

- **MEDICAL COLLABORATIONS** – Fundación Amistad has had great success in the area of forwarding donated medical supplies and equipment and in coordinating the introduction of medical professionals who share common research goals and interests. Upcoming initiatives in this area include two projects: (a) solidifying partnerships with U.S. universities like the University of Virginia and Duke University Medical Center,

hospitals, medical centers, and non-governmental institutions to create a reliable and efficient infrastructure for the donation and forwarding of medical supplies and equipment; and (b) working with the University of Illinois and the Cuban Neuroscience Center to coordinate the donation of high-field MRI systems to Cuban Neurology centers. This equipment is vital to the various programs throughout Cuba that seek to diagnose and improve the lives of Cubans with mental disabilities and impairment.



Luly Duke (middle) surveys historic preservation and housing improvement efforts on Calle Cárdenas with Rafael Rojas, Havana preservationist, and Celene Valcárcel, Fundación Amistad colleague.

arts and cultural programs

MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF THE CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE

Fundación Amistad Board member James Early participated in the annual academic and scholarly conference of the Museum Association of the Caribbean (MAC), entitled "Museums and Cultural Identity: Bridging the Gap" and held in Havana in October 2002. This conference has been an important step in creating understanding and cooperation between museums and cultural heritage professionals in Cuba and throughout the entire Caribbean. It is of mutual benefit to Cuba, MAC, and the entire Caribbean region.

Fundación Amistad worked with the leadership of many of Cuba's museums to facilitate their participation in the MAC conference as presenters of Cuba's rich material and cultural

heritage. This was an important opportunity for the development of Cuba's museums, as many of the museums became members of the Association for the first time, and they now enjoy the benefits and exposure that such a membership brings.

DECEMBER 2002 – TAJ MAHAL AT THE HAVANA INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Hosted by the Instituto de la Musica and world renowned musician Chucho Valdés, the Havana 20th International Jazz Festival took place in December 2002. Fundación Amistad facilitated the participation of the prominent blues singer/multi-instrumentalist, Taj Mahal, and members of his band to perform in the festival. The festival organizes various "jam sessions", workshops and performances throughout Havana which bring Cuban musicians together with other musicians from around the world. It is also a successful example of how music and cultural expression can bridge the gap in understanding between the peoples of Cuba and the United States.

WORLD DANCE ARTS FOUNDATION

Fundación Amistad organized an educational exchange for 30 members of the World Dance Arts Foundation to go to Havana. Among the activities scheduled was a dance competition in which Cubans were invited to participate. The major interest in the trip was to learn about the evolution of Cuban dance and music at the Instituto de Musica. Dr. Carreras, the head historian at the University of Havana and extremely knowledgeable about Cuban culture, accompanied the group and gave a variety of lectures.



From Left to Right: Manuel Mendive, Cuban National Fine Arts authority and contemporary artist; James Early, Director of Cultural Heritage Policy at the Smithsonian Institution and member, Fundación Amistad Board of Directors; Martha Rojas, journalist and novelist; Nancy Morejón, National Literary Awardee, poet, literary critic and Director of Caribbean Studies at *Casa de las Americas*; Juan Delgado, artistic manager for Manuel Mendive

Photo: Gregg Wilson Photo, Central Washington University Resource Management.

CUBAN MUSICAL DOCUMENTARIES AT LINCOLN CENTER

In September 2003, Fundación Amistad sponsored a special segment titled We Are the Music: Cuban Musical Documentaries at the Film Society of Lincoln Center's LatinBeat 2003:

Recent Films from Latin America.

This ground-breaking sidebar presented three feature-length compilations of classic, archival Cuban music films, many of which had their U.S. debut at the festival and have been rarely seen outside of Cuba.

Spearheaded by award-winning Cuban director Rogelio Paris and his film *Nosotros La Musica*, the series was screened at the Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center.

Spanning more than 30 years (1961-1991), the documentaries include glorious footage that follows the lives of some of Cuba's most beloved and greatest musicians (including Beny Moré, Bola de Nieve, Rita Montaner), Cuba's unique and diverse musical styles, and post-revolution outdoor ballroom

dancing. Fundación Amistad worked closely with the Cuban Film Institute (ICAIC) and Rogelio Paris in order to bring these films to the United States.

LITERARY EXCHANGE PROGRAM – A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE PLIMPTON

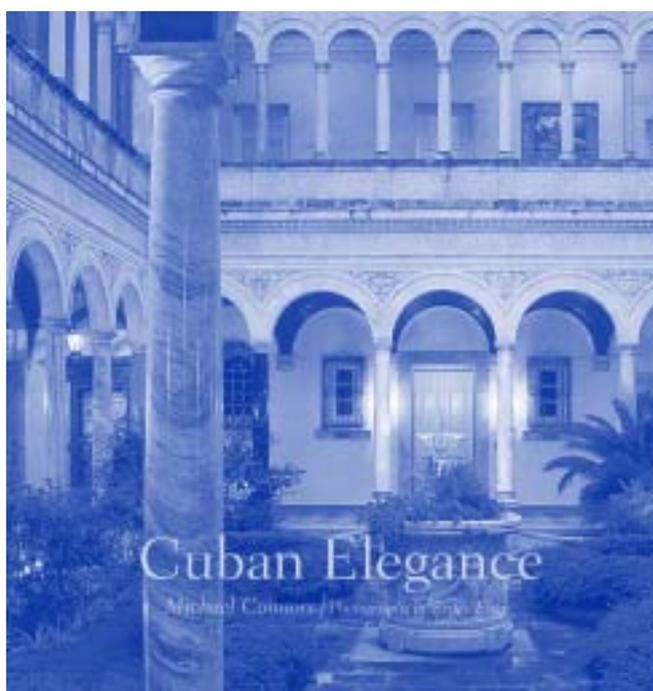
In September 2003 Fundación Amistad honored the late George Plimpton by continuing its literary exchange in Cuba dealing with the writings of Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Zelda Fitzgerald. Mr. Plimpton was to have participated in the week-long cultural exchange program which included lectures and tours. With the collaboration of contemporary Cuban writers, actors and scholars, a performance was held of *Zelda, Scott and Ernest*, a dramatic dialogue co-written by Mr. Plimpton and Terry Quinn that captures the dynamics of these three fascinating individuals. In keeping with Fundación Amistad's mission to foster understanding between peers from the U.S and Cuba, the cast was made up of Cuban, Cuban-American and U.S. actors. Maria Pessino, a Cuban-American producer, director and actress, provided critical support for the performance by continuing Mr. Plimpton's direction. The performances were followed by a panel discussion at Vigia, Ernest Hemingway's historic home.



Maria Pessino, Manolo Garrida, and Matt Sholler perform "Zelda, Scott and Ernest" in honor of the late George Plimpton.

CUBAN ELEGANCE BY MICHAEL CONNORS, PH.D.

Cuban Elegance is the forthcoming publication by Dr. Michael Connors who is a member of Fundación Amistad's Board of Directors and a widely published Caribbean decorative arts scholar. Dr. Connors conducted extensive research throughout Cuba on the development and style of Cuban colonial furniture and



interiors. Documented and photographed by Bruce Buck, Cuban Elegance provides a different view of the island from the one seen by most visitors and offers a window into the Cuba's heritage and past during the colonial period, which continues to influence Cuban taste, design, and cultural life on a more modest scale to this day.

UPCOMING: PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM

Fundación Amistad has identified the following Cuban groups for cultural performances and exchanges to be held in the Northeastern region of the United States. The purpose of these performances is to not only to bring contemporary Cuban culture to an audience in the United States but also to strengthen ties and awareness between the diverse Hispanic cultures found within the United State. Possible venues include Museo del Barrio (New York), the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (Newark), the Berkeley School of Music (Boston), and Harvard University's Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (Cambridge).

- **LA COLMENITA CHILDREN'S THEATER:** La Colmenita is an extraordinary Cuban dance group composed of children. The troupe has performed internationally in places such as Germany, Zimbabwe, the United States, Denmark, Singapore, England, Ireland, Canada, Austria and many more countries.

- **DANZA ABIERTA:** Danza Abierta creates contemporary art between theater, dance, and surreal images under the artistic direction of Marianela Boan. The dance troupe shows an integration of Cuban music and elements of irony.

This troupe of dancers has performed in more than 20 countries in all continents of the world. One reviewer in Germany describes their performance as "unforgettable moments in experiencing, through the troupe's rich dance techniques, the many conflicts of being human." Boan has received accolades for her unique choreograph and interpretive dance.

- **NARCISO MEDINA:** The Narciso Medina Company of Dance is widely recognized as one of Cuba's premier dance troupes. The New York Times dance critic Suki John calls Medina "a major talent as both a dancer and

a choreographer.” Narciso Medina’s dance troupe has performed in France, the United States, Switzerland, Japan, Spain, Peru and the Caribbean, where it received rave reviews from both critics and the public. The troupe has received numerous awards for its innovative choreography and interpretative dance. Medina not only performs but also gives workshops in salsa, mambo and cha cha cha in the Company’s new theater space in Central Havana for beginners and advanced dancers.

- **CARLOS VARELA:** Carlos Varela sings about the reality of Cuban youth with its “defects and virtues.” Varela created his own mark within the Cuban cultural panorama during the 80’s. His music is part of the “Nueva Trova”. Varela is an important representative of the latest Cuban Trova. His music reflects this movement and his lyrics are full of social content and messages.

Varela has performed in Spain, Mexico, and Venezuela. Colombia, Chile, Sweden, Denmark and the United States.



Photos on this page: (above right) Fruit vendor in Santiago, (above) Carriage in Old Havana. Photos by Bruce Buck.

skill building programs

MEDIA PRESERVATION AT CASA DE LAS AMERICAS

In December 2002, Steve Weiss, a Sound and Image Librarian from the University of North Carolina/Chapel Hill, went to Havana to report on the status of media preservation at Casa de las Americas. He concentrated in the area of magnetic tapes to determine future programs that Fundación Amistad should consider undertaking, and followed up with a comprehensive report on his findings and recommendations for future action.

In addition, Jan Paris, Library Conservator at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, consulted with staff members at Casa de las Americas as they move toward developing a conservation program for their paper-based library and archive materials. Ms. Paris identified and prioritized conservation activities called for as the collection moves into a new facility. Requirements were also considered for building and outfitting a conservation laboratory to address their needs in the new library.

SCHOOL OF THE BUILDING ARTS WORKSHOP AND EXCHANGE

The School of Building Arts (SoBA) is an organization founded in 1988 and located in Charleston, South Carolina that is dedicated to preserving and teaching the traditional building arts in the areas of carpentry, masonry, stone carving, ironwork, timber framing, and plaster work. In January 2003, nine craftsmen and preservationists from SoBA traveled to Cuba to work with the building arts school in Havana to exchange information of their programs and activities in order to assess possible future collaborations between the two institutions, its students, and craftspeople. The group spoke and met with various Cuban architects and architecture professors and students to learn about critical areas of need and building arts knowledge.



Michael Connors, Ph. D., Caribbean decorative arts scholar and Fundación Amistad board member helps Bayamo Museum director identify age of Cuban antique.

CONSERVATION OF EARLY LOUISIANA DOCUMENTS

The week of January 19-25, 2003, Walter Newmen, a Senior Paper Conservator from the Northeast Document Conservation Center, went to Havana to organize and supervise a joint project to conserve early Louisiana documents in the collections of the Museum of the City and the National Archives. The documents preserved are among the oldest and most historically significant in both institutions and relate directly to an important chapter of Cuban and American history. The documents suffered from extensive losses due to the acidic type of ink used, and some were literally in shreds. The project was successful and has had the enthusiastic support of the directors of both Cuban institutions.

ARCHIVAL AND MANAGEMENT COLLECTIONS WORKSHOP

Lauren Lassleben and William Roberts, archivists from the University of California at Berkeley, taught an Archival and Management Collections Workshop for 30 participants from the Office of the Historian and Casa de las Americas. The workshops were held on March 31 through April 4th 2003.

academic programs

JOINT CUBA PROGRAM AT DUKE UNIVERSITY

The Joint Cuba Program at Duke is an agreement between the University and Fundación Amistad with the goal of facilitating institutional linkages and collaborative research between Duke scholars and Cuban counterpart institutions and individuals. Fundación Amistad will work closely with and advise Duke faculty, students and staff on such collaborative enterprises, as well as encourage campus-based cultural and artistic events, academic exchanges and conferences on relevant topics concerning the island.

The Cuba Program is headed by Dr. Nelson Valdés of the Sociology Department at Duke, who teaches a class on Cuba, and is coordinating a number of projects with faculty and students at Duke including the upcoming study abroad program, a project with the Fuqua School of Business, and a Cuban film series.

During the Summer of 2003 Fundación Amistad organized a third study abroad program for undergraduates from Duke University and other colleges to complete a three-week short course and stay at Casa de las Americas on Cuban Culture and History

UPCOMING PROGRAM: SUMMER 2004

The Office of Study Abroad and the Department of Sociology of Duke University will offer a six-week, two-course program in Cuban society and culture during the summer of 2004. An opportunity to study in one of the hemisphere's most fascinating countries, the program will be based at the Casa de las Americas in Havana and will be directed by Nelson Valdés, of the Duke Department of Sociology and Director of Fundación Amistad's Joint Cuba Project at Duke.

This program will involve intensive study of Cuba and its people, including themes of religion, music, film, art, and literature. Field trips and site visits within Havana and excursions to other parts of the island will be part of the program. Students will learn about the present day economy and the role of exports, the political and electoral system, the role of mass organizations (youth, women), education from elementary to higher levels, the medical and social welfare systems (addressing issues of equality), and urban planning.

For the 2004 program, we also expect to arrange presentations by the cultural or political attachés from the embassies of Mexico and Canada as well as the staff from UNESCO and the United Nations Development Program.

ROBERTSON SCHOLARS

This history-making undergraduate scholarship program, created and funded by Julian and Josie Robertson, is comprised of outstanding students from both Duke University and UNC Chapel Hill. All of the scholars exhibit exceptional leadership potential, commitment to public service, and proven interest in the diversity of peoples and cultures both within the United States and beyond its borders.



Robertson Scholar Anna Dunn Hoffius works on a project with children from Pogolotti, a Havana neighborhood.



The 2003 Robertson Scholars of Duke University and the University of North Carolina.

During the summer of 2003, Fundación Amistad organized a six-week summer enrichment program in Cuba with various educational organizations, NGOs, and other community organizations. Using a unique

“Difference can serve to build rather than burn bridges”
Colleen Owen,
Robertson Scholars Program

“service learning” model, the Robertson Scholars worked together with Cuban professionals on projects in historic preservation, public health, performing arts, and youth development. The inaugural trip took place in July and August of 2003 and was a wonderful experience for the 14 students who traveled to Havana with a faculty member.

INTERLOCKEN CUBA PROGRAM

Fundación Amistad collaborated with Interlocken, the organization that has sponsored study abroad and community service programs since 1961, to develop an educational program for young adults. Interlocken’s mission is “to provide an educational community by building experiences that can open minds and foster personal growth, and cultivate a spirit of proactive change”.

Two groups traveled to Cuba. The first group focused on learning about Cuba's historical development. Relying on an

educational program provided by Casa de las Americas, the purpose of the exchange was to help the American participants understand and appreciate Cuba and the historical underpinnings of its culture. The second group consisted of 26 students and three group leaders who participated in an Environmental Exchange program. This group continually interacted with Cuban students throughout their three week stay. Typical of the activities was a four kilometer mountain hike in Sierra Rosario with Cuban children and reserve ecologists to observe flora and fauna biodiversity. Cuban youth led the hike and demonstrated their knowledge of indigenous birds and plant life and history of the biosphere. They also worked in an agricultural community with farmers. The group also did community service at the Instituto Pedagógico Manuel Ascunce Asunción.

special programs and research projects

Educational and professional exchanges are an outstanding way for Cuban and U.S. citizens to play a direct role in promoting understanding and the exchange of ideas and experiences between our two countries.

The experience of an exchange organized by Fundación Amistad goes beyond the valuable subject material of each encounter, leaving a lasting impression on our participants about what U.S. and Cuban citizens learn from each other.

Offered throughout the year, these serious-minded and discipline-specific programs are centered on topics in the arts, architecture, cultural heritage, sustainable development, community service and academic study abroad.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY AND APPRECIATION

Cuba has a rich architectural heritage spanning 500 years. UNESCO has declared the Old City of Havana a World Heritage Site, and the entire island of Cuba contains many of the

hemisphere's finest examples of Spanish colonial architecture. An architectural historian will accompany architectural professionals and students, and lecture on several topics of interest, through sites in Havana, Trinidad, Cienfuegos, and Camagüey.

ACADEMIC STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Fundación Amistad can organize and facilitate study abroad programs in Cuba. Depending on the needs of the group, study abroad programs can range from three weeks to an entire summer program. Courses are taught at Casa de las Americas in Havana, a 50-year-old cultural and educational institution. In the past, Fundación Amistad has arranged programs for Duke University, Antioch New England Graduate Center, Interlocken, Students of the World, and the Robertson Scholars Program.



corporate information

STAFF

Luly Duke

President and Founder

lduke@fundacionamistad.org

Mrs. Duke, a Cuban-American, is President and Founder of Fundación Amistad. Additionally, she serves as Executive Vice President of Boys and Girls Harbor, Inc., a multi-service educational organization for inner-city children in East Harlem, New York. Mrs. Duke serves on the Board of Directors for the Child Study Center at New York University, Americans for Humanitarian Trade with Cuba, and the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. Mrs. Duke has served as a member of

the Council on Foreign Relations Cuba Task Force and the International Rescue Committee Cuba Task Force. Mrs. Duke holds a degree in Art History from C.W. Post College, Long Island University.



Matthew Sholler

Administrative Director

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Matt brings to Fundación Amistad broad, interdisciplinary project experience in Latin America, the U.S. and Europe, as well as a deep-seated appreciation for Hispanic arts, language and culture. Much of his past work has dealt with local and regional planning and development policy. He has provided services in watershed management, transportation systems planning and community participation to the Barcelona Development Authority, the Highway Concessions Control Administration of Argentina, and the Chicago Transit Authority. Matt is also a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, having served as coordinator of a Bolivian pilot program for decentralized water resources

management and municipal development. Matt holds a master's degree in Urban Policy and Planning from MIT with an emphasis on International Development and Regional Planning, and a bachelor's degree in Spanish Literature from the University of Michigan



Nelson Valdés, Ph.D.

Director, Joint Cuba Project at Duke University
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Dr. Valdés, a Cuban-American, also teaches at the University of New Mexico. He has been published in numerous books, journals, and monographs. He has been a featured lecturer on Cuban sociology at universities here in the United States, Cuba and other countries.

Dr. Valdés is also a Visiting Professor in the Sociology Department at Duke and has

organized a Fuqua Business School exchange in Cuba for the spring of 2004. Dr. Valdés also has considerable project management and administrative experience in the academic and non-governmental sectors.



Mona Schreiber

Program Manager

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Ms. Schreiber is Program Manager at Fundación Amistad. She brings established experience in international projects coordination and diplomatic relations in Cuba, Brazil, Bolivia, Guatemala and Uganda. Ms. Schreiber was previously program coordinator for the Center



for Cuban Studies at Tulane University, a grants coordinator for the United States Agency for International Development, and a recruiter for the Peace Corps. Ms. Schreiber holds a bachelor's degree in English from Tulane University.

Esther Fajo

Administrative Associate
and New York Office Manager
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Ms. Fajo, a Cuban-American, is Administrative Associate and Office Manager at Fundación Amistad. She has more than ten years of administrative support and operations oversight experience for domestic and international projects in the health service and financial sectors. Ms. Fajo holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Bernard Baruch College.



Celene Valcárcel

Cuba Projects Director
and Florida Regional Outreach Liaison
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Ms. Valcárcel, a Cuban-American, is Cuba Project Director and Florida Regional Outreach Liaison at Fundación Amistad. She has considerable experience in community development and historic preservation initiatives in Havana, Cuba. She has designed, directed and coordinated several projects that improved the living conditions and vitality of Havana's historic center. Ms. Valcárcel has a bachelor's degree in Psychology with a specialization in education and child psychology, and a master's degree in Historical Areas Management and Community Planning.



Martha F. Reichert

Special Projects Coordinator
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Martha Reichert is Special Projects Coordinator at Fundación Amistad. As a member of Fundación Amistad's staff since 1999, Ms. Reichert has held a number of positions at Fundación Amistad, serving as administrative



coordinator to the organization and program manager. She has contributed to Fundación's various research projects and educational and cultural exchanges between Cuba and the United States. Martha traveled to Cuba with the Environmental Education Delegation in February of 2000 and led the Antioch New England Graduate Environmental Studies Program in 2001. Her volunteer activities include work with Saving Antiquities for Everyone (SAFE), Headstart, Habitat for Humanity, and various small community organizations working with the homeless. Ms. Reichert is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in Classical Archaeology and Art History from Hunter College.

Natalia Duke

Special Intern

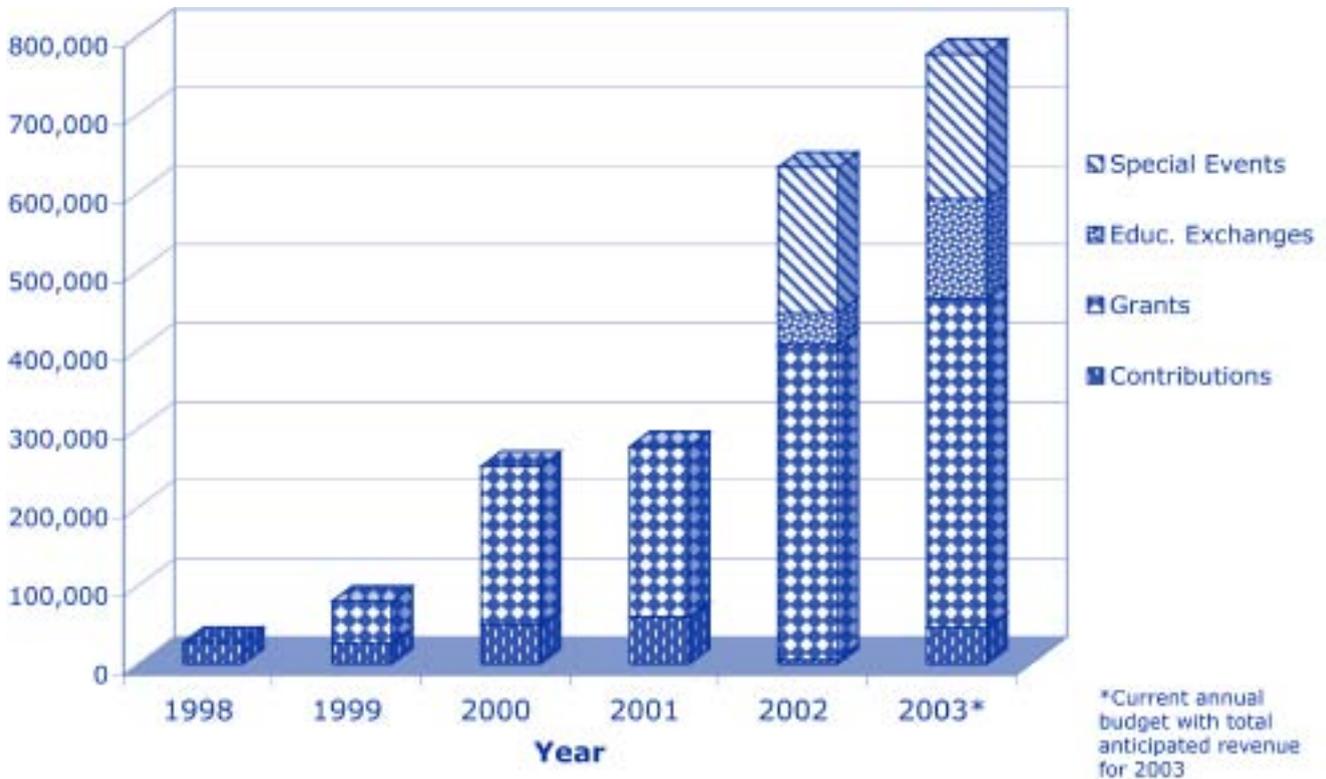
Christy Alcebo

Special Intern

financial information

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GROSS REVENUE BY CATEGORY, 1998-2003 (U.S. DOLLARS)



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and the Social Science Research Council (SSRC)

Cuba Working Group

The Arca Foundation

The Ford Foundation

The General Service Foundation

The JM Kaplan Fund

The Daniel K. Thorne Foundation

The West Wind Foundation

“For Casa de las Américas, our general public, and the invited guests that attended the reading of Zelda, Scott and Ernest... this act of cultural exchange, organized by Fundación Amistad, was a beautiful and gratifying experience of what can be achieved through the willingness to cooperate and the interest in having a dialogue with the culture of others.”

“With the enthusiasm and the devotion of an actress like María Pessino, as well as the dedication of Matt [Sholler] and Manolo Garriga – both who, despite the risks they took as emerging actors, went far beyond mere improvisation – we entered into George Plimpton and Terry Quinn’s vision of the intense relationship between the three outstanding U.S. writers Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald. This theatrical, human act contributes without a doubt to the enrichment of all of us who participated in some way in making this possible, allowing us to reflect on how much we can achieve in the future with this same spirit.”

Marcia Leiseca
Vice President,
Casa de las Americas





“I found my comfort in Cuba right in the residence where we lived for two months, next to Maria, and Milady and Chino, all helping me realize that a true learning experience really is a social matter to me – it is a people thing.”

Milouska Hoppenbrouwer
2003 Robertson Scholar in Cuba



“Even in more difficult conditions he [David, a Cuban physician] gave his patients confidence...confidence that he was listening and concerned for their well being, and confidence that he would do his best to help them. As one who is considering medical school, David’s way of relating to his patients could one day be very important for me. I have realized, however, whether or not I go to medical school, this type of compassion is an important part of close interpersonal relationships, and a trait that I hope to incorporate into my own personality.”

Tyler H. McCormick
2003 Robertson Scholar in Cuba

Photos above: (above right) Farmer in Viñales Country, (above) Colonial Balcony in Old Havana.
Photos by Bruce Buck.



Left: Robertson Scholar Rachel M. Heath works on a project with children from Pogolotti, a Havana neighborhood.

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