

# ARTCORPS

## REIMAGINING SOCIAL CHANGE



Please join us for a special 9-day, custom-designed learning journey - ***Culture and Arts for Social Change in Cuba*** - to take place in Havana, Cuba on February 11-19<sup>th</sup>, 2016! This is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to experience ArtCorps' unique arts-based approach to personal and social transformation while immersed in Cuban art, history and culture.

ArtCorps is partnering with Atruvistas, a socially responsible and philanthropic travel company that organizes customized tours for individuals, businesses, NGOs, foundations and institutions. We have worked closely with the founder of Altruvistas, Malia Everette, to design this special immersive experience. Malia has guided over 20,000 travelers to Cuba during the last 20 years and provides her extensive network of on-the-ground contacts, knowledgeable trip facilitators and proficient translators. It is an exciting time to travel to Cuba with the recent lifting of travel restrictions by the Obama Administration.

**This people-to-people learning journey will focus on Cuba's dynamic culture and arts scene through the lens of ArtCorps' framework and experiential methodology of individual empowerment, community development and systemic change.**

**You will have the opportunity to engage in your own art-making through different modalities (poetry, visual, theater, and storytelling) to reflect on and integrate the experience along the way as you explore and interact with the dynamic culture of Cuba.** Our time will be spent meeting with individual artists, visiting community art projects, and witnessing how art and culture are used to effect systemic change, develop positive solutions to community challenges and revitalize neighborhoods.

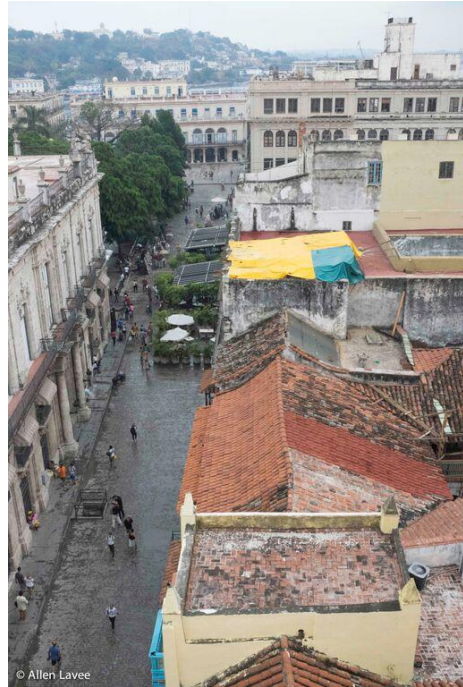


**ArtCorps: REIMAGINING SOCIAL CHANGE**  
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We will learn about the importance of the African diaspora to national identity, enjoy rich interactions with Cuban artists and learn how they apply the tools of painting, writing, architecture, photography, music, theater and dance to social change! Guided visits to key arts institutions and cultural centers will be featured, along with fun evening cultural activities such as salsa dance lessons, music concerts, cultural ceremonies and theater.

Along the way, we will engage in our own personal exploration and integrate our collective learnings through ArtCorps' methodology of creative activities, rich discussions and interactive exchanges.

**Space is limited to 24 people for this unique experience and we are offering an early bird discount if you register by September 30!**



The price of this tour is \$3,950 per person if you book on or before September 30 – a \$300 savings! If you book after September 30, the price is \$4,250 per person. Pricing includes double room accommodations in 3-4 star hotels, program activities, transportation, international airfare to-and-from Miami/Havana, a Cuban Tourist Visa, 2 meals and a liter of water daily, qualified trip leaders and guides, an honoraria to speakers, donations to NGO hosts, program fees and base tips for group meals.

One meal a day, extra beverages, individual tips (for hotel staff, driver and Cuban guide), personal expenses, optional evening activities, international departure taxes (25CUC) and round trip flights to Miami, FL are *not* included in the cost of this trip. Single rooms are available for an additional \$400.

If you'd like to learn more about this learning journey, please contact us! For questions related to the ArtCorps portion of the trip feel free to contact ArtCorps Education and Training Director, Aryeh Shell at [aryeh.shell@artcorp.org](mailto:aryeh.shell@artcorp.org). For questions related to logistics (hotel, flights, etc.) please contact Altruvistas Founder Malia Everette at [malia@altruvistas.com](mailto:malia@altruvistas.com). **You can also join us on an open Conference Call on July 25th at 10am PST to learn more and ask questions. Please RSVP to Aryeh Shell ([aryeh.shell@artcorp.org](mailto:aryeh.shell@artcorp.org)) and call in: 1-712-432-3022. When prompted, enter the Code: 905123#.**

Included you will find the itinerary and registration form. To reserve your space, please fill out the Altruvista registration form along with a \$500 deposit. You can pay by check to Altruvistas (attn.:Malia Everette at the address below) or you can pay \$515 through a credit card on Paypal. For this option, you can submit payment to [Malia@altruvistas.com](mailto:Malia@altruvistas.com) and mention ArtCorps in your notes.

After Malia receives your registration form and deposit, you will receive the following:

- Health/Liability form (required to fill out and return)
- Booking Terms and Conditions
- Code of Conduct
- What to Know about Cuba
- Orientation Packet (to help with logistical preparation)

**We hope to travel, learn and explore Cuban art and culture with you next year!**

Sincerely,

Clare Dowd  
Executive Director, ArtCorps  
[www.artcorp.org](http://www.artcorp.org)

Malia Everette  
Altruvistas Founder  
[www.altruvistas.com](http://www.altruvistas.com)





## CULTURE AND ARTS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN CUBA

February 11- 19, 2016

### \*Itinerary

#### **February 11 – ¡BIENVENIDOS A CUBA!**

**6:00 a.m.** Group check in at Miami International

**8:00a.m.** Departure from Miami International (exact time TBD)

**9:00 a.m.** Arrival at Jose Marti International Airport

**10:30 a.m.** Our day in Cuba begins with a **City Tour of Havana**. Our guided tour includes a brief history of the city's important sites with a focus on the diverse architecture of the city.

The tour takes us through Havana's oldest neighborhood to learn about the historic, architectural, and cultural significance of this area which was declared a World Heritage Site in 1982 by UNESCO. Explore the four main plazas of the 18th- century colony: **Plaza de Armas**, which originally housed the main administrative buildings of the colony; **Plaza Vieja**, the oldest of the plazas; **Plaza de la Cathedral**, site of the baroque cathedral of Havana, and **Plaza de San Francisco**, site of the basilica of San Francisco and the old Havana stock exchange. We will have a lunch at La Moneda de Cuba paladar in Old Havana.

**3:00p.m.** Check in to **Hotel** and enjoy an hour to relax

**5:00p.m.** **Art Corps Orientation** meeting with ArtCorps staff and program coordinators to go over general Cuba travel information and logistics, as well as an overview of the program. **ArtCorps Community Building Session** to connect with each other and our intentions for the journey.

**7:30 p.m.** Welcome dinner at **La Torre Restaurant** with an incredible view of the city.

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**Evening:** Free to rest or to enjoy jazz at the **Jazz Café** just a few steps away from our hotel.

## **February 12 -INDIVIDUAL EMPOWERMENT**

**9:00a.m. ArtCorps Integral Framework and Creative Activity** to explore our personal/social identities as a lens to view and understand our experience

**11:30 a.m. Briefing by Cuban architect Miguel Coyula** at the **Casa de las Tejas Verdes** to discuss the history and future of Havana. Learn about the historic development of the Capitol and about the Master Plan for Restoration of Old Havana through the salvaging of neglected buildings, tourism for restoration investment, and the accompanying social services for local residents. This will provide the rich context and foundation to understand the city in more depth.

**1:00p.m. Lunch at Santana Paladar.**

**3:00p.m.** We will have a briefing with the wonderful **Gloria Rolando** who will share her vision on **Cuban Arts and the Diaspora**. Gloria Rolando's career as film director spans over 35 years at ICAIC, the Cuban national film institute. She also heads an independent film-making group, Imágenes del Caribe. Meeting at UNEAC.

**4:30p.m.** Dinner and Conversation hosted by **Dr. Gisela Arandia** for a discussion of the role of “*Identity and Empowerment in Cuban Education and Culture.*” Gisela is an academic, researcher and is an author on issues of race and identity based out of the Cuban Union of Artists and Writers.

**8:00p.m.** Cultural option to enjoy live music at the **Casa de Musica.**

## **February 13**

**9:00a.m.** Visit and exchange with **PRODANZA Ballet Academy.**

**11:30a.m.** Enjoy a visit to **the Museo de Bella Artes** the Cuban Fine Arts Museum for an overview of Cuban contemporary arts and the artistic expression in Cuba.

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**1:00p.m.** Lunch at **San Cristobal Paladar**.

**2:00p.m.** Visit **Escuela Taller Gaspar Melchor de Jovellanos**, a community vocational arts program engaging youth.

**4:30p.m.** After we will enjoy a brief **City tour on bus of modern Havana**; the **Jose Marti Revolution Square** and other sites including **ISA, the Cuban Institute for Superior Arts** as we make it back to our hotel for rest.

**7:00p.m.** Dinner on your own.

**9:00p.m.** Cultural option to explore the the **Fabrica De Arte** which supports a vast array of Cuban cultural expressions.

## **February 14**

**10:00a.m. Visit Artist Studios.** Our day starts with an exchange with two Afro Cuban painters to discuss their arts and expression of identity (**Choco and Francisco Gordillo**). We will also have time to leisurely engage other local artisans.

**12:00p.m.** Lunch at **Paladar Victor** in Cathedral Square.

**2:00p.m.** Visit the **Ludwig Foundation**. Explore how this NGO supports contemporary Cuban artists and culture and the development of new technologies applied to the arts.

**4:00p.m. ArtCorps creative activity** to process learning and discoveries.

**7:00p.m.** We will enjoy dinner and a private performance with **Julio Valdez and Penta Jazz** at his home rooftop and dialogue with young musicians about how music is a tool for empowerment.

## **February 15 - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**9:30a.m. ArtCorps Framework Overview** and activity using Playback theater and Theater of the Oppressed to explore group identity and stories.

**11:30a.m. Coloreando Mi Barrio community project** that teaches children arts and painting. Meet and dialogue with community leaders who inspired this project.

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**1:00p.m.** Lunch at the **Atieler Paladar**.

**2:30p.m.** Site visit with **Playback Theater troupe**, an improvisational theater form that embodies community stories for social healing and transformation.

**4:00p.m.** We will have a stop at the **Fortaleza de San Carlos de la Cabaña**, known as La Cabaña (Fort of Saint Charles), is an 18th-century fortress complex, the biggest in the Americas, located on the elevated eastern side of the harbor entrance in Havana, Cuba. The fort rises above the 200-foot (60 m) hilltop, along with Morro Castle.

**7:00p.m.** Dinner on your own. Enjoy the wonderful cultural option of the **Opera del Calle** at the Teatro Arenal in Playa. This is a wonderful example of community arts, dance, music and production that is Cuban fusion as its best.

## **February 16**

**10:00a.m.** Visit to the **Galleria of Villa Manuela** of fine arts.

**11:30a.m.** Excursion with the **Muraleando Community Art Project**, a community-based art programs in Havana, inspired originally by local neighborhood artists who taught art “in the streets.” Outdoor murals and sculptures, depicting fanciful celebrations of Cuban life, were a natural outgrowth of these art classes. Meet with local artist and co-founder of the project, Manuel Díaz Baldrich Manolo. We will meet with other individual artists and have lunch with the community.

**2:30p.m.** Visit to the community arts project of the **Callejon de Hamel** and learn about the work of Salvador. This project is a vibrant contrast to Muralleando and celebrates Afrocuban religion and living culture in Cuba today.

**4:30p.m.** Home visit to meet with the **Cuban Photographer Roberto Salas** who will share his remarkable 50 year journey documenting the Cuban Revolution and social change.

**6:00p.m.** **ArtCorps creative activity** to process discoveries at hotel.

**8:00p.m.** Dinner on your own. Afterward you can enjoy walking in Old Havana or along the Malecon.

## **February 17 - SYSTEMIC CHANGE**

**9:00a.m. ArtCorps Systemic Change Session.** Today we will focus on social justice art. We will engage in a creative arts activity to develop critical analysis of local/global justice issues in Cuba.

**12:00p.m.** Lunch at the **Casa de Amistad** and short brief by an **ICAP (the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the People)** representative to discuss the impacts of the US Embargo on Cuban Arts over the past 50 years and the hope of normalization.

**2:30p.m.** Briefing and exchange with representative **CENESEX** to learn about reproductive rights and health in Cuba. Learn about LGBTQ issues as well as their Diversity is Natural campaign.

**4:30p.m.** Briefing by **Vivian Batista Ibáñez, the program director of NAJANDA** to learn about their cultural work with communities. Exchange with **Najanda Cuban Hip Hop Artists** and the community. Learn how young Cubans are using this genre for individual expression and social change.

**6:30p.m.** Dinner on your own. Cultural option at the **Casa de las Americas**. Learn about the work of this organization which for decades has been a physical and cultural refuge for artists and writers who had been persecuted in their homelands for their advocacy of social justice and opposition to military dictatorship.

## **February 18**

**10:00a.m.** Visit to Boyeros neighborhood to meet with Juan Puentes, director of a local art gallery located and Carmen Monteagudo of the **Center for Exchange and Reference on Community Initiatives (CIERIC)**, a Cuban NGO linked to UNEAC that supports arts-based community projects. They will share about Cuban Socialism and participatory planning and how it might mold the future of Cuba.

**12:00p.m.** Lunch and optional break time to soak up the sites and crafts at **Feria de San Jose** or visit to the **Museum of the Revolution**.

**2:30p.m.** *“Transforming Afro-Cuban Neighborhoods in Havana: A Movement for Social and Gender Equity in Community Development.”* **Briefing by Regla Barbón,**

**Director of the Atarés- Pilar Integral Neighborhood Transformation Workshop.**

For the past 23 years, this organization has used participatory planning techniques to develop local initiatives addressing structural and social issues identified by the community itself.

**4:00p.m. ArtCorps Final Session:** Engage in an art project together to process and integrate experiences and learnings.

**6:30p.m.** Farewell Dinner and special closing circle at **the Finca de Chuchitos** – Farm to Fork Project.

**February 19**

a.m.                      Breakfast and check out of hotel.  
                                 Check in for flight to Miami

*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE*