

# DOANE STUART SCHOOL IN CUBA: EXPLORING MUSIC, DANCE, AND THE VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS



**FEBRUARY 18–25, 2017**

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► **NEW YORK → HAVANA / Saturday, February 18, 2017**

- [Airline TBD] Flight # \_\_\_\_\_ departs New York JFK for Havana at \_\_\_\_\_.
- Arrive Havana's José Martí International Airport at \_\_\_\_\_, and transfer to [hotel TBD with link]
- At José Martí, outside Baggage Claim, [guide TBD] will extend a warm Cuban welcome.
- Group dinner and evening welcome/orientation at [restaurant TBD]
- Overnight at [hotel TBD]

► **CUBA IN CONTEXT: EXPLORING THE NATION'S HISTORY & RELATIONS WITH THE USA / Sunday, February 19, 2017**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Crash morning interactive course on the history of Cuba – and on US-Cuban relations – with a specialist academic from the **Center for the Hemispheric Study of the United States** at the University of Havana
- Lunch
- Afternoon walking tour of **Old Havana**, guided a tour of **Finca la Vigía**, Ernest Hemingway's former home & farm, now a museum dedicated to the American author's life & work in Cuba. This afternoon we will be accompanied by a renowned local photographer, who will make suggestions as to lighting, camera angles, and artistic license as we take

our own photos. Our photos will be the raw material for our first period of reflection, to be held back at the hotel in the evening.

- Period of rest at the hotel, to include time for reflections
- **San Carlos de la Cabaña** fort, with group dinner included – timed to enjoy historic cannon firing ceremony at 9:00 PM
- Overnight at [hotel TBD]

► **UNIVERSITY OF CUBAN ART & CENEART ARTS INSTITUTE / Monday, February 20, 2017**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Interactive dialogue at the **University of Cuban Art** with students, arts faculty, and practicing artists. We'll learn of the value that Cuba places on promoting music, dance, the visual arts, and the performing arts in school at all levels – and in daily life.
- Lunch w/ performance by a trio of professional female musicians
- Observe – and create – alongside students at **CENEART**, a prestigious local arts institute. (Key to our visit: We'll be requested to join in a music & dance performance for an invited local audience.)
- Brief period of rest at the hotel, to include reflections
- **Professional Cuban baseball game, w/ dinner at the ballpark!**
- Overnight at [hotel TBD]

► **SCHOOL INTERACTION & JOSÉ FUSTER'S FESTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD ART / Tuesday, February 21, 2017**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning visit to a **local Havana high school TBD**, to include interactive creative sessions with Cuban student peers and invited professional mentors from a variety of artistic traditions (e.g., musicians & songwriters, filmmakers, dancers, visual artists, digital artists & performing artists). Our time with Cuban peers constitutes a core experience of this trip.
- Visit the home of **José Fuster**. Sr. Fuster's home studio is filled with, and surrounded by, Cuban streetscape paintings, whimsical ceramic sculptures, Caribbean magical-realism, and so much more. Sr. Fuster has expanded his home art project to his entire Jaimanitas neighborhood, where he has painted houses, gates, and walls across many city blocks. It's festive, fantastic stuff – and we'll assist Sr. Fuster in his efforts to create new building art! (**Note:** This visit begins with a late lunch at Sr. Fuster's home.)
- Group dinner & reflections, then attend an evening performance of the **Ballet Nacional Folklórico de Cuba**, a prestigious Havana arts company that presents classical dances reflecting the traditional culture of Cuba.
- Overnight at the [hotel TBD]

► **THE IMPACT OF AFRO-CUBAN ART / Wednesday, February 22, 2017**

- Breakfast
- Dialogue at the **Casa de Africa museum**, where we'll address Africa's influence on Cuban music, dance, and visual art. Casa de Africa focuses on Cuba's complex historical ties with Africa, reflecting religion, art, and emancipation battles. Casa conducts workshops for youth – such as ours this morning! – and hosts theoretical events, art exhibits, and music & dance performances. We'll also take a guided tour of **Callejon de Hamel**, Havana's prime example of Afro-Cuban culture. Hamel boasts funky street murals, boutique art shops – and lively rumba music.
- **Lunch**
- Visit to the seaside **Centro Cultural Antiguos Almacenes de Deposito San José arts & crafts mall**

- Group dinner, w/ dance & music lessons courtesy the Afro-Cuban band Dulce Maria at **Yoruba Association of Cuba**
- Overnight at [hotel TBD]

► **INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP W/ MANUEL MENDIVE & HAVANA CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS / Thursday, February 23, 2017**

- Breakfast
- Depart Havana at 9:00 AM for San José de las Lajas
- Visit with **Manuel Mendive**, one of the leading [Afro-Cuban](#) artists to emerge from Cuba's revolutionary period. Sr. Mendive is considered by many to be the most important Cuban artist living today. Lunch is included in San José.
- Return to Havana at 2:00 PM
- At 3:00 PM, choice of a guided visit to either the **Museum of the Revolution** or the **Museum of Fine Art** – then visit the **Plaza de la Revolución** and **Colón Cemetery**
- Group dinner & reflections
- Overnight at [hotel TBD]

► **PINAR DEL RIO: SPECIAL ARTS PROGRAM FOR YOUTH WITH DOWN SYNDROME / Friday, February 24, 2017**

- Early breakfast at the hotel, then depart for Pinar del Rio
- Visit to the home of a professional local artist who has created a **life-enrichment program for youth with Down syndrome**. We will interact with this center's youth clients, and boost/assist their own artistic endeavors – a very special morning for us all.
- Transfer to **Cayo Jutias**, a lovely beach community 1 hour north of Pinar del Rio. (We will enjoy this day with lunch & refreshments at the sea & on the sand – and by browsing Oceanside stands, stalls, and shops. We'll also take a festive group lunch in this charming locale!)
- Return transfer to Havana
- Group dinner & final group reflections
- Overnight at [hotel TBD]

► **HAVANA → NEW YORK / Saturday, February 25, 2017**

- Breakfast, then early departure from the hotel for José Martí International Airport
- [Airline TBD] departs Havana at \_\_\_\_\_, and arrives in New York JFK at \_\_\_\_\_