



amistad

**Annual Report 2003-2004** 

Dedicated to fostering mutual understanding and appreciation between the peoples of the United States and Cuba



## Mission Statement

Fundación Amistad is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization founded in 1997 whose mission is to promote mutual understanding and appreciation between the people of the United States and Cuba. Fundación Amistad brings Cubans and Americans together in a powerful model of exchange through which they confront common technical challenges and celebrate each culture's unique qualities.

In pursuit of its mission, Fundación Amistad focuses on programs in the areas of cultural heritage, education, and humanitarian aid. Fundación Amistad's programming approach is linked to its wide, collaborative network of academic, cultural, non-governmental, and humanitarian institutions based in Cuba and the United States, as well as internationally.

In varying roles as project consultant, event sponsor, or program administrator, Fundación Amistad leverages its network to:

- bring professionals from both countries together to share knowledge and experience in preserving, documenting, and promoting cultural heritage in fields such as historic preservation, the decorative arts, and museum management
- introduce university faculty and students to Cuban culture, history and the Spanish language, as well as Cuban issues relevant to their areas of research
- nurture collaborative efforts among U.S. and Cuban individuals and organizations to provide direct humanitarian aid to Cuban communities

Fundación Amistad measures the success of its programs using several criteria, which include the extent to which a project:

- contributes to the preservation and promotion of Cuba's cultural heritage
- builds the capacity of participants to meet their own technical, academic and institutional needs
- disseminates information about project results to the public through publications, exhibitions, etc.
- strengthens the role of participants as active contributors to the development of their local communities and home institutions
- increases mutual appreciation and respect among participants with regard to the society, history, and cultures of the United States and Cuba

Fundación Amistad possesses a recognized ability and established record of success in project management, including aspects of design, implementation, facilitation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation. It performs its work within the appropriate travel and operating regulations of both the U.S. and Cuba.

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## Founder and President's Letter

### Dear Friends,

In this time of uncertainty in the world, Fundación Amistad remains committed to strengthening the relationship between the peoples of Cuba and the United States. We deeply appreciate the support and guidance of our friends and funders, and the diligence and generous participation of our dedicated board members and staff.

We are also grateful for the renewal of our U.S. Treasury license in June 2004, which allows us to continue unabated our cultural and humanitarian projects. At a difficult time in U.S.-Cuban relations, these collaborative efforts are more important than ever.

In May 2004 Fundación Amistad facilitated the arrival in Cuba of more than 50 American architects, planners and preservationists in the second International Architectural Biennale. This five-day conference focused on topics relating to the ambitious restoration of Old Havana, the city's historic district. Participants including John Belle and Richard Blinder of Beyer Blinder Belle, Jean Gath and Stephen Johnson of Pfeiffer Partners, and Conn Nugent, executive director of the J.M. Kaplan Fund, discussed reusing the best of the past to support future needs.

Recently Fundación Amistad accomplished the incredible feat of sending to Cuba a donation of over 1500 pounds of arthroscopic surgical equipment and accessories – 75 boxes in all – to the Frank Pais Pediatric Hospital. Dr. William B. Stetson of the USC Department of Orthopedics, and Dr. John Feagin of Duke University Medical School, noted the shortage of needed medical equipment while on a visit to Cuba in 2003, and promised Dr. Rodrigo Cambras, Director of Orthopedic Surgery for Cuba, that they would return with the supplies the following year. On October 1, 2004, Dr. Stetson conducted a symposium on shoulder arthroscopy; the

next day he performed arthroscopic shoulder surgery that was televised live to an auditorium of over 100 Cuban surgeons. More than 100 doctors now possess the technique, and the equipment, to help countless children and adults in need of this specialized care.



Bruno Moro, director of the United Nations Development Programme, cited Fundación Amistad's humanitarian collaboration with Cuba as "symbolic of the UNDP collaboration with all non-governmental organizations. They can act as a bridge from people of one country helping people of another country. Thanks to Fundación Amistad for managing to mobilize the resources very easily and in an effective way."

These and many other programs inspired by Fundación Amistad have a lasting impact on the Cuban people and further our mission to promote mutual understanding and appreciation between Americans and Cubans.

Sincerely,

Lulv Duke

Founder and President

Luly Duke

## Administrative Director's Letter

#### Dear Friends,

Fundación Amistad has responded to this period of continued uncertainty in U.S.-Cuba relations by reflecting and improving upon the way it pursues its mission on a day-to-day basis. This process includes:

- Centralizing within our New York office almost all of our financial management functions, such as processing accounts payable/receivable and monitoring budget expenditures. Our office manager, Esther Fajo, has been spearheading much of this effort in coordination with Patti Stanley, a consultant who brings considerable experience in non-profit sector accounting.
- Fine-tuning our programmatic focus along cultural heritage, education and humanitarian lines in a way that clearly conveys to our project partners, grantors, and friends the areas where Fundación Amistad's accomplishments continue to be strongest. On page 18 of this report, you will find information that charts not only the growth of our programming budget since 1999, but also the areas in which Fundación Amistad has been most active, especially in the realm of arts and culture. As the organization moves forward, our goals include continued emphasis on building the capacity of cultural organizations and assisting in the preservation of Cuba's architectural and cultural heritage.
- Engaging with our Board of Directors in an internal process that refines the means by which Fundación Amistad measures the success of its programs and therefore, its productivity as an organization. Of equal importance is the Board's own growth as Fundación Amistad's best resource on a range of issues, ranging from fundraising support to substantive guidance on program management. We are grateful to our Board members who demonstrate their commitment to our mission in these ways, and we look forward to welcoming additional members to Fundación Amistad in the near future.

This past year, one of Fundación Amistad's longest standing and most devoted employees, Mona Schreiber, said good-bye to the organization. Mona managed many of Fundación Amistad's educational exchanges and student trips, in addition to providing support in a number of other areas.



Her efforts were instrumental to establishing an early and abiding record of accomplishment in our mission to promote mutual understanding and appreciation among Cubans and Americans. Fundación Amistad is grateful for her years of dedication and wishes her continued success in her future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Matt Sholler Administrative Director

## News

## Third Annual Images of Cuba: "An Old Fashioned Christmas in Havana"

On Tuesday, December 7, 2004 at 7 p.m. at the Calle Ocho Supper Club, Fundación Amistad hosts its third annual "Images of Cuba" gala. The theme of this year's event is "An Old Fashioned Christmas in Havana" and features cocktails and dinner, classic-era Cuban music and dancing, and a live auction of the work of top Cuban and Cuban-American artists, including Arturo Cuenca, Tania Bruguera, Yuan Capote and Alexandre Arrechea.

Calle Ocho (Eighth Street) is the heart of Miami's Cuban business and cultural district, an auspicious representation for Fundación

Amistad's annual gala that mixes business with art. Through its "Bridges to Culture" initiative, Fundación Amistad sponsors a broad range of collaborative programs to demonstrate how music and cultural expression can bridge the gap between the people of the United States and Cuba. Income from Images of Cuba helps to sustain this vital program.

The 2004 Images of Cuba Dinner Committee includes Luly and Tony Duke, Ann LeConey, Olga Cabrer Duke, Elena and Ned Lord, Olga Garay, Alberto Magnan, Manuel Gonzalez, Charles Mallea, Marlene Hess and James Zirin, Maria Pessino, and Anne Keating.





hosting

On November 20, 2003, Fundación Amistad hosted its Second Annual "Images of Cuba" luncheon at the Waldorf=Astoria.



Top: (from left) Nilo Cruz, Pulitzer Prize-winning Cuban-American playwright and luncheon honoree, joins Luly Duke, Founder and President of Fundación Amistad, and Jimmy Smits, acclaimed actor who stars in the Broadway debut of Mr. Cruz's Anna in the Tropics.

Middle: Michaela Kerrissey, a student and Robertson Scholar at Duke University, shares her experience in Cuba as part of a cultural immersion and internship program sponsored by Fundación Amistad.

Bottom: James Early, member of Fundación Amistad's Board of Directors and Director of Cultural Heritage Policy at the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

#### Shula Brudner

In the summer of 2004 Fundación Amistad retained the services of Shula Brudner, a highly recommended development consultant, to help the organization strengthen its systematic approach to cultivating support from grantors, corporations and



Shula Brudner

individual donors. Ms. Brudner's innovative approach to fundraising is especially helpful to smaller not-for-profit organizations. She specializes in establishing development offices that work effectively with a modest staff and limited budget. Her work was highlighted in a recent monograph by the Nonprofit Finance Fund for its series on Business and the Arts, produced as part of the Ford Foundation's New Directions/New Donors program.

#### The President's Discretionary Fund

Fundación Amistad proposes to raise \$250,000 over the next two years to establish a President's Discretionary Fund that will underwrite the start-up costs of projects vital to our mission. This is not an endowment but rather a revolving fund that will be used to seed critical new programs, and will be replenished as funds are raised.

*Network for Humanitarian Aid* is a program we expect will benefit from the President's Discretionary Fund, as it often requires a leap of faith and a financial commitment by Fundación Amistad. Other equally worthy initiatives may not come to fruition without a President's Discretionary Fund.

Network for Humanitarian Aid began as a critical response to the Cuban people's need for a variety of medical supplies, most of which are very basic. Many members of Cuba's most vulnerable population – young children, expectant mothers and the elderly – suffer from

illnesses that are readily treatable with the proper medications. Unfortunately, there is scarce availability in Cuba of medicines and other supplies used to treat these illnesses. Fundación Amistad works with volunteer groups, international development organizations and commercial shipping companies to deliver these supplies to Cuba. Its collaborative agreement with the United Nations Development Programme allows for the supplies to be properly received in port and delivered to the intended recipients. Fundación Amistad also receives authorizations to facilitate and monitor the shipment of donated supplies by the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Treasury.

Future plans include the creation of a reliable and efficient infrastructure for the donation and forwarding of medical supplies and equipment at hospitals, medical centers, non-governmental institutions and universities such as Duke and the University of Virginia; and working with the University of Illinois and the Cuban Neuroscience Center on the donation of vitally needed high field MRI systems to Cuban neurology centers. The President's Discretionary Fund will increase Fundación Amistad's self-sufficiency as an organization. It is the next step in our evolution as the catalyst for better understanding between the people of the United States and Cuba. We invite the support of all funders interested in our mission and goal.

#### **Renewed Travel Licensing**

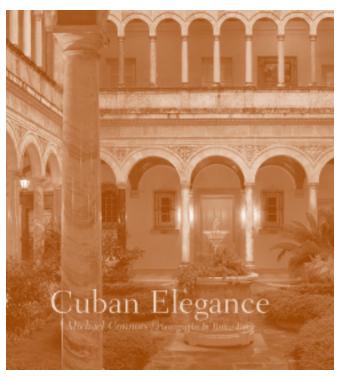
Despite the increasingly difficult nature of securing U.S. Treasury Department licenses for travel to Cuba, Fundación Amistad was granted two such licenses that authorize travel for information-gathering purposes well into 2005. Fundación Amistad believes that this speaks to its serious-minded work and results-oriented approach in the areas of cultural preservation, education and humanitarian aid.

# **Sustaining Programs**

## **PROGRAM: Bridges to Culture**

Bridges to Culture is a broad range of collaborative programs in the visual and performing arts that exemplify how music and cultural expression can bridge the gap in understanding between the people of Cuba and the United States. Fundación Amistad works with the leadership of many of Cuba's museums to facilitate their participation in the Museums Association of the Caribbean Conference, which fosters understanding and cooperation between museums and cultural heritage professionals in Cuba and throughout the Caribbean; sponsors American musicians who participate in organized performances, workshops and jam sessions throughout Cuba; organizes exchanges for dancers to go Havana to experience Cuban music and dance; debuts classic, archival Cuban music films at festivals in the U.S.: and brings Cuban troupes to audiences in the United States.

The ancestral home of Elena Lord, member of Fundación Amistad's Board of Directors. The house was built in 1929 by her great-grandfather, Mark Pollack, and designed by Leonardo Morales.



#### Cuban Elegance

Cuban Elegance, written by Michael Connors, Ph.D., West Indian decorative arts scholar and member, Fundación Amistad Board of Directors; with photographs by Bruce Buck, reveals a side of the island's culture that is almost unknown to outsiders: the refined manner of living enjoyed by the aristocracy of the colonial period, infused with a love of beauty and a sense of style that has continued in Cuban culture even to this day. Emphasizing the grand and beautiful houses and graceful furnishings of the island's commercial and agricultural princes, the book offers a view of island life very different than what is normally seen. This look at the wonderfully varied styles and fine craftsmanship of the furniture and decorations that remain in Cuba's houses offers the reader a new insight not only into a rich and almost unknown heritage, but also into the island's cultural essence, or Cubanidad.

During the spring of 2004, Fundación Amistad hosted a number of "friendraisers" in New York, Miami, Los Angeles, Chicago, and New Orleans to celebrate the publication of Cuban Elegance. The events raised awareness of Fundación Amistad's activities among members of the art and design community. In addition, the book was presented at the 21st International Book Fair of Miami. Fundación Amistad is currently working with Dr. Connors to identify a publisher for a Spanish language edition of Cuban Elegance.



"I thank Fundación Amistad profoundly for the crucial projects that have been implemented to preserve and restore Cuba's heritage."

- Eusebio Leal, Chief Historian of the City of Havana



preserving Cuba's

#### Havana Architecture Biennale

In May 2004 Fundación Amistad brought more than 50 architects, planners, and preservationists to Havana for the second International Architectural Biennale held at the Convent of San Francisco de Asis in Old Havana, the city's historic district now undergoing a 35-year "Master Plan" restoration. Seven members of Fundación Amistad's contingent (including three Fundación Amistad Board members) gave presentations at the five-day conference which focused on topics relating to that ambitious restoration and drew 327 attendees from 16 countries, including Italy, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain, Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Argentina, Peru and Ecuador.

Top: (from left to right) Sonia Chow of the Seaside Institute, Conn Nugent of the J.M. Kaplan Fund, Luly Duke of Fundación Amistad, and Rafael Rojas Hurtado de Mendoza of the Society for Heritage, Community and Environment, receive special recognition by Dr. Eusebio Leal, Chief Historian of the City of Havana, for their contributions to the preservation of the Havana's Historic Center.

## Sustaining Programs | Bridges to Culture

Fundación Amistad participants made the following presentations:

- Michael Connors\*, Ph.D. —"The History of Cuban Decorative Arts Dating Back to the Colonial Era"
- Jean Gath\* and Stephen Johnson, Partners, Pfeiffer Partners - "An Interactive Design Conference: Two Cultures Coming Together"
- Conn Nugent, Executive Director, The J.M. Kaplan Fund - "Historic Preservation in North America and the Caribbean"
- John Belle and Richard Blinder, Partners, Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners LLP – "Continuity, The Architect's Challenge"
- \*Member, Fundación Amistad Board of Directors

The brainchild of Eusebio Leal Spengler, Director of the Office of the Historian of the City of Havana, the Biennale was sponsored by that office with the support of other Cuban organizations including the Ministry of Culture, the National Union of Architects and Engineers of the Construction of Cuba, and the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba. There were also three international sponsors – the International Council on Monuments and Sites, the International Council of Museums and DOCOMOMO, an organization dedicated to the documentation and preservation of modern buildings from 1920 to 1970.

#### Palacio Iznaga

The Iznaga Palace, based in Trinidad, Cuba, is one of Cuba's most valuable historical monuments currently in need of preservation. Its value stems from its unique architectural design, its location within Trinidad's Historic Center, and its connection to the history of prominent families in 19th century Trinidad. With support from the Daniel K. Thorne Foundation, Fundación Amistad is working with the United Nations Development Programme and the Trinidad Office of the Conservator to ensure that urgent repairs are made to the Palace to keep it from deteriorating further and to lay the groundwork for follow-on refurbishments geared at restoring the structure's cultural integrity.



#### **Contemporary Cuban Artists Documentary**

Fundación Amistad is working with Alberto Magnan, art consultant and former owner of Liebman Magnan Gallery; and Anthony Perrotto, film producer and director, to develop a documentary concerning the lives of contemporary Cuban artists. This film will show a new perspective on experiencing Cuba through its art. It is not the country in ruins, as so many recent accounts of Cuba have shown. Cuban art is not simply diverse, but characterized by three themes, which this film explores: the condition of being an island culture; the rhetoric of history; and the differences between Cuba in the language of the revolution and Cuban life in reality.

#### **Colonial Cuba Documentary**

Fundación Amistad has assisted Carmen Franchi de Alfaro in making a documentary film that celebrates the history of colonial architecture in Havana's Historic Center and uncovers the startling mysteries of the largest and most unique treasure of colonial architecture in the world. With unprecedented access and cooperation from the Office of the Historian of the City of Havana, the film will take the viewer on a tour of the old city and its architectural jewels. From the baroque to the neoclassical and everything in-between, viewers will marvel at the dizzying collage of architectural styles that make up Old Havana.

"The Cuban phenomenon is that there are artists that are born in the United States, Puerto Rico, etc., whose parents are of Cuban origin...These artists belong to the Cuban culture and therefore we would like to have an archive of these artists' work.

– José Veiga, Cuban art archivist

## PROGRAM: Casa de las Americas

Casa de las Americas, a prominent cultural and educational institution located in Havana, serves as a repository for the work of Cuban and Latin American writers, artists, philosophers and historians. Since 1998, Casa de Las Americas, has hosted a summer study abroad program co-sponsored by Fundación Amistad and Duke University, which this year included a six-week, twocourse program immersing undergraduates from Duke and other colleges in Cuban society and culture. This initiative inspired the Joint Cuba Program at Duke, an institutional agreement between the University and Fundación Amistad that will incorporate the summer abroad programs with campus-based programs for faculty, students and staff that include cultural and artistic events, academic exchanges and conferences on other topics relevant to Cuba.



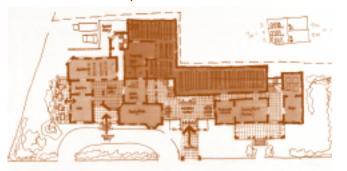
## Sustaining Programs | Casa de las Americas | Network for Humanitarian Aid

Parallel to its educational program, Fundación Amistad has implemented a series of workshops and seminars designed to help Casa de las Americas, and its world renowned library – considered to be the most complete profile of Latin American and Caribbean books, periodicals and information about the last half of the 20th century – develop the organizational and conservation skills needed to support its mission and goals. As a result of these workshops and seminars on collection management, preservation, disaster responses, institutional resource development and conservation techniques, Casa is becoming increasingly self-sustaining.

Fundación Amistad is currently working to bring Casa staff to the U.S. to participate in internships at The New York Public Library and libraries at Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and The Smithsonian Institute.

Fundación Amistad will use the "Casa Template" to serve other vital, non-governmental organizations that comprise Cuba's rich matrix of cultural institutions. Havana is home to over 50 museums and cultural centers who face many of the same issues that were addressed by Fundación Amistad at Casa de las Americas. Organizations who will be invited to participate in future workshops include Office of the Historian of Havana;

Fundación Amistad's commitment to helping Cuban cultural institutions sustain themselves has included organizing an architectural competition for the design of a climate-controlled library and archive of Latin American literature and art. Photo: Stephen Johnson



National Museum of Music; Institute of History; Ruben Martinez Public Library; Jose Marti Public Library; National Archives of Cuba; Institute of Literature and Language; Center for the Development of Cuban Music; Museum of Natural History; and the Fernando Ortiz Museum.

## **PROGRAM: Network for Humanitarian Aid**

Network for Humanitarian Aid began as a critical response to the Cuban people's need for a variety of medical supplies, most of which are very basic. Many members of Cuba's most vulnerable population – young children, expectant mothers and the elderly – suffer from illnesses that are readily treatable with the proper medications. Unfortunately, there is scarce availability in Cuba of medicines and other supplies used to treat these illnesses. Fundación Amistad works with volunteer groups, international development organizations and commercial shipping companies to deliver these supplies to Cuba. Its collaborative agreement with the United Nations Development Programme allows for the supplies to be properly received in port and delivered to the intended recipients. Fundación Amistad also receives authorizations to facilitate and monitor the shipment of donated supplies by the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Treasury.

Future plans include the creation of a reliable and efficient infrastructure for the donation and forwarding of medical supplies and equipment at hospitals, medical centers, non-governmental institutions and universities such as Duke and the University of Virginia; and working with the University of Illinois and the Cuban Neuroscience Center on the donation of vitally needed high field MRI systems to Cuban neurology centers.

"...Fundación Amistad manages to fill the gap...it is extremely important for women and children in this part of the city to have access to health services."

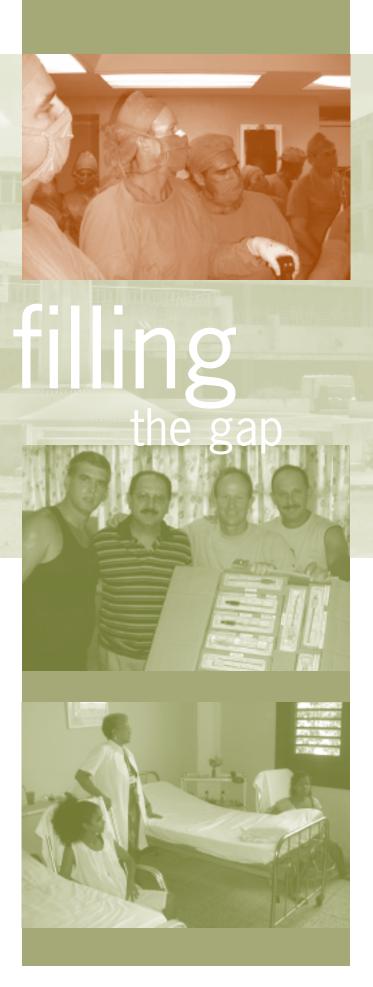
- Bruno Moro, Resident Coordinator for the United Nations Development Programme in Cuba

Top: Bill Stetson, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of the University of Southern California Department of Orthopedic Surgery, demonstrates a surgical technique in Cuba at the Third International Conference of the

International Society of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology.

Middle: Dr. Stetson, and Dr. Rodrigo Cambras Lorenzo of the Frank Pais International Orthopedic Institute, together with representatives from Ciego de Avila Hospital, open boxes of donated medical equipment and supplies. **Photos: Bill and Erica Stetson** 

Bottom: Staff and patients at a medical care facility for expectant mothers in Havana's Historic Center.



## Sustaining Programs | Network for Humanitarian Aid

## **Arthroscopic Surgery Demonstration and Supplies Donation**

Dr. William Stetson of the University of Southern California Department of Orthopedic Surgery participated in the Third International Conference of SICOT/SIROT (The International Society of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology) from September 26-29, 2004. Dr. Stetson gave a seminar on arthroscopic surgery as well as a demonstration of surgical technique observed by 100 surgeons via a live video feed. The seminar and subsequent donation of 1500 lbs. of equipment valued at over US \$250,000 was well received and according to the Institute has had a "great social impact" in that the equipment will help thousands of people especially children. With this equipment Dr. Stetson and Dr. John Feagin hope to work with Cuban orthopedic surgeons to create a center to teach arthroscopic surgery.

#### **ACCESO**

In February 2004, Fundación Amistad collaborated with ACCESO, a non-partisan, non-profit organization based in Massachusetts, to send more than \$90,000 worth of medical supplies and technical books to three Havanabased medical centers. Under the supervision of the United Nations Development Programme, the supplies were distributed to the Childrens' Cardio Center, the Doña Leonor Pérez Home for Mothers and Children, and the Emergency Care Polyclinic.

The mission of ACCESO is to provide humanitarian outreach to the people of Cuba who are struggling to obtain essential human goods such as medicine, medical supplies and instructional material. ACCESO sponsors annual humanitarian missions that not only donate material goods from the United States to Cuba but also build relationships between Americans and Cubans. Fundación Amistad would like to thank Donna Perry and Oz Mondejar at ACCESO for their collaborative leadership in this project.



# Additional Programs

## **Academic Program Development**

#### **Brown University Students**

Nick Kinsey and Brigham Brough, two Brown University undergraduates, contacted Fundación Amistad with the interest of constructing a study abroad semester at the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) for the purpose of expanding their knowledge of music and Latin American rhythms. Fundación Amistad facilitated and organized a program for them, which included enrollment in the Institute, a mentorship, and housing. The students took classes for their respective instruments, music theory and history classes, and Spanish.



#### **Duke University**

Fuqua School of Business: In March 2004, Nelson Valdes, Ph.D., the Director of Fundación Amistad's Duke University Office, took a group of students from the Fuqua Business School at Duke to Havana for two weeks. This research trip was coordinated with the University of Havana's Center for the Study of the Cuban Economy.

Summer Study Abroad: Dr. Valdes also led 15 students from Duke University for the fourth session of Duke's Summer Study Abroad in Cuba program. Fundación Amistad first organized this program in 1998, and it has enjoyed continued success. These young ambassadors were there for six weeks at Casa de las Americas, learning about Cuban culture and history, and Spanish language. Unfortunately, Fundación Amistad was recently notified by the Duke Study Abroad Office that, as a result of the U.S. government's new Cuba travel restrictions, the program will no longer be able to continue.

Students of the World: Ten students from the Students of the World program at Duke University went to Havana for three weeks in coordination with Fundación Amistad and the Havana Office of the Historian. The students had two primary and diverse research interests: Havana's community-based health programs and the emerging hip-hop scene. The health group was able

to talk with medical doctors, nurses, epidemiologists, and public health practitioners about maternal health programs, STD/HIV prevention, and nutrition. Along those lines, the health group was also able to visit two organic farms and a clinic of natural medicine.

The hip-hop group was interested in understanding issues of race, gender, and the Cuban Revolution within hip-hop music. They attended hip-hop concerts, were able to meet with a number of the emerging and top female and male hip-hop artists in Cuba, and spoke with a number of hip-hop producers, DJs, and the just recently formed Cuban Rap Agency.

The Students of the World program plans to share its experiences in Cuba with the Duke University and Durham community through a "Cuba in Focus" panel on November 14th, 2004 and through a magazine entitled ECHO Cuba.

#### **Robertson Scholars Program**

The Robertson Scholars, a Duke University-University of North Carolina joint scholarship program for students with exceptional potential in public affairs and leadership, were not able to travel to Cuba this year due to internal travel licensing issues between the two universities, as well as the new U.S. government restrictions on Cuba travel.

# **Looking Ahead**

## **Programmatic Emphasis: Cultural Heritage and Humanitarian Aid**

Cultural heritage constitutes the essence of people's identity. Whether manifested in the performing and visual arts, historic architecture, or language and oral traditions, cultural heritage serves as a central point of reference for achieving mutual understanding and appreciation. It is also a valuable instrument for growth and the exchange of ideas, providing a solid base for community development as recognized by the United Nations.

In keeping with Fundación Amistad's recognized expertise and established record of success in this area, its programmatic focus will continue to be the research, preservation and promotion of Cuba's cultural heritage in the U.S. and Cuba. In collaboration with select universities and research centers in both countries, semester length, for-credit programs will be developed and offered to students and professionals at the undergraduate, graduate and continuing education levels. These programs will foster the introduction of new theory, the diffusion of good practice, and the transfer of know-how in fields related to historic preservation and museum management. Fundación Amistad will also continue working in the same spirit with individual specialists from the U.S.,

Cuba, and other countries. In addition, Fundación Amistad will continue providing humanitarian aid to the people of Cuba in times of natural disaster, with particular emphasis on services to children, the elderly, and the sick, as well as the donation of medical supplies.

#### Additional Projects

#### "High and Inside" Cuban Baseball Documentary

Fundación Amistad is currently working with Peter Ward, an Emmy Award-nominated writer and producer, to produce a documentary regarding the special place and enduring legacy of baseball in Cuban society and history.







For more than a century, Cuba has produced some of the best and brightest players in the history of baseball, yet little is known in the U.S. about the history of the sport and its origins in Cuba. Written and directed by Peter Ward, and co-produced with Mary Sebastiani, "High and Inside: The History of Cuban Baseball" will examine how this game and this beautiful Caribbean island have coexisted, grown and developed through the eyes of the political leaders, the players, the fans and men and women that lived it and understood it better than anyone else.

Utilizing the U.S. National archives, the Cuban National Archives, private home movies, pictures and public records, and the production team's own interviews, a documentary will be assembled that will give sports fans a brief history of Cuba and better understanding of its culture.

#### **Sundance Film Institute**

Fundación Amistad is exploring the possibility of working with the Sundance Institute, a multi-disciplinary arts organization dedicated to the development of artists of independent vision and to the exhibition of their new work. Fundación Amistad's goal is to identify one young Cuban filmmaker to work in the Institute's Feature Film Program, participate in the screenwriters and filmmakers laboratories, and travel to Utah to participate in the Institute's program. The continued growth of the President's Discretionary Fund can allow Fundación Amistad to provide seed funding for pioneering opportunities such as this one.

#### **Tanglewood Scholarships**

Tanglewood, the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, was established in 1940 to also provide an unparalleled musical experience for emerging professional musicians. 28 years ago, Tanglewood started reaching out to the Latin American community for exceptional musicians. These young musicians work with internationally renowned artists, including members of the Boston

Symphony Orchestra. In 2003 an opportunity was cultivated through the efforts of Fundación Amistad friend Saville Ryan to invite four young Cuban musicians to participate at Tanglewood. While current visa challenges make travel difficult for Cuban artists, thanks to Ms. Ryan and Fundación Amistad's work, they have begun competing for scholarships via submitted tapes of their performances as part of the application process. Applications for 2005 will be presented soon.

### **Advocacy**

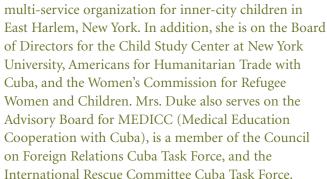
Fundación Amistad concentrates its operating resources on substantive programs in cultural preservation, education, and humanitarian aid. At the same time, its continued success in these programs depends to a significant degree on the existence of government policies that promote a just and productive relationship that directly benefits the citizens of both countries. To ensure that it continues to pursue its mission effectively, Fundación Amistad believes that occasionally it must make its voice heard in ongoing policy debates in the U.S. and Cuba.



## Staff

**Luly Duke** Founder and President lduke@fundacionamistad.org





**Esther Fajo** New York Office Manager efajo@fundacionamistad.org

Ms. Fajo, a Cuban-American, has more than ten years of administrative support and

operations oversight experience for domestic and international projects in the health service and financial sectors. She holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Bernard Baruch College.



**Martha Reichert** 

Special Projects Coordinator mreichert@fundacionamistad.org

As a member of Fundación Amistad's staff since 1999. Ms. Reichert has held a number of



positions, serving as administrator 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 have included work with Headstart, Habitat for Humanity, and various small community organizations working with the homeless. She is a member of the Women's Classical Caucus, the American Archaeological Institute, and the American Philological Association. She also works as an Assistant Field Supervisor for the Mugello Valley Archaeological Project's excavations at Poggio Colla in Tuscany, Italy. Ms. Reichert is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in Classical Archaeology, Classical Studies, and Anthropology from Hunter College.

#### **Matthew Sholler**

Administrative Director msholler@fundacionamistad.org

Mr. Sholler brings to Fundación Amistad broad non-profit, government, and private sector

experience in Latin America and the U.S., as well as a deep-seated appreciation for Latino language and culture. Much of his past work dealt with community development and urban planning in Latin America as a Peace Corps Volunteer, research associate, and consultant. Mr. Sholler holds a master's degree in Urban Policy and Planning from MIT with an emphasis on International Development, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.



### Nelson Valdés, Ph.D.

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is also a faculty member at the

Dr. Valdés, a Cuban-American, 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 also has considerable project

management and administrative experience in the

academic and non-governmental sectors.



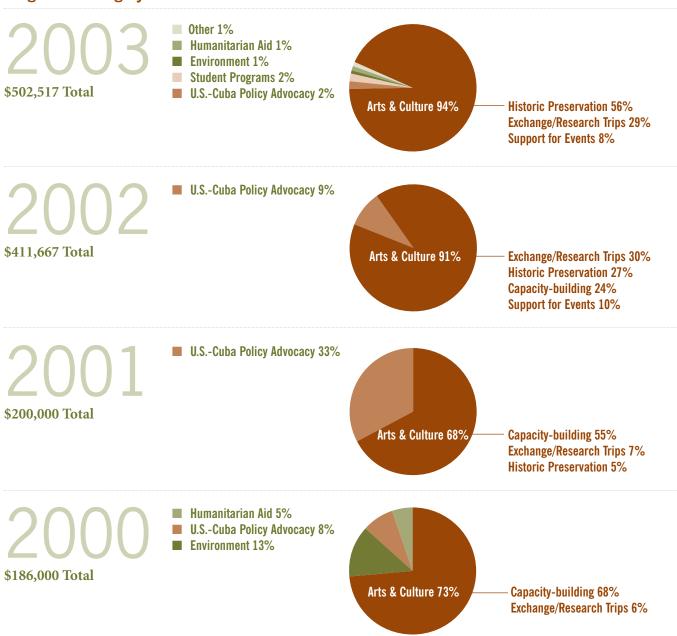
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Ms. Valcárcel, a Cuban-American, has more than ten years of experience designing, directing and coordinating projects in Cuba with a specialization in Historical Areas Management and Community Planning. She has a bachelor's degree in Psychology with an emphasis on Education and Child Psychology.

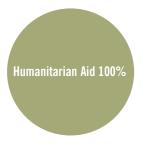


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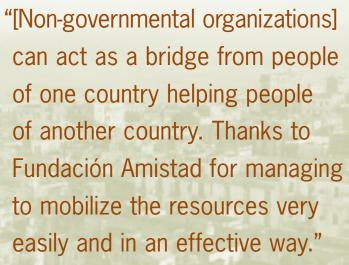
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