An Extraordinary “People-to-People” Opportunity

January 17 to 25, 2016

Alumni & Parent Relations and Annual Support

Beloit College
Dear Alumni & Friends,

Be among the first Americans to rediscover Cuba and the lively culture of this historical Caribbean gem, with its friendly, welcoming and inquisitive people, who are quick to laugh and talk honestly and compassionately about their complicated and lovely country. Unravel the epic sweep of Cuba’s history during this extraordinary “people-to-people” exchange to interact with locals who will illuminate the traditions of the surviving Indian peoples; the lasting influence of Spain; the glamorous playground that drew celebrities, gangsters, movie stars, writers and heads of state; the legacy of Fidel Castro and the island’s revolutionary past; as well as its emerging and idealistic future. Explore the vivid and mesmerizing landscape, which has lodged itself into the imagination of artists, dancers and writers, infusing all aspects of the culture with native island energy and an irresistible zest for life.

Discover the full portrait of Cuba on this intimate cultural exchange and experience the true character and traditions of the island. Explore Havana, with its vibrant spirit, iconic Malecón and beautifully restored Old City and fortifications, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Visit Matanzas, “the city of bridges,” and Santa Clara, identified in particular with the last battle that marked the end of Fulgencio Batista’s rule. Admire Cuba’s misty valleys with lush green tobacco fields, striking karst formations and the azure sea along the island’s stunning coastline.

This travel program offers a full schedule of events, all of which involve significant exchanges with Cubans from diverse walks of life who reflect this country’s unique rhythm of daily life and are eager to share their life experiences with you.

Throughout this specially designed program, enjoy accommodations in Havana’s historic Hotel Nacional de Cuba and in the Meliá Cohiba Hotel, in Meliá Las Americas in Varadero and in Santa Clara’s Hotel América.

We do hope you will join us for this unforgettable experience!

Sincerely,

Mark Wold
Senior Director of Alumni & Parent Relations and Annual Support

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Cover Photo: Admire Havana’s beautiful 20th-century monuments including the grandiose Capitolio Nacional and Gran Teatro, facing the Parque Central.

Vibrant batas cubanas (traditional dresses) reflect Cuba’s Spanish and African roots.
Cuba
An Extraordinary “People-to-People” Opportunity

Be among the first U.S. travelers to enjoy this unique exploration of Cuba. This exciting program provides an unprecedented “people-to-people” opportunity engaging local Cubans from all walks of life—artists, architects, tobacco farmers, tradesmen, cigar rollers, university students and professors, senior citizens, paladar and craft market entrepreneurs, musicians and dancers—and U.S. travelers with one another to openly share their values and interests. Experience firsthand the true character and traditions of residents of the Caribbean’s largest and most complex island by special arrangement and U.S. Treasury-approved license. See the UNESCO World Heritage site of Old Havana, Matanzas, Santa Clara and Pinar del Río. Immerse yourself in an intimate travel experience that explores the Cuban people’s history, art, culture, professions, trades and cuisine in order to understand how the Cuban people live and discover our shared interests.

The carefully planned People-to-People Cultural Enrichments are exclusive to this specially designed itinerary:

♦ **Hear it from the Experts!** Experienced, English-speaking Cuban hosts will accompany you throughout the program and discuss historical, cultural and contemporary Cuba. Interact with local Cuban experts including musicians, artists, farmers, academics and architects.

♦ **Meet** lifelong residents of Cuba, who will share their perspectives on daily life.

♦ **Enjoy** three included meals each day while in Cuba.

♦ **Savor** authentic Cuban cuisine in a paladar—a family-run restaurant usually located in the family’s home, a practice permitted only since the 1990s—and in fine restaurants.

♦ **Experience** a private concert of classical music at the Ermita (Hermitage) de Monserrate, a late-19th-century church turned spectacular music venue in Matanzas.

♦ **Learn** about preservation efforts in Old Havana, organic and tobacco farming and Cuba’s social welfare system.

*The Castillo de los Tres Reyes Magos del Morro, built in the 16th century under the control of Spain and named for the biblical Magi, dominates the entrance to Havana Bay. Inset above: Street performers in Havana.*
Miami, Florida, U.S.
Day 1
Depart your home city for Miami.
Upon arrival, check into the MIAMI AIRPORT MARRIOTT HOTEL.

Miami/Havana, Cuba
Day 2
Fly aboard charter aircraft to Havana.
Upon arrival, meet your experienced, English-speaking Cuban hosts, who will guide your immersion into their way of life.

Havana’s downtown district of Vedado is a mix of old and new, including the University of Havana; the pre-revolutionary Capitolio reminiscent of the U.S. Capitol; the iconic Malecón (oceanfront promenade); the legendary HOTEL NACIONAL DE CUBA; the popular Cuban Institute of Music; historic Revolution Square; the stunning sculpture and architecture of the Colón Cemetery; and many gracious, sometimes grandiose manses and townhouses of the 19th and early 20th centuries. See Revolution Square, where Fidel Castro gave his famous eight-hour May Day speeches. Then, check into the iconic HOTEL NACIONAL DE CUBA.

PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
◆ Enjoy an introduction to student life at the University of Havana during an interactive walking tour led by a university scholar.

Havana
Day 3
The Spanish colonial core of Habana Vieja is a maze of cobblestone streets and picturesque squares—like the bayside Plaza de Armas, the site where San Cristóbal de la Habana was founded in 1514—which have been largely restored and designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. Here, the lively street life is a testament to the flourishing artistic and social lives of the Cubans. Visit the Depósito del Automóvil, an antique automobile museum in Old Havana. Enjoy lunch in one of the city’s premier restaurants.

PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
◆ Discover the inspiring Muraleando ("mural-making") community art project in the nearby Lawton neighborhood.
◆ Local architects and architectural restoration scholars discuss the preservation and evolution of art and architecture on a walk through Old Havana.
◆ Enjoy dinner in a paladar, a family-run restaurant in a private home.

Havana/Santa Clara
Day 4
The gateway to Cuba’s historically and agriculturally rich central region in the province of Villa Clara, Santa Clara is a culturally active town that embodies the true essence of authentic Cuba. Long associated with Ernesto “Che” Guevara, this city, in the geographic center of the country, harbors new trends, unique attitudes, endless creativity and a lively youthful culture that has been shaped by the most prestigious university outside Havana. It also features one of the country’s most spectacular grand colonial theaters constructed in 1885. Visit the impressive Che Guevara Monument and the History Museum of the Revolution. Check into the HOTEL AMERICA. En route to dinner in a local restaurant, visit the beautiful Teatro La Caridad, one of the Eight Grand Theaters of the Cuban Colonial era, where famed musicians such as Enrico Caruso once performed.

The bustling artisans’ market spread before Havana’s 18th-century Cathedral San Cristóbal is an ideal venue to meet and interact with locals.
PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
◆ Special guided tour with an expert inside Santa Clara’s grand colonial Teatro de la Caridad.

Santa Clara/Varadero
Day 5
Visit a typical Cuban Casa de Abuelos for a unique opportunity to learn more about social welfare in Cuba from the active senior citizen residents and staff. Afterwards, transfer to the beautiful town of Varadero located on the Hicacos Peninsula. Here, visit the Du Pont mansion, built in 1930 by chemical magnate Alfred Irenee duPont. Check into the deluxe HOTEL MELIÁ LAS AMERICAS.

PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
◆ In a typical community Casa de Abuelos, enjoy conversations with the elder Cubans and staff, who will introduce you to a longtime Cuban dance tradition, the danzón.

Varadero/Havana
Matanzas
Day 6
Transfer to Matanzas, called “the city of bridges” and the “Venice of Cuba” for its many pedestrian, auto and rail bridges crossing two major rivers, and the proud moniker “Athens of Cuba,” reflecting a legacy of poets, writers, painters and musicians.

The nearby charming fishing town of Cojimar is best known for Ernest Hemingway, affectionately called “Papa” by locals, and his hilltop farmhouse, Finca Vigia, where he wrote The Old Man and the Sea based on a local fisherman.

Check into the MELIÁ COHIBA HOTEL.

PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
◆ Experience why Cuban cigars are so celebrated throughout the world—

Havana
Pinar del Río/Viñales Valley
Day 7
Cuba’s westernmost province, Pinar del Río, has a pleasant capital city surrounded by expansive farmlands famously spread over the Cordillera de Guaniguanico, one of the island’s three main mountain ranges.

Pinar del Río’s striking Viñales Valley—designated a UNESCO World Heritage site for its natural beauty and the preservation of its traditional architecture, crafts and way of life—is a much photographed and painted 270-square-mile plain surrounded by distinctive limestone karst hills the locals call mogotes. The farmland here is among Cuba’s richest, and the ancient agricultural practices produce robust coffee and some of the world’s best tobacco, products central to Cuban history and identity. Visit the community art therapy program in Pinar del Río.

PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
◆ Meet local classical musicians and hear them perform in the late-19th-century Ermita de Monserrate, a quaint colonial church with spectacular acoustics—an awe-inspiring experience.
◆ Visit the over-130-year-old Triolet Pharmacy, opened in 1882, and interact with the staff and the museum curator, who will explain the apothecary’s tools that were used to make medicines.
◆ Visit a local school of arts and meet some of the young adults refining their talents toward a profession in music, painting, sculpture, drawing or print.

Inspired by Picasso and Gaudí, Cuban painter and sculptor José Rodríguez Fuster transformed his house and others in his Havana neighborhood, Jaimanitas, with kaleidoscopic sculptures and mosaics.
HOTEL NACIONAL DE CUBA
Centrally located with sweeping views of Havana, Cuba’s most historic and iconic grande dame hotel has played a key part in the city’s history and identity since the 1930s, having hosted world leaders such as Winston Churchill and Kofi Annan and Cuban and international luminaries.

HOTEL AMERICA
Located in the heart of Santa Clara, this small hotel has a distinctive Cuban feel.

HOTEL MELIÁ LAS AMERICAS
In the MELIÁ LAS AMERICAS, located near culturally rich Matanzas in Varadero, your guest room will feature a balcony.

MELIÁ COHIBA HOTEL
Located on the waterfront in Havana’s downtown Vedado district, the MELIÁ COHIBA HOTEL provides comfortable amenities and service.

meet a traditional tobacco farmer and cigar-roller in Vuelta Abajo, the country’s tobacco heartland. Spend time with his family as he welcomes you into his home to sample Cuban coffee.

◆ Tour an organic farm and enjoy a discussion with the farmer on the growth and sale of crops as you explore his gardens. Afterward, share a homestyle lunch with his family, an enriching opportunity.

◆ In the historic town of Pinar del Río, visit a community project where creativity is fostered to enable young people with Down syndrome to flourish as individual artists.

Havana Jaimanitas
Day 8
Cuba’s capital, the early-20th-century “Paris of the Caribbean,” remains arguably one of a kind, mixing urban architecture and culture with an earthy, informal vibe and an energetic arts and music scene. Today, the cityscape has retained a distinctly vintage feel, sometimes nearly cinematically so, which is bolstered by the prevalence of 1950s American-made automobiles, fondly called “Yank tanks” by the locals who painstakingly maintain them.

Jaimanitas, a beach community in the Havana suburb Playa, is home to the Hemingway Marina and one of Cuba’s best known artists, José Antonio Rodríguez Fuster, a sculptor and painter whose elaborate and distinctive works of art are in a style inspired by Barcelona’s Antoni Gaudí.

PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:
◆ Interact with members of José Rodriguez Fuster’s community.
◆ Discuss a music performance with members of the Cuban Institute of Music.
◆ Cruise along in a private antique American-made car on the Malecón in Old Havana.

Havana/Miami, Florida, U.S./Home City
Day 9
Board the charter flight to Miami. Connect with your flight home.

Traditional Cuban music—streetside rumba in particular—keeps the country’s distinctive African and European roots alive in the hearts of its people.
Included Features

**In Miami**
- One night in the MIAMI AIRPORT MARRIOTT HOTEL.
- Breakfast.
- Welcome briefing.

**Round-trip Miami, Florida/Havana, Cuba, charter flights.**

**Accommodations and Meals in Cuba**
- Two nights in the historic HOTEL NACIONAL DE CUBA, Havana.
- One night in the HOTEL AMERICA, Santa Clara.
- One night in the HOTEL MELÍA LAS AMERICAS, Varadero.
- Three nights in the MELIÁ COHIBA HOTEL, Havana.
- Welcome Reception in Havana.
- All meals included while in Cuba, featuring:
  - “People-to-people” homestyle lunch to be shared with an organic farmer’s family.
  - Dinner in an authentic paladar, a family-run private home restaurant.
  - Farewell dinner in Havana.

**Exclusive Local “People-to-People” Hosted Excursions and Cultural Enrichments**
- Interactive introduction to student life in Cuba at the University of Havana.
- Interaction with local artists in the Muraleando Community Project, an art district in Havana.
- Walking tour of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and discussion with local architects and architectural restoration scholars to learn about the preservation and evolution of art and architecture in Havana.
- Visits to the 16th-century Plaza de Armas and the Antique Automobile museum in Old Havana.
- Hosted tour of Santa Clara’s grand colonial Teatro de la Caridad.
- Visit to the Che Guevara Monument where the revolutionary was interred in 1997.
- Visit to the History Museum of the Revolution, Santa Clara.
- Conversation with elder Cubans in a typical community senior citizens’ center, Casa de Abuelos, in Santa Clara.
- Visit to the impressive Du Pont Mansion, built in 1930 by the chemical magnate, Alfred Ireneu du Pont.
- Visit to a school of arts in Matanzas to meet students.
- In Matanzas, visit to the 19th-century Triolet family pharmacy.
- Classical music concert in Ermita de Monserrate and opportunity to meet musicians and directors.
- Excursion into the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Viñales Valley for a discussion with a tobacco farmer, including a cigar-rolling demonstration and refreshments with his family, and to a farm for an interactive tour of organic crops.
- Visit to a community project for young people with Down syndrome to interact with volunteers.
- Visit to the home and studio of renowned Cuban artist José Antonio Rodríguez Fuster.
- Music performance by and discussion with musicians from the Cuban Institute of Music.
- Cruise in a private, antique American-made car along the Malecón in Old Havana.
- Spanish language introduction of Cuban-dialect basic phrases and pronunciation.

**Enhanced Travel Services**
- Taxes and visa fees.
- Medical insurance as required by the Cuban government and only valid in Cuba.
- The services of an experienced Gohagan & Company Program Director throughout the program.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.
“People-to-People”:

an Extraordinary Opportunity

When Christopher Columbus landed in Cuba in 1492 he was met by native Arawak Indians. Diego Velázquez de Cuéllar followed and settled the island, using deep Havana Harbor for a transit point back to Spain. It became a smuggler’s haven during the heyday of seafaring pirates, and when the sugarcane industry boomed in the early 1800s, mass numbers of slaves were imported and eventually left their indelible mark on the history of the Caribbean’s largest island. Visiting Cuba today, it is easy to see that the culture is still steeped in its rich history, which blends European, African, Asian and Middle Eastern influences. Along with the more recent historical events, including being a protectorate of the United States and the revolutionary lightning rod for 20th-century politics, Cuba is a lively and artistic tropical island filled with a native population said to be amongst the most welcoming and charming people in the world, who have myriad ways of revealing the secrets of their proud country to you.

Enjoy a walking tour led by a University of Havana professor on university and academic life in Cuba today and engage local architects to learn about preservation efforts in Havana. Meet musicians who will perform a classical music concert in the historic Ermita (Hermitage) de Monserrate. Travel into the agricultural core of the country to interact with local organic and traditional tobacco farmers. Converse with elder Cubans in a typical community Casa de Abuelos. Try rolling your r’s during a Spanish language lesson, learn more about local customs and enamorarse con la gente de Cuba (fall in love with the people of Cuba).

Linger in Old Havana and observe the distinctive Cuban rhythm of this UNESCO World Heritage site.

Whether bolero, mambo or danzón, dance expresses the quintessentially Cuban flair for living in the moment.
The agricultural province of Pinar del Río is home to the fertile Viñales Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where farmers notably grow much of the world’s premium cigar tobacco.

LAND TARIFF

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<th>Land Tariff Details</th>
<th>Early Booking Price</th>
<th>Regular Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Per person, based on double occupancy</td>
<td>August 14, 2015</td>
<td>August 14, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦ Singles are available upon request for an additional $700.</td>
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<td>♦ Taxes are included.</td>
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By completing the participant registration form, I/we confirm and agree to adhere strictly (and without deviation) to the itinerary submitted by Thomas P. Gohagan & Company and approved by OFAC (the Office of Foreign Assets Control) under license number CT-2014-310067-1. I agree that I will only engage in the authorized educational exchange activities under the license approval (as described in the itinerary and included features of this People-to-People travel program).

Gohagan & Company is required by law to keep records concerning this trip. It is possible OFAC might ask any individual traveler about activities undertaken during the trip. We also recommend retaining a copy of this document with your records.

An attitude of relaxed flexibility will enhance this unique travel adventure to Cuba.

Send to: 2016 Island Life Cuba Beloit College Alumni & Parent Relations c/o Thomas P. Gohagan & Company 209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500 Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.

Please make my/our reservation(s):

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please provide your personal information:

- Title
- Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)
- Class Year

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person. By reserving and depositing on this program, I agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $________ as deposit.

Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $________ to:

- Visa
- MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by November 3, 2015.

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

- I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

Please fill in departure city:

- Miami, Florida, U.S. (additional cost to be advised)

Program reservations are subject to change and availability and are nonrefundable.
The streets of Cuba are a treasure trove of American classic cars lovingly and innovatively preserved.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, authorized agents, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip in a transportation context (e.g., lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or ent winery providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, accident, or the threat thereof, the lack of availability or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of air, land or sea transportation, acts or omissions of any public authority, acts of independent contractors, acts or omissions of any third party or any other person or entity (including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any)

NOT INCLUDED:

- substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure.
- discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by August 14, 2015. In the event a “discounted” reservation must be cancelled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.
- CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip will not be effective until received in writing, in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 95 days prior to departure; from 94 through 75 days prior to departure, $800 per person; from 74 through 45 days prior to departure, 30% of the published full regular tariffs; from 44 through 22 days prior to departure, 60% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 21 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.
- TRIP INSURANCE: Because our cancellation policies are strictly enforced, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Gohagan and others for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation.
- RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. No increases, however, will be imposed after final payment except for governmental tax increases.
- REGISTRATION: CST#: 2031868-40, WST#: 601 767 666, OST#: TA 0905.
- BINDING ARBITRATION: Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating in any way to this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement, the brochure, or any other information relating in any way to the trip, or to the trip itself, shall be settled solely and exclusively by binding arbitration in Chicago, Illinois, in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association then existent. In any such proceeding, the substantive, but not procedural law of Illinois will apply. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable.
- ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/her self and other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.
- Photo Credits: AGE Fotostock, Alamy, Glim Images, Robert Harding; all images are rights managed and cannot be used without permission.

The streets of Cuba are a treasure trove of American classic cars lovingly and innovatively preserved.

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