

# JOIN THE U.S. WOMEN AND CUBA COLLABORATION IN NYC DURING THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSN. CONFERENCE! MAY 27-30, 2016

## Lesbians and Allies Project Community Forum Features Activist Cuban Lesbian Panelists

### LASA Panels Feature Outstanding Collaboration Members

[www.womenandcuba.org](http://www.womenandcuba.org)

#### COMMUNITY FORUM BY THE COLLABORATION'S LESBIANS & ALLIES PROJECT

The U.S. Women and Cuba Collaboration announces an exciting educational community forum it is hosting in conjunction with the 2016 Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Conference 2016 in NY. Cosponsored by the Cuba and Bolivarian Issues Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and the National Dominican Women's Caucus, this forum features Cuban speakers with broad expertise in lesbian organizing and activism.

**Thursday, May 26, 6:00 to 8:00 pm**

**Center for Cuban Studies**

231 West 29th Street, #401

212.242.0559

New York, NY 10001

#### ***"The LGBT Campaign Against Gender Violence in Cuba"***

Cuban and U.S. lesbians and allies talk about issues of violence against women as a pervasive human rights violation, public health crisis, and obstacle to equality, development, security and peace. Representatives of Cuban organizations CENESEX (Cuban National Center for Sexual Education) and the FMC (Federation of Cuban Women) will share information and strategies about their national campaign against homophobia, which begins with the premises that homosexuality is not a problem and that homophobia is a problem that can be cured by education.

#### **Speaker Bios:**

**Isel Calzadilla Acosta, Santiago de Cuba:** Founder of "Las Isabelas," the first lesbian organization in Cuba, Ms. Calzadilla consults with CENESEX (Cuban National Center for Sexual Education) to develop strategies for the struggle against homophobia. She is a member of the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC), and she is a nurse by profession.

**Teresa de Jesus Fernandez, Havana:** Senior specialist of the CENESEX (Cuban National Center for Sexual Education) editorial department, Ms. de Jesus Fernandez is also their National Coordinator of the network of lesbian and bisexual women belonging to the Social Community of Networks. She has powerfully addressed her personal experiences and struggles in the documentary "*Mujeres entre el cielo y la tierra*" ("*Women Between Heaven and Earth*").

**Norma Rita Guillard Limonta, Havana:** Professor Guillard is a social psychologist, an Afro feminist, and founder of the "OREMI" lesbian organization in Havana. At the age of 14, she was a brigadista during the

1961 Cuban literacy campaign and she is featured in the documentary, "*Maestra*," about the campaign. Both the successes and challenges of life as a lesbian will be part of Professor Guillard's presentation.

**Isabel Moya Richard, Havana, Cuba:** Dr. Moya Richard, Ph.D., Communication Sciences, is Professor and Editorial Director of Women at the University of Havana. She is President of the Department of Gender and Communication of the José Martí International Institute of Journalism. She has lectured widely and published several books on gender issues and communication. She will be presenting her work on: "*Multiple representations, slanted eyes. The representation of lesbians in the Social Media in Cuba. Notes for a necessary debate.*"

**Moderator and Organizer: J. Luna Vázquez, Chicago, IL:** A member of the Steering Committee for the U.S. Women and Cuba Collaboration, Co-Leader for the U.S. and Cuba Lesbians and Allies project, and a member of the WILPF Cuba and Bolivarian Issues committee, Ms. Vazquez is a Puerto Rican American with decades of dedicated work as a lesbian organizer and activist. Contact: [jmoon57@earthlink.net](mailto:jmoon57@earthlink.net)

## **[LASA CONFERENCE PANELS FEATURING COLLABORATION MEMBERS](#)**

**Sat, May 28, 12:45 to 2:15pm, TBA**

***"HIV cases and universal care: A view from a New York City Community Health Center and Havana & Santiago de Cuba perspectives"***

**Session Organizer: Cindy Domingo, US Women and Cuba Collaboration**

**Chair: Maria de los Angeles Vicente**

Universal care and access for HIV individuals and seniors can be successful stories when primary health care is locally accessible and not discriminatory. Presenters from NY and Cuba will discuss their work to reduce HIV mortality, successful strategies in Cuba that prevent HIV transmission at birth, and how LGBT organizations, public health and media groups educate communities about HIV prevention and management.

**Panelists:**

Therese R Rodriguez, Apicha Community Health Center, "Expanded HIV Prevention for New York City's LGBT Immigrant Communities: Hispanic Case"

Daysi N. Aldama and Maria de los Angeles Vicente, "Evolución de la transmisión de madre a hijo del VIH en Cuba en los últimos años: Protocolo, prevención y detección temprana"

Isel Calzadilla Acosta, "El grupo comunitario 'Las Isabelas' en la prevención del VIH y su programa educativo para mujeres"

Maria M Rodriguez Puzo, Unión de Periodistas de Cuba, "'Rompiendo brechas': Propuesta de una estrategia comunicativa para el tratamiento adecuado e integrado de la temática Diversidad Sexual y VIH en los medios de difusión masiva de Santiago de Cuba"

Miriam Lima Fernandez, "Atención progresiva en función del anciano y su familia: Salud pública"

**Sun, May 29, 6:00 to 7:30pm, TBA**

***"21st century transnationalism and globalization of business languages in Cuba"***

**Discussant: Caridad Morales Nussa, Towson University**

This panel is a comprehensive, compelling and insightful mapping of the changing landscapes of business languages in the last 50 years influenced by transnationalism and globalization.

**Mon, May 30, 2:30 to 4:00pm, TBA**

***"50 años después de LASA, el intercambio académico y su influencia en los Estudios de las Mujeres y de Género en Cuba"***

**Session Organizer: Caridad Morales Nussa, Towson University**

**Chair: Norma Luisa Vasallo Baruetta, Universidad de La Habana**

Este panel abordará el desarrollo de los estudios de mujeres y género en Cuba en su relación con el intercambio académico y de manera particular con el propiciado por los congresos de LASA.

La influencia de los congresos de LASA se verá en dos direcciones: en primer lugar el espacio de intercambio generado por los paneles aprobados sobre los temas relacionados que apuntaron en la dirección de las líneas de investigación que se siguieron en el transcurso del desarrollo de los referidos estudios en Cuba, es decir un aporte teórico metodológico. En segundo lugar el aporte de los congresos de LASA a la creación de nuevas relaciones y vínculos interinstitucionales o personales que han servido de base para la creación de redes especializadas desde las que fluye información que ha enriquecido y ampliado el propio intercambio.

**Panelists:**

Elizabeth Iglesias, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Norma Vasallo, Universidad de La Habana

Taimara Alfonso Martinez

Isabel Catalina Moya Richard, Universidad de La Habana

**Mon, May 30, 4:15 to 5:45pm, TBA**

***“Procesos lesboemancipatorios emergentes cubanos: miradas desde lo religioso, literario, étnico y lesbomaternal”***

**Panelist:** Norma Guillard Limonta, Universidad de La Habana, “Afro descendientes lesbianas enriquecen su identidad: Cuba en el proceso de este desarrollo”

**Mon, May 30, 6:00 to 7:30pm, TBA**

***“La mujer afrodescendiente, enriquecedora de la vida y de la Nación”***

**Chair:** Catherine E Murphy, The Literacy Project

**Discussant:** Norma Guillard Limonta, Universidad de La Habana

Cuando se habla de la mujer afrodescendiente la imagen que viene a la mente es de sufrimientos pasados a través de la historia, por la marca emocional y física que dejó y legó la cruel esclavitud, pocas veces esto se reconoce, a pesar de la vida de resistencia que le ha tocado llevar incluso hoy. Alice Walker en su libro “Buscando los jardines de nuestras madres” reflexiona en esa riqueza y creatividad que nuestras ancestras transmitieron dadas sus circunstancias de vida. Walker refiere como ellas aprovecharon toda oportunidad en sus espacios cotidianos mostrando toda su fuerza interior para sobrevivir a veces a costa de sacrificar su espiritualidad. El panel destaca el aporte enriquecedor de la mujer afrodescendiente en Cuba y otros países del Caribe, en el contexto histórico-cultural del siglo XIX a pesar de las condicionantes epocales que marcaron su accionar.