Welcome to the Palos Verdes Art Center’s

Havana Film Festival trip to Cuba with Marlene Dermer

The Palos Verdes Art Center is pleased to announce the much anticipated special People to People trip to Cuba scheduled to coincide with the 36th Annual Festival de Cine Latinoamericano in Havana. The trip dates are Thursday, December 4 to Friday, December 12. The trip will be hosted by Marlene Dermer, an expert in Latino film who also has strong connections with the film world in Cuba and has traveled there frequently over the last 20 years. Marlene’s solid knowledge of the country, its art and architecture will provide a background as we explore the Havana Film Festival and the greater film community in Havana. We have teamed up with Cuba Tours and Travel to handle the details related to our visit.

Learn about the culture of Cuba, meet the Cuban people, see the architecture, experience its soul moving music and its deep rooted culture. Meet filmmakers and visit the film industry on the island, experience wonderful concerts, art studios and exciting food. Cuba’s warm and welcoming people are waiting to engage with you and learn first hand about Americans and our values. You will be a part of the exciting programs of the Havana Film Festival.

An eight day and seven night trip focusing on attending the Festival, getting to know the Cuban film world, the cultural community and other activities consistent with your People to People license. The trip will allow you to learn about the film industry, visit artists in their studios, dine at the new restaurants and paladares in Havana and hear some of Cuba’s best music as well as learn about the architecture of the city. The visit will take place in Havana with a day to Las Terrazas Biosphere in Pinar del Rio which will allow you to experience the mythic Cuban countryside.
What is People to People Travel?

In 2012, U.S. President Obama reinstated People to People educational travel, which allows Americans to travel to Cuba, via a Specific License, issued by the US Department of the Treasury (OFAC). All programs under this License (No. CT-2013-301554-1), issued to Palos Verdes Art Center include a full time schedule of educational exchange activities designed to promote meaningful interactions between Americans and the people of Cuba. People to People travel is not tourist oriented or self directed but it is both rewarding and unique. It allows participants to visit a wide scope of organizations, institutions, and community projects that provide a deeper understanding of Cuba, its people and its culture.

Marlene L. Dermer, your trip host

Marlene L. Dermer is the co-founder, Executive Director, Programmer and member of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival (LALIFF). The Festival has grown from its first edition in 1997 of 42 films and 5,000 attendees, to last year’s festival, which exceeded 27,000 attendees and showcased 130 films, 10 panels, workshops and secured major corporate sponsorship from nationally recognized organizations. Besides films, Dermer’s other passions are the arts, books and music. She has traveled the globe to personally get involved in the promotion and preservation of international archeological treasures, art and literary works. As part of her role as the Executive Director and Programmer of LALIFF, Dermer is constantly traveling around the world to be part of many international film festivals and to scout new and upcoming Latino talent to showcase every year at LALIFF. Marlene was born in Peru, but she considers herself to be a citizen of the world. She has lived in New Orleans, Spain and now in Los Angeles.

The Palos Verdes Art Center, (PVAC) is a non-profit community visual arts gallery and school that “inspires individuals to celebrate, appreciate and create art.” Since 1931, when it was founded as a cultural arm of the planned community of Palos Verdes Estates, the Art Center’s exhibition, education and outreach programs have made the visual arts available, accessible and affordable. The Palos Verdes Art Center provides an economically and ethnically diverse community with art exhibitions, studio art classes, art experiences for differently-abled youth and adults, school based art education, standards based art programs for schools, and opportunities to volunteer and network with other artists.

The 36th International Festival of New Latin American Cinema will be held in La Habana, Cuba, from December 4 to 14, 2013. The Festival promotes and awards those works whose significance and artistic values contribute to enrich and reaffirm the Latin American and Caribbean cultural identity. For more information open this link: http://www.habanafilmfestival.com/
Your Havana Film Festival trip to Cuba includes:

* VIP meet and greet, and check in assistance at the Miami International Airport
* Round trip air MIA-HAV
* Arrival assistance at Jose Marti Airport
* Cuban Visa
* Your People to People license or paperwork for general license
* Cuban Visa
* Airport transfers in Havana
* Accommodations for 8 nights at the Hotel Nacional OR Hotel Capri
* Daily breakfast at hotel
* 1 pre-paid opening lunchon with invited guests
* 1 pre-paid gala closing dinner
* Medical Insurance in Cuba
* Entrance to all film festival activities (festival credentials)

Your program price does NOT include:

* Tips (guide, driver, baggage handlers & waiters)
* Airfare to Miami or hotel in Miami if needed
* Airport taxes upon departing Havana (CUC 25/ USD 30)
* Single room differential ($450 total for whole week)
* Trip interruption insurance
* All other items not listed in “your trip includes”
PROGRAM COSTS

Land $2511. Per passenger. Based on 10-14 customers at Hotel Nacional or similar (5 star)
Air $  554. Mia-Hav-Mia (includes meet & greet at Miami airport, Cuban visa and taxes)
License $  250.

TOTAL $3315. Per passenger ($450.00 single supplement)

Hotel discount $170 less for passengers staying at Hotel Capri (four star); total $3145.
Professional discount $250 less for full-time professionals in art, film, television, acting or related fields who plan to conduct professional research on this trip (see below.)

To sign-up please click your hotel choice:
For Hotel Nacional: http://tourinfosys.com/signup/pvac_nacional
For Hotel Capri: http://tourinfosys.com/signup/pvac_capri

For more information:
Call Cuba Tours and Travel at 888 225-6439 Ext. 802 or customerservice@cubatoursandtravel.com