

# GETTING FUNKY IN HAVANA

A NEW ORLEANS-HAVANA CULTURAL EXCHANGE

JANUARY 14-18, 2020



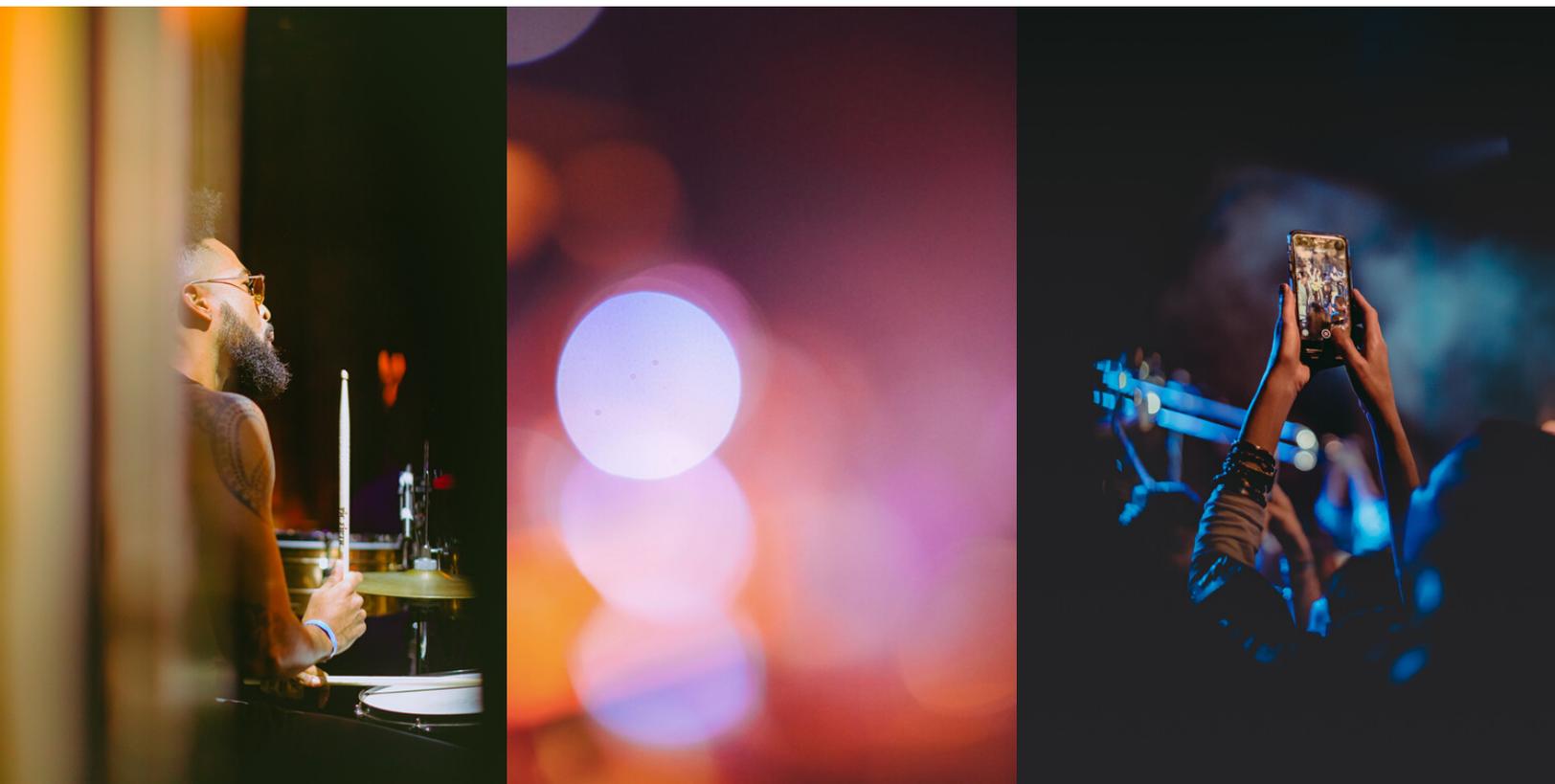
GIA MAIONE PRIMA  
FOUNDATION, INC.

# GETTING FUNKY IN HAVANA

The historical connections between Cuba and Louisiana date back hundreds of years. Music has been one of the bridges that connects our lands and plays an important role in keeping the Cuba-Louisiana friendship strong and growing. The New Orleans – Havana cultural exchange project “Getting Funky in Havana” aims to build on these strong traditions to celebrate and strengthen these important bonds.

Leading New Orleans bands the **Soul Rebels** and **Tank and the Bangas** will join forces with Cuba’s top musical talent **Cimafunk** to create an unforgettable concert series “Getting Funky in Havana,” that will be accompanied by immersive cultural experiences with Cuban artists, musicians and other creatives. The trip is organized by the Trombone Shorty Foundation and Cuba Educational Travel, two organizations with long histories of cross-cultural exchange, community engagement and arts development. It is also sponsored by the Gia Maione Prama Foundation. Cimafunk, the groundbreaking Afro-Cuban funk artist, will serve as the local host and work with his friends and colleagues to return the favor to his guests from New Orleans after a magical visit to NOLA in April 2019.

The program will include visits to schools and community projects and will focus on supporting the Cuban people and young New Orleans musicians from the Trombone Shorty Foundation. The project is aimed at supporting cultural exchange and musical development. Funds secured from the travel package will be used to subsidize musician and student travel and support cultural projects in New Orleans and Havana. We’re grateful to travelers for taking part in a life-changing cultural trip that supports the arts and artists in both countries. Getting Funky in Havana will take place as a part of Jazz Plaza thanks to the support of the Ministry of Culture, the Institute of Popular Music and other generous partners in Cuba.



# ABOUT US

**Cuba Educational Travel (CET)** is a leader in cultural travel to Cuba. CET unlocks the best of Cuba by providing access to the country's top artists, academics, tastemakers, and cultural figures. CET's tailor-made programs enable clients to experience Cuba's vibrant culture and gain a deeper understanding of the island, while ensuring full compliance with all U.S. regulations. Our travel programs are all about enrichment and giving back and allow travelers to deeply engage with Cubans they meet, and we focus on building relationships that will be mutually beneficial and empowering for everyone involved.

CET has been on the front lines of cultural collaboration, helping to bring Cubans to the U.S. and Americans to Cuba. From Yoga retreats to concerts to dance performances, CET has wide-ranging experience and contacts. Recent highlights include organizing the Diplo Major Lazer concert in Havana, which drew a crowd of over 500,000 people and bringing Litz Alfonso Dance Cuba, the country's top dance group, to perform at the Latin Grammys.

**The Trombone Shorty Foundation** has the mission to inspire the next generation of talented, yet underserved musicians through music education, instruction, mentorship, and performance. By honoring the New Orleans tradition of "playing it forward" from the earliest jazz legends onward, the foundation seeks to preserve and perpetuate the musical heritage of a city where music is everything. Experienced and professional teachers, tutors, and mentors support every student in the pursuit of a well-rounded understanding of New Orleans' musical traditions, experience in music performance, reading, writing, and now, even business, and the social and academic skills they need to make noise wherever they go – in music and in life.

**The Gia Maione Prima Foundation**, founded by Gia Prima, supports organizations and projects that foster and encourage an appreciation for American jazz, American popular music and jazz performance, as well as the fine arts.



# SUPPORT FOR THE CUBAN PEOPLE

The U.S. Government permits legal travel to Cuba under 12 different categories that range from professional meetings and sporting competitions to religious and humanitarian travel. One of the broadest and most common categories of travel is “Support for the Cuban People,” which requires travelers maintain a full-time schedule of activities that involve meaningful interaction with individuals in Cuba and that those activities help Cubans become more independent. There are many ways in which travelers can easily fulfill this requirement while having an incredible experience in Cuba and being thoughtful, respectful and kind with the many Cubans you interact with during your travels.

Cuba Educational Travel (CET) has a long history of working with entrepreneurs, cultural groups, religious organizations, community projects and families and individuals that are involved in interesting and exciting initiatives in Cuba. Our trips have always been aimed at supporting the Cuba people through connecting them with travelers visiting the island, so that all parties can benefit from the friendships and professional relationship that result. Moreover, we believe strongly in supporting innovative and impactful businesses and social and cultural initiatives and make sure there are economic benefits to our partners on the island.

Your program will vary based on your specific interests, number of days on the island and other factors, but will include activities that directly benefit the Cuban people through conversations, knowledge sharing, follow-up initiatives, donations, normal business dealings and a variety of other actions. Excessive free time and recreational activities are not permitted and travelers are required to work with CET and our local partners to maintain a full-time program that includes incredibly fun and interesting site visits, discussions, performances, tours, happy hours and meals that help our incredible neighbors on the island.



## TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

- Midday** Arrivals to Havana. Meet your CET hosts at the exit of the terminal and transfer to accommodations for check-in.
- 6:30 pm** Welcome to Havana Dinner at Galeria Taller Gorría. Opening remarks, live music and dinner under the stars. Galeria Taller Gorría is an art gallery and socio-cultural project created by the famous actor and plastic artist Jorge Perugorría, which has become a confluence space for the best of the national and international artistic avant-garde. **San Isidro 214, e/ Picota 7 Compostela, Old Havana.**
- 9 pm** Havana – New Orleans After Party and Jam Session. Performance by female hip-hop duo Reyna y Real, followed by a jam session with Cuban musicians. Cuban musicians and creatives will join us for music under the stars.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

- 10 am** Visit the Amadeo Roldan Music Conservatory with the Horns to Havana music project. Performance by Cuban students and jam session with Trombone Shorty Foundation students. **Calle Rastro, e/ Lealtad y Padre Varela, Old Havana.**
- \*\*\*Amadeo Roldan** is a prestigious music high school that has been led by great Cuban musicians and educators including Roldán, Guillermo Tomás and Diego Bonilla. The Conservatory has educated and shaped some of the most significant international Cuban composers and performers like Bebo Valdés, Leo Brower and Harold Lopez-Nussa.
- \*\*\* Horns to Havana**, a US-based organization dedicated to instrument donation, repair and training and education and cultural exchanges, is a longtime supporter of the conservatory and its students.
- 12:30pm** Enjoy lunch in Old Havana. Break into small groups to check out some of the Old City's coolest lunch spots and find time to wander the beautiful plazas and backstreets of Old Havana. **Not included – pay cash.**
- 3 pm** **Second Line Conga in Old Havana.**  
*Second lining* has been called "the quintessential New Orleans art form – a jazz funeral without a body." Often, Mardi Gras Indians were and still are included in the procession. The term conga refers to the music groups within Cuban comparsas and the music they play. Comparsas are large ensembles of musicians, singers and dancers with a specific costume and choreography which perform in the street carnivals of Sanitago de Cuba and Havana.

- 8:30 pm** Dinner at Tierra, Havana's newest international dining spot. Located inside a container in the Fabrica de Arte Cubano, the restaurant mirrors the eclectic crowd, serving dishes from around the world.
- 11 pm** Concert by Tank and the Bangas with surprise guest performances at the Fabrica de Arte Cubano, the premier location for viewing top music, art and design in Havana. The brainchild of Afro-Cuban fusion musician X-Alfonso, it has become the country's most successful art and music venue and a meeting spot for a young, eclectic crowd of Cubans and foreigners alike.

## **THURSDAY, JANUARY 16**

- 10:30 am** Behind the scenes Cuba Experiences. Break into small groups to explore the city with the following options:
- Guided Walking Tour of Old Havana:*** Enjoy the beautiful plazas, rich history and explore Havana's backstreets.
  - Boxing with Champions:*** Hit a Havana gym for boxing lessons and a workout with Olympic boxers.
  - Behind the Scenes Art Tour:*** explore the galleries and studios of emerging and world-renowned Cuban artists.
  - Classic Cars:*** Hop in classic American beauties from the 1950s for a driving tour of Havana with a stop at a garage dedicated to restoring these classics.
- 1 pm** **Enjoy lunch on your own.** Break into small groups to check out some of the City's coolest lunch spots. Your hosts will be happy to assist with reservations and transportation. **Not included – pay cash.**
- 6 pm** **Intimate dinner and performance by Anders Osborne and Carlos Varela** in the garden of Havana art gallery. Osborne, a legendary Louisiana singer and songwriter, and Varela, considered the Bob Dylan of Cuba, will share songs, music and stories for a special group of invited guests.
- 10 pm** **Enjoy the VIP Section and Rooftop of La Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC).**
- 11 pm** **Trombone Shorty Foundation & Soul Rebels Performance.** The Fabrica de Arte Cubano will once again be blessed by crazy New Orleans talent, this time the Trombone Shorty Foundation, led by one of the world's top trombone players Troy "Trombone Shorty," and the Soul Rebels, fresh off the release of electric new album, will bring the soul and funk from New Orleans.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

**10:30 am** Behind the scenes **Cuba Experiences**. Break into small groups to explore the city with the following options:

**Guided Walking Tour of Old Havana:** Enjoy the beautiful plazas, rich history and explore Havana's backstreets.

**Boxing with Champions:** Hit a Havana gym for boxing lessons and a workout with Olympic boxers.

**Behind the Scenes Art Tour:** explore the galleries and studios of emerging and world-renowned Cuban artists.

**Classic Cars:** Hop in classic American beauties from the 1950s for a driving tour of Havana with a stop at a garage dedicated to restoring these classics.

*Lunch and early afternoon free*

**7 pm** Farewell dinner at **La Guarida paladar**, famous not only for its delectable dining, but also as the location for the film *Strawberry and Chocolate*. It is housed on the third floor of a large, old town house with the charming ambience of the early 1900s.

**9 pm** Attend "**Getting Funky in Havana**" Concert at the **Tropical**. Performances by the Soul Rebels, Tank and the Bangas, and Cimafunk, featuring special guests including students from the Trombone Shorty Foundation. Music lovers can prepare for the concert of the year.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

**TBD** Check-out and depart for the airport. (2 ½ hours before your flight)

