Join us for a once in a lifetime experience in Cuba!

Study Abroad May 2016: Havana, Cuba
MUEN 1151 Chamber Singers: Cuban Singing, Dancing and Drumming
Instructor: Dr. Mark Marotto (LSC-Montgomery)

Learn how Cuban music brings together African and Hispanic traditions of singing, dance and drumming. During your time in Havana you will experience Cuba’s rich musical heritage first-hand, learning the style, instruments, and performance practices specific to Cuban music. You will share performances with Cuban musicians and attend master classes taught by Cuban music and dance teachers. Through conversations and people-to-people exchange, you will gain a deeper understanding of the daily lives of the Cuban people and the critically important role of the arts in their society.

Trip Outline:
May 16-19: Preparation at LSC-Montgomery Campus (rehearsals and discussions to prepare for the trip)

May 19-26: Experience Cuba! (exchanges, performances, master classes, lessons, rehearsals, conversations, guided exploration)

May 27: Home Concert at LSC-Montgomery Campus (share what you’ve learned with friends and family)
Lone Star College has partnered with MetaMovements Cultural Connections to create a custom travel experience to Cuba.

Who We Are & What We Do:

MetaMovements is an entrepreneurial Artist Collective dedicated to using the arts as a tool for positive transformation. In addition to teaching, performing, and leading community arts projects, we also host cultural tours that bring people together for unique, uplifting experiences in Cuba, the U.S., and other locations. Our director has deep personal ties to Cuba, and for over 20 years has consulted on authentic exchanges and cultural programs between Cuban & U.S. citizens, as well as travelers from all over the world. Our diverse team of consultants and artists bring a wide range of expertise to provide the best custom tour experience for all of our travelers.

"Cultural exchange is one of the most important things we can do to break down barriers between cultures and foster global solidarity. My trip to Cuba was my first real experience with this kind of interaction. Not only was I able to interact and learn from some of the great performers of the music and dance that I love, I was able to gain a new perspective on life and meet some amazing people."

- Ken W., Percussionist

Proposed Features for Your Trip:

Length of Trip: 8 days, 7 nights
Date Range: May 19th - 26th, 2016
*8 hours of People to People exchange & workshops, with an emphasis on exploring Cuba through its unique arts scene.

Cuba Fun Fact: Cuba has one of the highest literacy rates in the world – 99.8%
Your Program: Explore Cuba... Through the Arts!

See Cuba as it truly is...from the moment you step onto the ground, you’ll be swept up in authentic Cuban cultural experiences! Deepen your understanding of the traditions, community, and arts in Cuba. Through extensive, daily interaction with dancers, musicians, historians and scholars, you will be drawn into the unparalleled Cuban culture.

What’s Included in Your Package:

- 7 nights accommodations in a popular Havana hotel
- Round trip charter flight from Miami to Havana
- U.S. Department of the Treasury license and MetaMovements letter of certification
- Luxury motorcoach and personal driver for all transportation, including airport transfers
- Welcome reception and pre-tour briefing
- Knowledgeable, friendly MetaMovements Tour Leader
- Expert Cuban Guide and Host
- Translation for non-Spanish speaking travelers
- Access to Cuban Health Insurance for any medical emergencies
- All meals, except for 4 “paladar” dining experiences (to explore the cuisine in Cuba’s blossoming private dining industry.)
- Exciting tours to the most important historical sites, and to the unique locations that most U.S. travelers have never seen.
- Thought-provoking presentations by Cuban experts, and interactive people-to-people exchanges with the locals, all hand-picked by our experienced staff with your particular interests in mind (as presented to us in your personal interest surveys)
- Cuban Health Insurance

Cuba Fun Fact: Baseball is the most popular sport in Cuba by far. The country is also dominant in boxing and has produced a number of Olympic boxing champions. The game of dominoes is also extremely popular.

Special Features of Your Program:

- Immerse yourself in the music and dance of the island, from the Afro-Cuban roots, to Salsa, hip hop and beyond! Observe breath-taking performances, and get behind the scenes to meet the artists.
- Open exchange and dialogue with Cubans who share some of the same interests as you ... learn directly from them about their every-day lives, opinions, and goals for the future.
- Enjoy personalized music and dance workshops from friendly, knowledgeable professionals who will help you feel the Cuban rhythms with the greatest of ease... whatever your level of experience!

Cuba Fun Fact: Cuba is renown for its music; bands play everywhere in the capital, Havana. The main musical form is called “son” or “son cubano”, which is a combination of upbeat rhythms with classical guitar.
• Connect with experts regarding issues important to you, ranging from their acclaimed public health and education systems, to conversations about race relations and cultural preservation
• Experience Cuba’s natural beauty as it connects to the Orishas of the Yoruba Pantheon, accompanied by experts in Afro-Cuban traditions...from the ocean and the river, to the forest and the mountain.
• Meet celebrated artists and view their art, in their home studios and at local crafts markets
• Visit important historical locations including Old Havana and other UNESCO World Heritage Sites, as well as urban and rural Cuban living environments
• Explore exceptional Cuban Museums, with a focus on Afro-Cuban culture and art
• Visit Cuba’s respected community projects that offer high-quality cultural activities for youth, seniors, or people with special needs

Pricing and Deposit Deadlines:

A $500 non-refundable deposit and simple application are required to reserve your space. We have created a special tiered pricing opportunity for early bird applicants!

Program Package Price:

With deposit in by December 1st, the cost will be $2,795
With deposit in by February 1st, the cost will be $2,995
With deposit in by March 1st, the cost will be $3,195

Full Payment due by April 15, 2016

Not included in your package:
Connecting flight from Houston to Miami
If necessary, accommodations for an overnight stay in Miami
Tips & gratuities
Cost of Visa ($75)

Additional options available upon request!
Invigorating out-of-program social gatherings...
including night-time events, like a trip to the Tropicana!
Additional drinks, snacks, and meals outside the scheduled meals
Upgrade to a private room for only $350!

Apply for Scholarships!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Scholarship type</th>
<th>Where to get application</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 25, 2015</td>
<td>LSC Study Abroad Need-based (you’re on financial aid)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lonestar.edu/study-abroad-financial-aid.htm">http://www.lonestar.edu/study-abroad-financial-aid.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>September 25, 2015</td>
<td>LSC Study Abroad Merit based (you have a 3.25 GPA or higher)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lonestar.edu/study-abroad-financial-aid.htm">http://www.lonestar.edu/study-abroad-financial-aid.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1, 2015</td>
<td>LSC-Montgomery Cuba participants ($500 each)</td>
<td>login to myLonestar and complete the Scholarship Application</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1, 2015</td>
<td>LSC-Montgomery Music Field of Study ($500 each)</td>
<td>login to myLonestar and complete the Scholarship Application</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1st, 2016</td>
<td>LSC-Foundation (Private donations have been made to help you make this trip possible)</td>
<td>See Dr. Marotto <a href="mailto:mark.marotto@lonestar.edu">mark.marotto@lonestar.edu</a></td>
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Register for MUEN 1151 Chamber Singers during the May 2016 mini-mester and receive 1 credit hour (no audition required)*

**Itinerary/Course Outline**

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<th>Locations/Topic</th>
<th>Activities/Assignments</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, May 16, 2016</strong></td>
<td>LSC-M: Course intro, Syllabus, Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 17, 2016</strong></td>
<td>LSC-M: Cuba &amp; its music, Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 18, 2016</strong></td>
<td>LSC-M: Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, May 19, 2016</strong></td>
<td>Depart from IAH to Havana, Cuba;</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, May 20, 2016</strong></td>
<td>Cuba: Music, Dance and Drumming in performance practice</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, May 21, 2016</strong></td>
<td>Cuba: Choral exchange and masterclass</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, May 22, 2016</strong></td>
<td>Cuba: Music, Dance and Drumming in community revitalization; 1st performance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, May 23, 2016</strong></td>
<td>Cuba: Choral exchange and masterclass; Music, Dance and Drumming in education</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 24, 2016</strong></td>
<td>Cuba: Music, Dance and Drumming in special education and rehabilitation; 2nd performance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 25, 2016</strong></td>
<td>Cuba: Music, Drumming and Dance in religion and social change</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, May 26, 2016</strong></td>
<td>Depart from Havana to IAH</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, May 27, 2016</strong></td>
<td>LSC-M: Rehearsal, group reflections; home performance</td>
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*Regular course tuition fees apply*
About the Instructor, Dr. Mark Marotto

Dr. Mark Marotto is the Director of Choral Activities at Lone Star College-Montgomery where he is head of the music department. He recently traveled to Cuba in July 2015 where he participated in a 10-day people-to-people exchange with MetaMovements focusing on Cuban music and dance.

Dr. Marotto has lived and worked in five countries throughout Europe and North America. During his eight years in Switzerland, he served as Artistic Director of Le Louverain, a summer choral festival in Neuchâtel as well as conducted a number of ensembles including the Bern University Chorus, Le Motet de Genève and the Lausanne Youth Choir. He also music directed musical theatre productions for the Geneva Amateur Operatic Society and taught music appreciation for Pepperdine University’s study abroad program in Lausanne.

Dr. Marotto completed his doctorate in choral conducting at the University of Michigan. He also holds a master’s degree in orchestral conducting from the National Music University of Bucharest, Romania and a bachelor’s in music, summa cum laude, from Duke University.

For more information on Study Abroad, May 2016: Cuba, contact:

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