

Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs  
presents

# APPlause!

## K-12 Performing Arts Series

September 28, 2016

Havana Cuba All-Stars



As an integral part of the Performing Arts Series, APPlause! matinées offer a variety of performances at venues across the Appalachian State University campus that feature university-based artists as well as local, regional and world-renowned professional artists. These affordable performances offer access to a wide variety of art disciplines for K-12 students. The series also offers the opportunity for students from the Reich College of Education to view a field trip in action without having to leave campus. Among the 2016-2017 series performers, you will find those who will also be featured in the Performing Arts Series along with professional artists chosen specifically for our student audience as well as performances by campus groups.

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## PLEASE NOTE:

**\*THIS EVENT IS SCHEDULED TO LAST APPROX 60 MINUTES\***

10:00am – 11:00am

- Audience members arriving by car should plan to park in the Rivers Street Parking Deck. There is a small charge for parking.
- Buses should plan to park along Rivers Street – Please indicate to the Parking and Traffic Officer when you plan to move your bus (i.e. right after the show, or after lunch) so that they can help keep everyone safe.
- Adults meeting a school group at the show will be asked to sign in at the lobby and wait to be escorted to their group by a security guard.

## Before the performance...

**Familiarize your students with what it means to be a great audience member by introducing these theatre etiquette basics:**

- Arrive early enough to find your seats and settle in before the show begins (20-30 minutes).
- Remember to turn your electronic devices OFF so they do not disturb the performers or other audience members.
- Remember to sit appropriately and to stay quiet so that the audience members around you can enjoy the show too.

## Spend some time learning about Cuba!

Cuba, “the key to the Gulf of Mexico,” is the largest of the Antillean islands. Only 90 miles south of the Florida Keys, its geographic position has significantly shaped its history. Spain cherished Cuba’s location as the point of intersection of the New World’s sea-lanes, and the Dutch, French and British were equally attracted to this archipelago whose control seemed vital for the control of colonial America. Cuba’s relations with the United States, however, have arguably defined Cuba’s place in the world most significantly.

The neighboring island became a valuable maritime passage once the Americans acquired Louisiana and Florida, and the United States became Cuba’s greatest commercial partner as the main market for Cuban exports and main source of foreign investment. These deep economic and political ties to the United States were severed once Fidel Castro took control of the state in 1959, establishing a Communist government soon after. Having set the ground for a close partnership with the Soviet Union, Fidel Castro would become a protagonist in the most critical point of the Cold War- The Cuban Missiles Crisis. Today, the world watches expectantly as Cuba’s political and economic landscape transforms in a government attempt to revamp national economic performance without affecting the socialist system.



## About the performance:

Drawing their inspiration from traditional Cuban Son, Cuba's greatest musicians have created and maintained the songs and music of the rich culture of the Cuban people in the program, "Cuban Nights." Staying true to an acoustic base, they have developed a fresh sound with inventive songwriting, and have preserved the traditions of the Cuban musical art form. The Cuban Nights program is representative of the extraordinary musical legacy of this wonderful country.

The Havana Cuba All-Stars is a band comprised of Cuba's greatest and most prominent musicians, and is devoted to promoting the entire tapestry of Cuban music. The origin of the Havana Cuba All-Stars began when it was created to exemplify the great musical traditions of the Cuban people. This is the debut tour of Cuba's greatest musicians in the United States and Canada.



### The Havana Cuba All-Stars are:

**Fito Florian** - Spanish Guitar, Tres & Chorus

**Alejandro (Flecha) Albar** - Steel Guitar, Tres & Chorus

**Juan Luis (Luz Brillante) Alarcon** - Bongos, Cowbell & Cajon

**Vicente Arencibia** - Lead Vocal & Congas

**David Echevarria** - Lead Vocal, Bongos & Hand Percussion

**Michel (Pata) Salazar** - Bass and Chorus

**Camilo Menjura** - Chorus, Hand Percussion, Guitar

**Andres V. Valdes** - Chorus & Guitar

**Yoan Sanchez** - Timbales, Snare, Congas & Percussion

**Eikel Venegas** - 2nd Trumpet & Slide Trombone

**Michel Padron** - 1st Trumpet & Valve Trombone





### After the performance:

Talk with your students about the music, the language and the culture that they experienced throughout the performance. Listed below are questions to help you get started.

- \* What did you already know about Cuba?
- \* What did you learn at the performance that was new to you?
- \* Do you have a favorite Cuban tune from the show? What is it?
- \* Were any instruments featured in the performance that were new to you?
- \* Which instruments were you already familiar with?
- \* Did any of the music sound familiar to you? Why or why not?



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The performances are part of the APPlause! Series, presented by Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs. Featuring local, regional and world-renowned professional artists, the mission of the program is to share university arts resources with the public, private and home school network across our region. Study guide materials connect every performance to the classroom curriculum. With the help of the university's College Access Partnerships, school groups can enjoy lunch in an on-campus dining facility, take a campus tour, or observe a demonstration by an Appalachian State professor.

The APPlause! Series receives generous support  
from the Clabough Foundation



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