



Letters to the Editor

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Dear Editor:

I wanted to compliment you for producing such a wonderful Journal. I have used the first two issues in my Caribbean Cultures classroom and my students have found it to be a useful tool in understanding the complex issues which surround Cuba. I was also impressed with the quality of scholars who wrote articles for the journal. I have seen many of these scholars at academic conferences, and I was pleased to have access to their articles in such an attractive package. Please continue to produce such a high quality collection of works. I look forward to the continued success and subsequent issues of *Islas*. It has become an integral part of my class room.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shawn Alfonso Wells
Department of Africana Studies
University of Pittsburgh



Dear Editor:

It is with great pleasure that I write to celebrate the initial issues of *Islas*, the official publication of the Afro-Cuban Alliance, Inc. This informative and much needed journal has now seen three issues which contain a variety of articles, book reviews, poetry, news items, historical features, and immigration news and facts which the reader can use to keep abreast of current events in the light of historical facts regarding socio-racial issues.

The content of this very attractive journal extends well beyond the suggestion of its title, *Islas* (Islands), since we find articles dealing with the African history of the Caribbean, as well as racial, sociological, ethnic, anthropological, and linguistic materials pertinent not only to the Caribbean basin, including northern South America and Central America, but also to the United States, Europe, and of



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course, to Africa. The essays include well written and succinct studies offered by authors and professors from Cuba and other parts of the world and appear in Spanish and English in the same issues. This bilingual format gives the journal much more appeal to wider audiences throughout the English speaking and Spanish speaking worlds. At the same time, its diverse contents, covering many different disciplines make it especially attractive to a wide range of readers. They will enjoy the historical and contemporary features written by a wide variety of authors who bring many diverse experiences to bear on their delivery of unique points of view.

From racism in Cuba and the United States, to discussions of the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; paintings and poetry; religion; the effects of disasters (e.g., Hurricane Katrina); news briefs, and telling photos (in color and black and white), this journal runs the gamut of international perspectives on the dilemmas of race and color; public opinion and politics; religion and ethnic diversities. It is in tune with the American hemispheric attitudes extant among writers, thinkers, poets, and university professors who are immersed in the historical and cultural aspects of the African heritage which resulted from the diaspora of the colonial period.

Islas promises to continue to be an important source of information and enjoyment for all those interested in a complete overview of Afro-American matters presented in an extremely attractive format, accessible to Spanish and English speakers who demand accuracy and clarity of style and purpose.

Sincerely,

William W. Megenney
Professor of Hispanic & Luso-Brazilian
Linguistics
University of California, Riverside