

Citizens' Committee for Racial Integration



Havana, August 24, 2011

CALL FOR PAPERS 2nd RACE AND CUBANNESS FORUM: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Racism continues to be a bitter political and social conflict tied to our poor emotional education. It is a cancer that penetrates us all: the governed and the governors. We must all become aware of the fact that racism and prejudice seriously threaten our social and ecological coexistence.

Adjusting our body politic has been an ongoing process in which the black vanguard in Cuba has played a primary role for more than a century. Thus, black thought in Cuba, which



Juan Antonio Madrazo presenting the Race and Cubaness forum call for papers

has been ignored by official historiography and its intellectual vanguard, deserves all our attention.

Renowned politicians, pedagogues and intellectuals like Antonio Maceo, Juan Gualberto Gómez, Martín Morúa Delgado, Gustavo Urrutia, Ángel César Pinto Albiol, Armando Guerra, Alberto Arredondo, Manuel Cuellar Vizcaíno, Ramón Vasconcelos, Juan René Betancourt, Sara Gómez, Eugenio Hernández Espinosa, Alberto Pedro, Leyda Oquendo, Inés María Martiatu Terry, Carlos Moore, Juan Benemelis, Juan Roberto Diago,

Iván César Martínez, etc., with their public virtues and political sacrifices, have contributed and still contribute, raising the history of blacks in Cuba at the level it belongs in the nation's political and cultural patrimony, and to the development of a form of national and anti-racist thinking that has not yet sufficiently anchored itself in our social consciousness.

The purpose of the second *Cuba Forum: Race and Nation* symposium is to increase and encourage an exchange of ideas about this rich school of thought. Its theme is Two Centuries of Black Thought in Cuba, and it is being organized by the *Citizens' Committee for Racial Integration* (CIR). This symposium will also serve as a testament to those who have been profes-

sionally and civically committed with their country in the struggle for the emancipation of human dignity and completion of the Cuban nation.

This is an excellent opportunity for the CIR to make the diversity of black thought in Cuba more visible within a global context that is quite sensitive to the challenges faced by African descendants all over the world. The promotion of citizen sovereignty, to think about Cuba in a different light, and to continue deciphering our national identity's diversity are very necessary projects to which all social actors should seriously commit themselves.

The **Forum**, sponsored by the CIR's **Gustavo E. Urrutia Endowed Chair**, will take place in Havana on November 25-26, 2011. All manner of topics related to Cuba's history and culture will be discussed.

The **Forum's** program will be subject to changes, according to circumstances and suggestions from those who are interested in participating.

Presentations should not exceed 15 pages (with 1.5 spacing and Times New Roman font). A one-page summary should be sent one month prior to sending the presentations. All summaries and presentations should be sent via email to cubainterracial.gl@gmail.com or to the following postal address:

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In case of any doubt, please send an email message or call 5352789768 or 5352538923. All papers should be sent with an author biography with name, address, telephone number, email address and a brief bio-brief.

The Organizing Committee will accept presentations until November 10, 2011.

Juan Antonio Madrazo Luna

National Coordinator