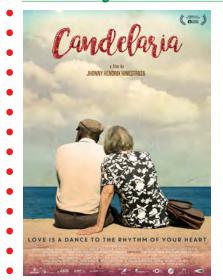
• Two Screenings of "CANDELARIA" in partnership with the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival



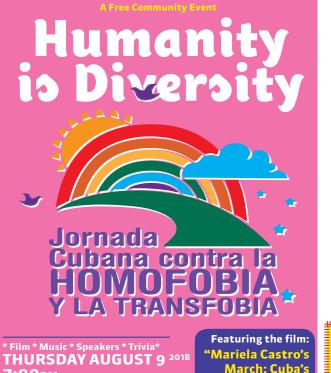
>> Saturday, Sept 1 @ 7:30 PM | SFU Woodward's | Goldcorp Centre for the Arts

>> Sunday, Sept 2 @ 3:15 PM | The Cinematheque BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW: www.vlaff.org

"CANDELARIA"

Cuba/Colombia, 2017 - Spanish with English subtitles/ 87mins •

Havana, 1994. Candelaria, 75, and Víctor Hugo, 76, are more focused on • finding enough to eat and preserving their one remaining lightbulb than • they are on each other. The days are repetitive, conversations are sparse, dinners are sad. But the monotony is suddenly broken when Candelaria • finds a video camera tangled in the dirty sheets of the hotel laundry where • she works. Not sure of what to do with it just yet, she brings it home. The arrival of this foreign object in their home unleashes all kinds of unexpected consequences. This sweet and saucy tale of an older married • couple re-finding their spark, is absolutely lovely to watch.



THURSDAY AUGUST 9 2018 7:00PM MOUNT PLEASANT NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE 800 E Broadway - Vancouver, Canada

Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba 😯 🤘 @VanCuba_VCS www.vancubasolidarity.com 🗧 778-882-522:

VCSC is a Community Partner with the Vancouver Pride Society



Call If you want to join the Cuba delegation! Summer 2018 we will be at: East Side Pride - June 23 Pride Premiere - July 27 Vancouver Pride Parade & Sunset Beach Fesival - August 5 New Westminster Pride Street Festival -August 18

Get Involved with VCSC! 778.882.5223 | vancubasolidarity@gmail.com @ @VanCuba_VCSC & Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC) WWW.VANCUBASOLIDARITY.COM



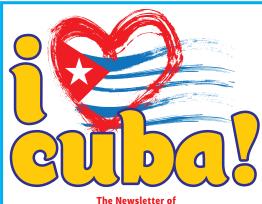
Mariela Castro, director of the Cuban National Center for Sex Education (CENESEX) alongside Mike Jackson of Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners (LGSM) at the Conga Against Homophobia and Transphobia in Havana, Cuba, May 2018.

Excerpts from the theguardian.com article, "Cuba's new constitution paves way for same-sex marriage"

Cuba is set to become the latest country in Latin America to approve gay marriage, after the National Assembly on Sunday signed off on a new constitution that defines marriage as "the consensual union of two people, regardless of gender". The new constitution, known as the Magna Carta - which also recognises private property for the first time since the Cold War - will be put to a referendum later this year.

The news was met with elation by the LGBTQ community, many of whom were hopeful but not certain the measure would pass.

"This is marvellous," said Pablo Navarro, 70, who spent two years cutting sugar cane in a correctional labour camp in the 1960s because of his sexuality. "I feel proud that the new generation can enjoy this achievement even though we couldn't."



The Newsletter of Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba - VCSC WWW.VANCUBASOLIDARITY.COM

Summer 2018 - 2nd edition

CUBA TO GET READY FOR SAME SEX MARRIAGE, SAYS MARIELA CASTRO

"It's a really important step forward," said Yeandro Tamayo, 40, a gay theatre director from Havana, who watched the National Assembly debate the issue live on television. "I've never been interested in marriage, now they they have approved it, I might get married myself!"

Legislators voted unanimously for the

VANCOUVER CUBA SOLIDARITY HEATS UP FOR SUMMER

education system. Cubans U.S. President Barack Obama Another truth that VCSC

example which Free Festival in Vancouver anyone interested in building a better world should look to! In Canadian mainstream One of VCSC's central campaigns over a hundred thousand media, the picture painted of is against the over 55 years long Cuba and life for the Cuban U.S. blockade of Cuba, which were attracted to the VCSC people is largely a negative continues to put enormous booth by the Cuban flags one. That picture is far strain on the Cuban economy and banners, and by the from the truth! Despite the and limits the availability colourful sidewalk chalk on hardships imposed on Cuba by of many import goods which the busy street reading "Hey the U.S. blockade, the Cuban Cubans need. Despite the Trump! Lift the Blockade on people enjoy a renowned historic announcement on Cuba!" universal healthcare and December 17, 2014, by former

live in a dynamic and inclusive and former Cuban President is talking about is LGBTQ

of relations, never lifted the blockade to U.S. with of

on June 17. The 21-block draws street festival people, many of which

the annual Main Street Car

Salsa Lesson at Celebration of Che Guevara's

Birthday & Brigade Reportback June 24, 2018

political system that the Raul Castro that talks were rights in Cuba. As a Community Partner in starting for the normalization Vancouver Pride, every U.S./Cuba year VCSC participates in the marches, tabling fairs and U.S. government parades during the Pride season, breaking down the on false notion that Cuba is a Cuba. VCSC had dangerous place to be gay, the opportunity lesbian, bisexual, trans or discuss the queer. In fact, a widespread blockade and effective campaign hundreds against homophobia and people at transphobia has been

Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba & Proyecto Cultural Sur - Vancouver

Vancouver Celebrates "Palabras en el Mundo" Poetry Festival

On May 25, 2018, a special event was held as part of the "Palabras en el Mundo" (Words in the World) International Poetry Festival. In Vancouver, Canada this event was coorganized by Proyecto Cultural Sur - Vancouver and Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC). This annual evening of poetry, song, dance, and friendship was held in Burnaby's Central Park, among the peaceful trees and water. The setting of the event reflected the theme, which was dedicated to Mother Earth and to water, and to celebrating and protecting our natural environment.

Provecto Cultural Sur - Vancouver is part of an international network which nurtures Latin American culture by bringing people

Report Back!

together to share poetry, music, and dance. The organization has worked together with Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba over several events, including on May 25, to create cultural events which bring together a broad group of people from the

Latin American community and other diverse communities.

"Palabras en el Mundo" was emceed by Proyecto Cultural Sur President Lucy Ortiz, who invited up a number of people to share poetry as well as beautiful dances and songs. After an evening of sharing together, diplomas of participation were given to all who contributed their art and everyone gathered together for a group photo with the beautiful natural backdrop of the park and under the open skies.

To find out more about this important cultural project, visit

http://van.proyectoculturalsur.net







Celebration of Che Guevara's

8 Brigade Reportbacl

Cuban

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The truth is

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2018) Cuba celebra el Día gobierno cubano. Internacional contra la Homofobia, la Transfobia y la Bifobia con un llamado a promover el respeto a la libre de género.

desde el 4 de mayo comenzaron expeditas', puntualizó Castro. las actividades relacionadas con la efeméride y las mismas se extenderán hasta mañana en el contexto del 30 aniversario del Centro Nacional de Educación Sexual (Cenesex).

De acuerdo con la máxima y profesionales. responsable de esa entidad, Mariela Castro, la institución realiza un intenso trabajo por los derechos de la comunidad de lesbianas, gays, bisexuales, transexuales e intersexuales

(Habana, 12 de mayo DE y cuenta con el apoyo del

'Todo este tiempo hemos estado sacando aprendizaje de lo hecho. Tenemos nuevas orientación sexual e identidad propuestas que no consisten en elaborar leyes nuevas, sino, trabajar en modificaciones de Con el lema 'Por escuelas sin leyes que ya existen en nuestra homofobia, ni transfobia', Constitución para que sean más

> Εl programa contempló espacios para las actividades comunitarias, el intercambio académico y cultural, acciones propicias para el intercambio de experiencias entre activistas

La jornada cubana contra homofobia y transfobia estuvo dedicada al tema del acoso por motivos de orientación sexual e identificación de género en los centros de enseñanza.

De acuerdo con especialistas del Cenesex, la violencia de este tipo en las escuelas afecta a todas las personas que están inmersas en situación: víctimas. esa victimarios y testigos.

Estos aseguran que las manifestaciones discriminatorias tienen un impacto significativo sobre la salud física, mental y el bienestar de la comunidad educativa y crean un clima de inseguridad, miedo y descontento en el círculo escolar.

disminuye la Asimismo, confianza en el personal educativo y en la institución, aumenta el riesgo de conductas autolesivas y obstaculiza la construcción de relaciones enriquecedoras y libres de prejuicios', opinaron los expertos.

El Día Internacional contra la Homofobia, la Transfobia y la Bifobia se celebra el 17 de mayo para conmemorar la eliminación de la homosexualidad en 1990 de la lista de enfermedades mentales por parte de la Organización Mundial de la Salud.

Desde: www.prensa-latina.cu

in full effect for years in Cuba, with the support of the Cuban revolutionary government. Huge strides have been made in Cuba such as the right to adoption for same-sex couples, and free and accessible gender reassignment surgery. On June 23, VCSC participated in the annual East Side Pride event in Vancouver, with a table of information and a banner proclaiming "Cuba Says: LGBT+ Rights are Human Rights

Also on June 23, VCSC organizedaneventcelebrating the 90th anniversary of the



birth of revolutionary hero event was also an opportunity piñata, while participants Che Guevara. The event for brigadistas from the 26th got up from their picnic took advantage of the sunny annual Che Guevara Volunteer tables and blankets to take summer weather and was Work Brigade to report back part in a salsa lesson. held in Vancouver's Trout from their recent trip to Cuba. Lake Park, complete with Brigadistas Catherine and BBO and potluck for everyone Janine shared stories from to enjoy! The event started the trip, followed by Max who out with a welcoming by read poetry inspired by Cuba, Coast Salish Indigenous elder and a voice message shared by and activist Kelly White, Andrew, a brigadista living in whose strong voice and Edmonton. The crowd was also drumming led the crowd in treated to music from another song. After the welcoming, brigadista, Andrew, who played VCSC coordinator Tamara on the guitar and sang for Hansen spoke about who Che everyone to enjoy. Another Guevara was, as a leader in musical act followed, with a the Cuban revolution and an singing debut by Nadia, a young inspiration to people fighting Cuba solidarity supporter! for justice and a better future Kids at the event had their all around the world. The fun demolishing a candy-filled

With summer great weather ahead, VCSC will be out around Vancouver holding more events and participating in the upcoming street festivals and Pride events. To join in check for upcoming events at www.vancubasolidarity. com, follow on Facebook or Twitter

@VanCuba_VCSC





CUBA CELEBRATES DAYS AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA WITH A CALL FOR EQUITY

(Havana, May 17, 2018) Cuba is celebrating today the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia with a call to promote respect for free sexual orientation and gender identity, as an exercise of justice and equity.

Under the slogan 'For schools without homophobia, or transphobia,' the activities related to the anniversary began since May 4 and they will be extended until tomorrow in the context of the 30th

anniversary of the National Sex Education Center (CENESEX).

According to its director, Mariela Castro, the institution carries out an intense work for the rights of the lesbian, gay bisexual, trans and intersex community and with support of the Cuban government.

'We have been taking learning from what has been done all this time. We have new proposals that do not consist in drawing up new laws, but, working on modifications of laws that already exist in our Constitution so they are more expeditious,' Castro said.

GET INVOLVED WITH FRIENDS OF CUBA AGAINST THE U.S. BLOCKADE (FCAB - VANCOUVER) @NoBloqueoVan 🔪 604.719.6947

www.facebook.com/NoBloqueoVan NoBloqueoVancouver@gmail.com WWW.VANCUBAVSBLOCKADE.ORG



The program included spaces for community activities, academic and cultural exchange, actions and suitable to the exchange between of experiences activists and professionals.

The Cuban day against homophobia and transphobia was dedicated to the issue of harassment based on sexual orientation and gender identification in educational centers.

The International Day against Transphobia Homophobia, and Biphobia is celebrated on May 17 to commemorate the elimination of homosexuality in 1990 from the list of mental illnesses by the World Health Organization.

From: www.plenglish.com

Continued from cover

new constitution, replacing the current constitution's definition of marriage as the "voluntary union between a man and woman". The new constitution does not explicitly address the question of whether gay couples can adopt children, although experts say this will now likely be possible. [...]

The pro-gay marriage campaign was led by Mariela Castro, the director of the National Centre for for Sex Education (CENESEX), a lawmaker, and daughter of former President Raúl Castro. CENESEX organised the "Conga against Homophobia and Transphobia" in March, in which thousands of revellers danced among gay pride flags and Fidel Castro banners.

This "officialista" campaign was accompanied by a small group of around 100 LGBT activists who lobbied on social media, ran queer cinema screenings, and staged public performance art.

"CENESEX has been educating and lobbying on this issue since 2007 and has been the main force here, but all of our actions have played a role," said feminist militant Marta María Ramirez, 42, through joyous tears. "The National Assembly is now responding to specific demands of the people



and not only to their own experiences as bureaucrats."

has been in train for decades. Employment discrimination because of sexual orientation Elsewhere in Latin America is illegal in both the state and and the Caribbean, same-sex private sector. Legislation marriage is legal in Argentina, enacted earlier this year Uruguay, allows for steep fines and even Colombia. But homosexuality the suspension of licenses remains a criminal offence for private employers who in seven Caribbean island discriminate because gender, race or sexuality.

Sex-change operations were legalised in 2008 and are carried out at no cost to Cuba's about-face on gay rights the patient. Cuban surgeons performed dozens last year.

> Brazil, and of nations.





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