

Habla TEACHER INSTITUTE 2011

TRAVELLING BENEATH THE SURFACE

The Habla Summer Institute is a professional development experience in Merida, Mexico, for all educators interested in activating their own creativity and finding new ways to make the arts part of the daily life of their classrooms.



HABLA 2011 TEACHER INSTITUTE

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

ALL DAY: ARRIVE IN MÉRIDA
(MEET THE HOST FAMILY FOR THOSE WHO
OPT FOR A HOMESTAY)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

8:30AM - 5PM: EXCURSION TO UXMAL
(OPTIONAL) FOR THOSE SIGNED UP MEET AT
HABLA AT 8:00AM

Visit one of the most well known Mayan cities in the world. Uxmal is famous for the purity and delicacy of its architecture and decorative art. It reached its maximum splendor between 600 and 900 AD, but remains a compelling destination for visitors interested in an alternative experience of ancient Mayan culture.

7PM- 8:30PM: **WELCOME AND INSTITUTE OVERVIEW**

We will return to Habla in the evening for an introductory workshop and a chance to meet the other participants and presenters.

8:30PM-9:30PM: **OPENING BOMBAZO AND FIESTA**

Musician Charly Barbera and dancer Laura Riebock will lead a Bomba workshop and performance (a “Bombazo”) at Habla after the orientation. This will be followed by a fiesta and a chance to socialize with the other participants and with the larger Mérida community.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

10AM – 2PM: EXPERIENCE THE CITY OF MERIDA
MEET AT THE MAIN CATHEDRAL DOWNTOWN AT
10:00AM

With a population of over 600,000, the “White City” was founded in 1542 by Francisco de Montejo “El Joven”. It is a cosmopolitan city that has preserved its colonial atmosphere and the majesty of its constructions. During a guided tour of the city, we will visit the Market in the historic downtown center, watch Latin dancing with a live band, and see murals painted by Fernando Castro Pacheco.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

8:30AM-9AM: ARRIVE AT HABLA

9AM -2PM: LAYERS OF LANGUAGE
a workshop with Patricia Sobral

2PM-4PM: THE EARTHLY TEXT WITHIN
a workshop with Arnold Aprill

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

9AM-9:30AM: REFLECTION ON THE PREVIOUS DAY

**9:30AM – 3PM: UNDERPAINT, IMPASTO, SCUMBLE,
AND GLAZE: EXPLORING SURFACES**
a visual arts workshop with Cynthia Weiss

4PM-6:00PM: LA MALETA MUSICAL, PART I (OPTIONAL)
an arts integration workshop with
Charly Barbera

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

9AM-9:30AM: **REFLECTION ON THE PREVIOUS DAY**

9:30AM – 3PM: **READING BENEATH THE SURFACE**
a literacy workshop with Kurt Wootton

3PM – 4PM: **THE MYTHIC TEXT WITHIN**
a conversation with Arnold Aprill

4:30PM-6PM: **SURFACES OF MOVEMENT**
a dance workshop with Laura Riebock

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

9-9:30AM: **REFLECTION ON THE PREVIOUS DAY**

9:30-10:30AM: **BENEATH THE SURFACE OF THE MAYANS**
a cultural presentation

10:30AM – 3:00PM: **A VISUAL ARTS WORKSHOP WITH
CYNTHIA WEISS (PART II)**

4:00PM-6:00PM **LA MALETA MUSICAL, PART II** (OPTIONAL)
a music integration workshop with Charly Barbera.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

9AM-9:30AM: **REFLECTION ON THE PREVIOUS DAY**

9:30AM-2:00PM: **PICKING UP THE PIECES:
COLLAGING THE WEEK'S EXPERIENCES**
a collaborative workshop led by Cynthia Weiss, Patricia Sobral,
Arnold Aprill, and Kurt Wootton

2:00PM: **“BENEATH THE SURFACE”: A COMMUNITY EXHIBIT**

3:00- 4:00PM: **INSTITUTE REFLECTION**

8:30PM: **CLOSING FIESTA AND LIVE LATIN MUSIC**

MEET AT HABLA AT 8:30PM

Meet at Habla for transportation to the site. The closing fiesta will take place at a spacious Quinta (an estate) outside of Mérida. Elegant Yucatecan food, Mexican wines, live music, and dancing will carry us through the night.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

8:00AM – 5:00PM: **SEE THE FLAMINGOES AND SPEND THE DAY
BY THE OCEAN IN CELESTÚN** (OPTIONAL)
FOR THOSE WHO SIGNED UP, MEET AT HABLA AT 8:00AM

Only 60 miles from Merida, the Celestun National Park is a wild animal refuge where flocks of the beautiful pink flamingo can be seen in its natural habitat. Try the seafood delicacies prepared here and visit the beautiful beaches, mangrove forests and the petrified wood of Tampeten. A boat tour to see the pink flamingo and the bird and animal sanctuaries is included, along with air conditioned transportation to and from Celestun and a guided tour of the area.

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PRESENTERS 2011 TEACHER INSTITUTE

Cynthia Weiss

Cynthia is an award-winning public artist, painter, and educator. She directs the Arts Integration Mentorship Project, Project AIM, at the Center for Community Arts Partnerships, Columbia College Chicago. Cynthia is co-editor with Amanda Lichtenstein of a new Columbia College publication; *AIMprint: New Relationships in the Arts and Learning*, and co-editor with Gail Burnaford and Arnold Aprill of the Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education CAPE book; *Renaissance in the Classroom; Arts Integration and Meaningful Learning*. 2001. Cynthia received her MFA in Painting from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She has directed large-scale public art projects as is a member of the Chicago Public Art Group. Cynthia is fluent in Spanish, and always inspired by translations across art forms, language and culture.

Patricia Sobral

Patricia Sobral was educated in Brazil and in the United States and holds a B.A. in Russian with a minor in French and an M.A. in Comparative Literature both from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, and a Ph.D. in Portuguese and Brazilian Studies from Brown University. After having taught at Harvard University for five years, she currently teaches at Brown University in the Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies. She is co-author of *Ponto de Encontro: Portuguese as a World Language*, a first-year language textbook (Prentice-Hall, 2007) and *Viajando através do alfabeto* (Focus Publishing, 2009). *Brazil Via the Arts* (tentative title) will be published in 2012 by Focus. One course she teaches at Brown, *Performing Brazil: Language, Theater & Culture* functions as both a language and culture course and a platform for students to develop a solid foundation in education through the arts.

Kurt Wootton

Kurt Wootton is one of the founders of the ArtsLiteracy Project in the Education Department at Brown University. He has piloted several ArtsLiteracy lab schools in the United States and Brazil and worked with Boston, St. Paul, Providence, and Central Falls on multi-year, district-wide initiatives. Wootton's latest lab school, Habla, is an innovative international gathering space for educators located on the Yucatan peninsula in Merida Mexico. *The New York Times* writes: "Mr. Wootton remains every bit as convinced of education's power to transform lives. He has changed his tool of choice, however, from a mirror in which students see only reflections of themselves to a window that opens onto the rest of the world."

Arnold Aprill

Arnold Aprill, the Founding and Creative Director of CAPE, comes from a background in professional theater as an award-winning director, producer and playwright. He has taught at the University of Chicago, National-Louis University, Columbia College, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He is one of the co-editors with Cynthia Weiss and Gail Burnaford of *Renaissance in the Classroom: Arts Integration and Meaningful Learning*. He consults nationally and internationally on the role of the arts in effective school improvement. He has been recognized for exceptional leadership by the Chicago Community Trust and by the Leadership for a Changing World initiative supported by the Ford Foundation.

Charly Barbera

Charly Barbera is a percussionist dedicated to Afro-Caribbean musical traditions. He has extensively studied the folkloric music of Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Colombia. He is also dedicated to preserving and developing these cultural art forms and bringing them to education programs in universities, schools, and community centers. Charly is a musician in several musical groups including Africaribe, EE, and Crystal Gravy. In addition to an expertise in folkloric music, Charly also plays with groups in the areas of jazz, hip-hop, fusion, rock, and other genres.

Laura Riebock

Laura's formal training in dance began at the age of eleven when she enrolled in ballet classes in Illinois. In 2007 she discovered the art of belly dance and began training with the company Blue Lotus Tribe and became an official member in the spring of 2008. Laura's introduction to salsa occurred at age 18 when she studied Spanish abroad in Cuernavaca. Now she is a member of the dance company The Boogie Down Salsa Steppers where she is now team captain and assists in teaching and choreographing. Laura now lives in Chicago where she teaches Latin dance and belly dancing and drums and dances with the Chicago-based group AfriCaribe.