

# VIVA BASEBALL!

*Cuba & the Game We Love*

# INITIAL EXHIBITION THEME AREAS AND POTENTIAL ARTIFACTS FOR DISPLAY

## CUBAN HISTORY

### Geographic Reference

- Graphic of Antique Map of Cuba

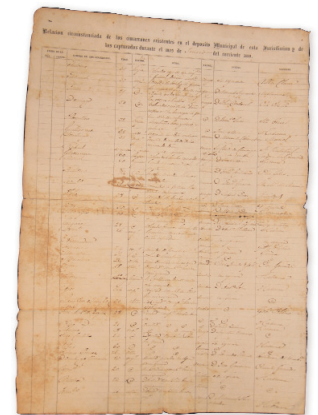


### Slavery Under Spanish Rule

- 1812 African Slave Purchase Receipt
- 1852 Chinese Slave Contract
- 1860 Slave Insurance Document
- 1871 Slave Sales Receipt

### From Spanish Rule to Independence

- Enlistment Records for both the Spanish and the Mambises (Liberators)
- Document with the signature of Cuba's first president, Tomás Palma
- Graphics of Máximo Gómez, José Martí, and 1896 picture of José Maceo



Slavery document, 1858

## THE INTRODUCTION OF BASEBALL AND EMERGENCE OF A PASSION FOR SPORTS IN CUBA

### Baseball

- Text and Graphics
  - 1864 and 1866 – Baseball is introduced to the Island
  - 1878 – Cuban League is formed (world's second oldest professional baseball organization)
  - 1891 – The first U.S. big leaguers toured Cuba
  - The Spanish insistence on Bullfighting instead of Baseball



Bacardi Champion Team

- Photo Mural from Oriente Baseball Team “cabinet” photo
- 1902 Letters asking permission to organize baseball teams
- “Cabañas” Baseball Cards from the early 1900s
- 1911 Newsletter (“El Score”) with Americans on the cover, Cristóbal Torriente boxscore and New York Giant Hall of Famer Christy Mathewson on the back



## Boxing

- Kid Chocolate’s Silk Robe
- Numerous Kid Chocolate pictures (including wearing when young and holding robe when old)
- Kid Chocolate’s Life Insurance Policy, Recognition Diploma (1946) and Business Card
- Boxing Posters



Kid Chocolate poster, 1942

## Basketball

- Books from the 1920s
- 1928 Cuban Telephone Basketball Trophy

## Football

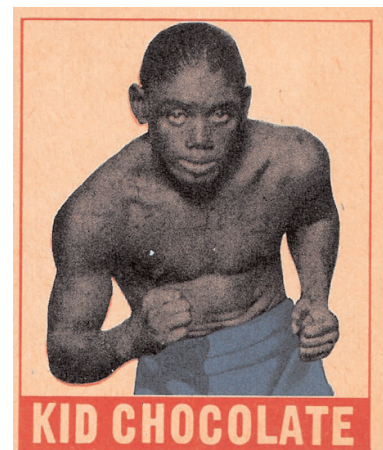
- Cuban Army vs. Cuban Navy Program

## Rowing

- 1957 World Rowing Championship Trophy

## Other Sports photos, programs, etc.

- Soccer
- Pool
- Wrestling
- Horseracing



Kid Chocolate bubble gum card, 1948

## Olympics

- 1916 letter requesting 1920 Olympics be held in Cuba
- Chess (Cuba was Olympic Champion in Helsinki in 1952)

## GOLDEN AGE OF BASEBALL IN CUBA

Note: Many of the jerseys come with photographs of them being worn by players or the player referenced. In addition, for media elements within the exhibit, we will access historic film footage, as well as interview the principal living players who played in Cuba or are of Cuban heritage.

### Professional League

(3 exhibit cases featuring jerseys and numerous memorabilia items)

- Habana
- Almendares
- Cienfuegos and Marianao

### “Folk Art” Gallery

- Selections from the 40+ drawings by amateur cartoonists chronicling the day’s game

### Cuba National Teams’ Jerseys (pre-1960)

- Jerseys from 1948, 1951, 1952, 1954 and 1959
- 1951 Jersey was worn by Gonzalo Naranjo who appeared on “What’s My Line” accompanied by that film clip. Also included: a medal he was awarded during the 1951 World Amateur Baseball Tournament

### U.S. Farm System in Cuba

- Habana Cubans (Single A Team for the Washington Senators from 1946 through 1953)
- Habana Sugar Kings (Triple A Team for the Cincinnati Reds from 1954 through 1960) jersey and warm-up jacket Raul Sanchez wore the year the Sugar Kings won the Minor League World Series

### Educational Institutions’ and Youth Leagues’ Jerseys

(Collection also includes pennants)

- Belén (with original pennant and school cap)
- Maristas (includes school cap)
- Champagnant
- University of Villanueva (jersey and yearbook with picture)



Almendares souvenirs



Folk art



Cubanos, Cuban Farm Team

## **Amateur Leagues' Jerseys (Unionized)**

- Artemisa (1957 Championship jersey with patch)
- Artesanos
- Lionés de Regla (also a social club this 1957 jersey is signed by the player who wore it)
- Ferroviário
- Licio de Regla
- Club Atlético de Santiago
- Bohemia (Magazine)
- Teléfonos (Phone Co.)

## **Social Clubs' Jerseys**

- Caibarien Yacht Club
- Casino Deportivo
- Licco
- A.J.E.F. (Masonic Temple)

## **Independent Teams' Jerseys**

- Caibarien
- Seguras Cienfuegos
- Atares (from the 1940s)
- Los Ases
- Rutas 4/68 (Bus Route!)
- Nuevitass Stars
- Lidice
- Nitrafos
- Juragua
- Rabel (with banner)
- Transporte
- Lucero (includes cap, pants, socks and picture)



Orange Crush Team, 1950's

## **Independent Team Jersey**

(separate exhibit case)

- Centro Israel (1943-44 Championship Jersey)

## **Teams Sponsored by American Companies' Jerseys**

- Ferguson (Heavy Equipment)
- U.S. Keds

- Pictures of teams sponsored by Coke, Shell, Texaco, Orange Crush, etc.
- Kellogg's Cornflakes Promotional Cards



## **Cuba Company Sponsored Teams' Jerseys**

- Tacón Comerciantes Billetero (lotto game)
- Delmonico (Steak)
- U-2 Goma (Tire Company, includes pants)
- San Diego "Pure Reinado" (tomato paste)
- Orbay y Cerrato (furniture, includes pants with embroidered chair)
- Bancario (bank, includes patch with "\$" sign)
- Polar (beer)
- Club Maltina (beer)
- Cawy (soft drink, collection includes original soft drink bottle)
- Estrella (chocolate factory)
- La Gran Vía (bakery)
- Herreria Llovet (locksmith)
- Cuban Electric (with Ready Kilowatt logo)
- Sindicato Plantas (electric company)
- Aduanos (customs agent)
- Corona (cigar company)
- Artes Graficas Güines (graphic arts company)
- Venegas (cigar company)
- Casa Llito
- Narciso (with "Cristal Beer" on the back)
- Consolidado del Asfalto (asphalt)
- Sindicato C.P.A. (Corporation for Production of Agriculture)



Polar Team

## **Sugar Mill League (also recognized by the Union)**

- Centro España
- Stewart
- Toledanos

## **Player Contracts and Identification Cards**

- Numerous examples of these unique historical documents

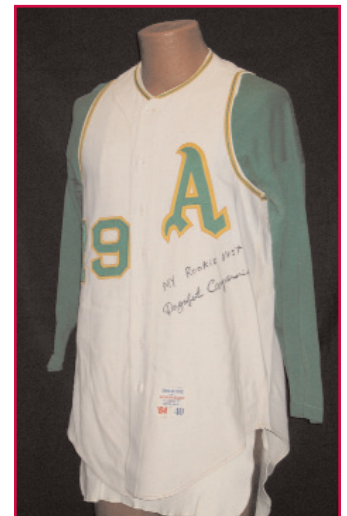
## MAJOR LEAGUERS OF CUBAN HERITAGE

### Jerseys worn by Cubans in other non-U.S. countries:

- Japan 1972, worn by former Major Leaguer Tony Gonzalez
- Guatemala 1980s, manager jersey worn by Juan Izaguirre (who played professional ball in pre-Castro Cuba)
- Columbia 1996, manager jersey worn by former Major Leaguer Paul Casanova (Hank Aaron's roommate)
- Venezuela 2002, worn by former Major Leaguer Alexis (Alex) Sánchez

### Jerseys worn by Cubans or players of Cuban heritage in the Major Leaguers

- Raul Sanchez – 1960 Cincinnati Reds jersey (only player to play in all four Cuban professional teams, and both farm teams in Cuba and U.S. Major League)
- Bert Campaneris – 1964 Oakland A's rookie jersey
- Marcelino Lopez – 1967 Angels jersey (Lopez, a pitcher, was Sporting News Rookie of the Year)
- Pedro (Tony) Oliva – 1967 and 1973 jerseys (3-time batting champion and Rookie of the Year for Minnesota Twins) also included is Oliva baseball card depicting him wearing the 1973 jersey that is represented in the exhibit
- José Tartebull – 1969 Oakland A's vest and KC Royals Coaches jersey
- Pedro "Preston" Gomez- 1969 San Diego Padres jersey (called Preston because he once played for the Preston Mining Team)
- Zoilo Versailles – 1969 American League MVP (includes pants and Cuban AAU application written at age 17)
- Orlando Peña – 1969 Oakland A's vest
- Atanasio (Tony) Pérez – 1975 Cincinnati Reds green St. Patrick's Day jersey
- Luis Tiant – 1975 Boston Red Sox jersey (his father was a Negro League ballplayer)
- Danny Tartabull – 1989 KC Royals jersey (U.S.-born son of José Tartebull)
- José Cardinal – 1995 Cardinals Coaches jersey (was also Major Leaguer)
- Angel Hernandez – 1996 umpire jersey
- Miguel Cuellar – 1996 "Old Timers" Baltimore Orioles jersey



Bert Campaneris, 1964

## Separate Case

- José Canseco jerseys and memorabilia spanning his entire career (including 30/30 base)
- Osvaldo (Ozzie) Canseco jerseys

## Separate Case

- Edmundo (Sandy) Amorós memorabilia including 2 jerseys, spikes and American flag that flew over Yankee Stadium when he made his famous catch in the 1955 World Series

## Separate Case

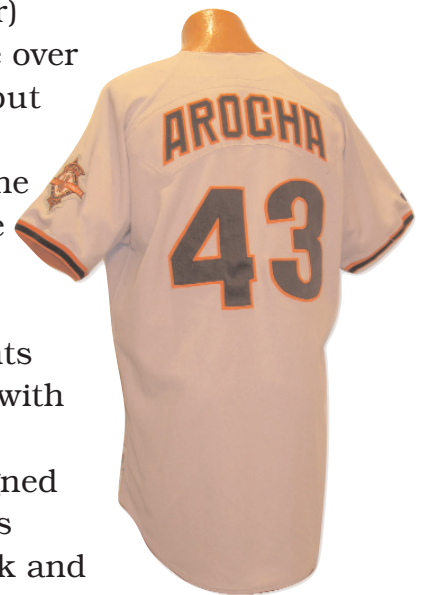
- Orestes (Minnie) Miñoso (Mr. White Sox) memorabilia (from Cuba and U.S.)

## Separate Case

- 1936 Most Popular Player Handbill featuring Martín Dihigo, who was known as the most “complete” player to ever exist. A Negro Leaguer, he never could play in the U.S. Major League because of his skin color. In 1977 he was admitted to the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

## The Defectors

- René Arocha – 1997 San Francisco Giants jersey, his childhood jersey and jersey from Ciudad Habana (the first true defector)
- Barbaro Garbay – 1986 Detroit Tigers jersey. He came over in the Mariel Boatlift so is not technically a defector, but rather is an exile
- Eddy Oropeza – His Cuban jersey that he wore when he defected by running out of the stadium during a game in Mexico
- Rey Ordoñez – 1996 New York Mets jersey
- Osvaldo Fernandez – 1995 Rookie San Francisco Giants jersey as well as the bag he carried when he defected with Liván Hernández
- Ariel Prieto – 1996 Oakland Athletics jersey. Prieto signed with the A’s for \$1 million and carried the check in his pocket all weekend because he had never seen a check and didn’t know what to do with it!
- Eli Marrero – 2002 St. Louis Cardinals jersey



René Arocha, 1997

## Separate Case

- Liván Hernández – Jerseys from his Cuban League, the Minors and his Marlins World Series jersey
- Orlando (El Duque) Hernández – His New York Yankees warm-up jacket and New York Mets Jersey



# WOMEN'S AND NEGRO BASEBALL LEAGUES

## All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Exhibit Case

- Ysora (Chico) del Castillo Photo and Baseball Hall of Fame Ring. Del Castillo played in Cuba and was one of 8 Cuban women in the legendary film “A League of their Own.”
- 1926 Letter to Cuban AAU President asking permission for U.S. Western Bloomer Girls Team to play a tournament in Cuba



Cuban Women Ballplayers

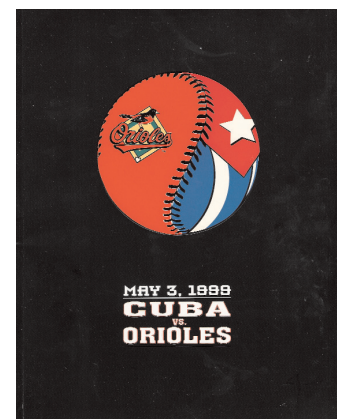
## Negro League Baseball Case

- 1927 Coronado Rodrigues bat
- 1929 José Oliveras bat
- Rafael (Ray) Noble bat- the only signed game-used bat in existence. Noble played in the Cuban League, Negro League and Major League.

# OTHER BASEBALL MEMORABILIA

## Bats

- Manuel Cueto (1914)
- Guillermo (Willie) Mirando (1950's)
- Dagaberto (Bert) Campaneris (1970's)
- Octavio (Cookie) Rojas (1970's)
- Hilario (Sandy) Valdespino (1970's)
- Pedro (Tony) Oliva (1970's)
- Antonio (Tony) Taylor (1970's)
- Jacinto (Jackie) Hernández (1970's) (note: Hernández was on Pittsburgh Pirates 1972 World Series' victorious team which had an all-black starting line-up...first time in Major League history)
- Paul Casanova (1972)
- Nelson Santoveña (1980's)
- Islay (Izzy) Molina (1980's) (A's)
- Rafael Palmero (1990's)
- Jorge Toca (2002)
- Alexis (Alex) Sanchez (2002)



## Gloves (tracing the Evolution)

- Adlofo (Dolph) Luque.....the “Pride of Havana”
- Fermin Guerra (catcher’s mitt and face mask)
- Agapito Mayor
- Paul Casanova



Gloves

## Baseballs

- Selection from over 20 signed team balls dating back to 1949

## Trophies

- 1930 Intercollegiate Baseball Trophy
- 1937 Bacardi Murciélago (the animal bat) Trophy with a picture of the team and an identification card
- 1937 Champion Pitcher Trophy to J. Ferer
- 1942 Cuban Amateur M.V.P. Trophy to Francisco Quicutis
- 1942 Cuban Professional Championship Trophy (the Stanley Cup of Cuban Profession Baseball) awarded by President Fulgeneio Batista’s brother
- 1945 Quivicán League Trophy (also have jersey)
- 1952 Amateur Team Championship Trophy
- 1957 Caribbean World Series Trophy
- 1959 Alexandria (Virginia) Club of Grandstand Managers Large Silver Tray awarded to Camilo Pasqual
- 1968 All-Star Game Trophy awarded to Leo Cardenas
- Medal awarded during the 1947 Amateur Baseball Tournament



Cuban Professional  
Championship trophy,  
1942

## Cards

- Hundreds of cards to illustrate players and periods

## Souvenir Items

- Bracelets, handkerchiefs, key chains, etc.
- U.S. Souvenir items featuring Cuban Major Leaguers

## Banners, Pennants, Posters, Programs and Books

- Selections from the collection

## JOURNALISTS

- Selections from collection of the legendary Cuban sportswriter Fausto Miranda
- Text and photos about National Baseball Hall of Fame journalist Rafael “Felo” Ramirez, now a broadcaster with the Florida Marlins

## BASEBALL IN POST-CASTRO CUBA

- Castro comic book/stamp album propaganda
- 1970s Owen Blandino Las Villas jersey
- 20+ vests from the Post-Castro Cuban League
- 1970s Villa Clara Cuban League jerseys (2) from the Cuban National Series
- 1990s Cuban Juvenile National Team jersey
- 1994 and 1995 Cuban National Team jerseys
- 1996 Juan Manrique (catcher) Gold Medal Atlanta Olympic Team jersey
- Program, ticket and uniform from the 2006 World Baseball Classic
- Small Cuban Flag (and photo) held up behind home plate in the 2006 World Baseball Classic in Puerto Rico after authorities confiscated the larger Cuban flag the same men attempted to unfurl at the game.



Fausto Miranda with ballplayer



National team jerseys, 1994 and 1995



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