

## **MAESTRA: The Cuban Literacy Project** lecture + screening with director Catherine Murphy



**Tuesday, April 21, 2015 | 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.**  
**LAI Conference Room**

*Please note the date change. This event was originally scheduled for April 20, but will now take place on Tuesday, April 21.*

Join the LAI for a lecture and film screening with director Dr. Catherine Murphy, a San Francisco-based filmmaker who has spent much of the last 10 years working in Latin America.

In this presentation, Murphy will talk about her acclaimed documentary, **MAESTRA**, which focuses on the Cuban Literacy Project. As Howard Zinn wrote, "The Cuban Literacy Campaign is an important but little-known chapter in the history of the Americas. Catherine Murphy has created a project with rare and intimate access to this history. Her documentary MAESTRA brings together moving interviews with living witnesses, beautiful archival film footage, and Catherine's compelling storytelling. Based on personal testimonies of teachers and students from the campaign, her film will preserve the oral histories of a generation that will soon be gone. The historical significance of this archive -and its lessons for the present- cannot be overstated."

Murphy is founder and director of **The Literacy Project**, a multi-media documentary project on adult literacy in the Americas. As an independent producer, Murphy's work

has largely focused on social documentaries. She has field produced films like Saul Landau's *Will the Real Terrorist Please Stand Up?*, Eugene Corr's *From Ghost Town to Havana*, served on the production crew of *Gay Cuba*; and subtitled *Stealing America* by Dorothy Fadiman, Jaime Kibben's *The Greening of Cuba*, and *Out and Refusenicks* by Sonja de Vries. She also served as an archival researcher for Susanne Rostock's recent biography of Harry Belafonte, *Sing Your Song*. While in Caracas in 2009, she founded Tres Musas Producciones, a collaborative production house of independent women producers working in film, music and literature. Four short stories based on her interviews were published in Eduardo Galeano's most recent book, *Espejos*. Murphy served as senior staff producer at the TeleSur TV Washington bureau in 2006 and has produced content for PBS, TeleSur, Avila TV, Pacifica Radio National, WBAI and KPFA.

Copies of Murphy's recent, related publication, *Un año sin domingos: La imagen de la alfabetización en Cuba / A Year Without Sundays: Images from the Literacy Campaign in Cuba*, will be available for signing and purchase.

For more information, please view the [event flyer](#) or [LAI event calendar](#).



**Join the event on Facebook!**