

SIGNISCUBA

in English

SIGNISCUBA in English is a Newsletter from the Cuban Catholic Association for Communication



Communicating the future

We tell stories to give meaning to the present and to prepare the future. In every story there is memory and hope: memory helps us not to forget the faces, voices and actions before us; hope makes us foresee the change to come. As professionals that live and communicate in Cuba, now more than ever we need that *new story*—as told by Pope Francis in his messages to communicators—, a story of love and reconciliation for our country and our region.

As part of our efforts to improve our dialogue with other realities, we have started to release a newsletter, SIGNISCUBA, and its English version, to keep the SIGNIS family around the world informed of the work and situation of the Cuban Catholic Association for Communication.

July has been a long and meaningful month for us. On the 11th, many cities along the country raised against injustice, misery and oppression from the government. SIGNIS ALC and the SIGNIS Board of Directors—as well as the national Board— supported human rights in Cuba with several messages of solidarity. Even today, the situation is irregular: Internet crash, constant repression and the imprisonment of young artists and intellectuals; hunger, surveillance and fear. But there is one thing for sure: Cuba will not be the same after this 11th of July, and SIGNIS will be there to communicate the truth and the future.

By the end of the month we also knew of the demise of our beloved Gustavo Andújar, former SIGNIS president and a man of great faith and culture. Our condolences to his family and friends; and our energies focused on his vision and desire for SIGNIS: an organization that stands by the values of the Gospel, the announcement of faith and an everlasting hope.

SIGNISCUBA | News

FORMER SIGNIS PRESIDENT GUSTAVO ANDÚJAR PASSED AWAY IN HAVANA

Gustavo Andújar, former SIGNIS president, died in Havana this July 26th, at the age of 74. Gustavo devoted his life to culture, cinema and spirituality. He was a beloved member of our organization and its world president from 2014 to 2017. He can only be remembered as a man who struggled to communicate hope, to preserve our memory and to dream with a better country. May he rest in peace.

LAUDATO SI' AMBASSADORS

In the month of April started the "Laudato Si' Ambassadors" Program, sponsored by SIGNIS ALC, SIGNIS Venezuela and the Catholic University Andrés Bello (UCAB), with more than 30 young media professionals from 14 countries of the region. This initiative trains its participants in a creative leadership, inspired by Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'*, which promotes social welfare, justice and care for our Common Home.

STORYTELLING SEMINAR

During the months of June and July, SIGNIS-Cuba has offered the storytelling seminar "El oficio de contar", assisted by SIGNIS ALC and the Academic Project Humanitas. This course was presented by Xavier Carbonell and Elena Nazco, members of SIGNIS-Cuba, and it gathered more than 35 students from Latin America, the Caribbean and Spain.

"RADIO LÍO", A SIGNIS INITIATIVE

Nine young communicators from SIGNIS-Cuba are part of the Project "Radio Lío" (the name is inspired by Pope Francis' invitation to boldness during the WYD Rio 2013), supported by SIGNIS ALC and with a continental reach. These professionals are included in a larger group, that works for the communication of hope through radio programs and podcasts, that will later serve as community projects in each of the participant's countries.