
Forty three Countries to Attend 28th International Book Fair in Cuba

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The 28th International Book Fair (FIL), scheduled to be held from February 7 to 17, will be attended by representatives of 43 countries from five continents, organizers announced here.

Sonia Almaguer, director of the Cuban Book Chamber, confirmed on Tuesday in a press conference that the guest of honor will be the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. It also paid tribute to the Cuban writer Eduardo Heras Leon, winner of the National Prize for Literature (2014) and Edition (2001).

Out of the 43 countries confirmed so far, Algeria, Argentina, Mexico, the United States and Chile will be the most represented.

The general roster includes professionals from 23 Latin American nations; although it is composed of intellectuals from all over the world.

According to Almaguer, 120 exhibitors from some twenty countries, 354 authors and book professionals are expected to attend.

During the event, the prizes for Literature, Design Edition, History, the Nicolas Guillen poetry award and the Alejo Carpentier novel, short story and essay, among others, will be awarded.

The FIL in its 28th edition will be dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Triumph of the Cuban Revolution and to the 500th anniversary of the foundation of Havana.

Authors, editors, translators, designers, illustrators, distributors and the general public will flood the different sites of San Carlos de la Cabaña Fortress, a vast cultural and museological complex in Havana as the main host of the event.

The FIL , due to its extensive academic, artistic and literary program, impossible to concentrate in a single location, will use as collateral host sites the Cuba Pavilion, ALBA Cultural House, the Jose Marti National Library, the University of Havana and the Dulce Maria Loynaz Center.

The Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC), the Vicente Revuelta Center and the Casa de las Americas, among other institutions, will also function as sub headquarters.

The director of FIL's literary program, Edel Morales, announced the realization of several meetings, panels and forums, among them one dedicated to highlight Heras Leon's work, whose books can be bought there and at different sales points.

The children's pavilion Tesoro de Papel will once again offer works dedicated to this audience and young people, with additional options to complement learning and recreation.

For his part, the president of the Cuban Book Institute, Juan Rodriguez Cabrera, reaffirmed the principles of non-drinking, organization, quietness and broad popular participation, facilitated by the bus network from and to the main headquarters.

More than 600 novelties will undoubtedly attract the FIL public this year, the most important event in the Cuban editorial sector and the most important cultural space in the country.

Rodriguez Cabrera reported that the general event will conclude on April 14, in the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba, after having extended it to most of the country's provinces.
