

# *DC mayor meets with Mariela Castro*

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Havana, February 23-- D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser on Monday met with Mariela Castro, the daughter of Cuban President who promotes LGBT-specific issues.

A press release from D.C. officials said that Mariela Castro, director of Cuba's National Center for Sexual Education that is known by the Spanish acronym CENESEX, led Bowser "on a tour of" the organization's headquarters in Havana's Vedado neighborhood.

The press release described CENESEX as "a teaching and research institution in the area of human sexuality, best known for advocating for tolerance of LGBTQ" Cubans. It also applauded Mariela Castro's organization as "a leader in education concerning contraception and AIDS."

"A city is only as strong as the health and well-being of its residents," said Bowser in the press release. "No matter your background or economic status, everyone has the right to quality health care — and it's encouraging to see that Cuba has made that a top priority."

Bowser on Tuesday spoke about the meeting during a conference call with reporters from Havana.

Bowser is among the officials from D.C., Maryland and Virginia who are taking part in an "exploratory mission" to Cuba that the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce organized.



## **Radio Habana Cuba**