

Source:

Tomado de Cubasí

From this cyberspace crossroads, 18 Cubans strive seven days a week, every day of the year, to be the mirror and voice of an Island.

On July 17th, 18 years ago, just a click placed the CubaSÍ website on the internet.

That newborn who learned to crawl among the sometimes turbulent digital arena is today an 18-year-old boy, cheerful and loyal to his country, his times and his readers.

For showing and defending big and small truths we were born on a day like today. From that moment on, CubaSÍ has never given up on the efforts to accomplish that mission.

To achieve this, sometimes we bring the magnifying glass closer to a very personal life story, a few minutes into the existence of a Cuban; on other occasions, we choose a panoramic lens that allows us to encompass broad realities, even that of the whole country.

Always following on the footsteps of the founders; sharing the drive of the collaborators, who also provide us with their originality and dedication. We are CubaSÍ also supported by the technological infrastructure ensured by ETECSA, our company, about which we report systematically on its news and advances.

Today, as an exception, instead of writing about others, we write about what CubaSÍ means to us:

-Odalys Cimadevilla (journalist): CubaSÍ is a school in the social media age.

-Mirta Alvarez (editor and proofreader): CubaSÍ is home to me, the place where work results are enjoyed as a family.

-Yuris Norido (journalist): It is the place where ---and I must be completely frank about this--- I have done what I've dreamed of doing, where the not even the smallest of limits has ever been placed in front of me, and where all the doors and possibilities have been open and available for me. More than once I've said that CubaSÍ's team is like a family, and here I feel at home, always.

-Amilcar Acosta (multimedia specialist): Growth.

-Amilkal Labañino (translator): Ever since I joined, it has been a place where I've grown as a person and as a professional. It opened my eyes to the world of journalism, not only that from Cuba but from around the world. I found a very united and helpful staff of workers. In short, it's been like a second home.

-Harold Iglesias (journalist): CubaSÍ is like a habitat, not only because it is an excellent space for professional accomplishment but because it has the best possible staff of workers ---and I have been part of eight already---. Also because of the environment, which encourages people to work and be loyal forever. And I say it is a habitat because at CubaSÍ I feel free, protected and twinned.

-Vladia Rubio (journalist): CubaSÍ is the space from which we do journalism from and for the people. It is loyalty, cubanism, optimism, professionalism. CubaSÍ is always going for more. -Alina Mena (journalist): Working at CubaSÍ is, firstly, being aware of the joy and the anguish that are present in the daily life of all Cubans without forgetting about everything that takes place around the world. It is also receiving constant feedback on the work you do from the comments left by Internet users.

-Giusetta Leon (journalist): It is a place where I've been happy. The most important events of my whole life, personal and professional, in which I've laughed, cried, enjoyed, and written, have been in CubaSÍ. After my family, it's the group I've been part of the longest time. This is where I belong. Where I've had the freedom

to say what I think and to do some (many) crazy things. It is the house that I chose to stay and to which I owe a lot of what I know, what I am and what I dream of...

-Sergio Paneque (translator): CubaSí is my second home. Here I've grown personally and professionally. It is the place where all my professional concerns are solved. I see myself for many years as part of this collective. CubaSí is the best good-day news I will ever have. The place where I have found friends and people that think like me. People who believe in Cuba, and believe that Cuba ... Sí (Yes).

-Katia Sanchez (online content administrator): It is nice to find a place where you feel yourself grow. CubaSí is, above all, a school full of talented and good people, always willing to build a common space that goes beyond what's physical or virtual; a sentimental and professional space. It is even an organization inside the macro organization, to which it belongs, with its own culture and codes. The most important thing is for one to feel full of desire for working more and in a better way. That's the most attractive aspect of CubaSí. It encourages people.

-Jorge Mesa (translator): From my very first day here CubaSí became my second home because of the great professional experiences it has brought me, because of the countless good professional and personal relationships it has allowed me to establish over the years, and because of the opportunity it has given me to defend this small Caribbean island, from the media sector, against the brutal attack of the North American empire. CubaSí is education, commitment, loyalty and a great sense of belonging. May there be many more years to be completed and successes to be achieved.

Maikel Herrera (computer scientist): For me, CubaSí is my daily life, it is the responsibility of a job that does not admit mistakes, it is the responsibility of keeping our readers informed, it is the pride of saying that I am one of the webmasters of the CubaSí portal.

-Carlos Garriga (driver): CubaSí is the best there is.

-Aday del Sol (information chief): CubaSí is my life, the air I breathe. It is present in my first and last thought, every day. Thinking and making this website (as a team, as a family) is a dream come true, a great responsibility and my greatest happiness. #SomosCubaSíxsiempre.

-Daynet Rodríguez (deputy director): CubaSí is my family, it's journalism committed to the truth, it's always revolutionary, it's dedication, personal and professional growth, it's better every day, and it's also joy! My cute website! Always standing with #Cuba and the #Revolution

-Manuel Henríquez Lagarde (director): CubaSí is time itself. 365 days a year. Dream, sleeplessness, work, multi-tasking, service, party, joy, perseverance. Truth. Revolution.

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