

## Exhibit for Teens Available for Public Libraries

Social pressures, a desire to take risks, insecurities, and many other factors affect a teen's decision to try illicit drugs and/or continue to experiment with them. Many teens do not understand the long-term harm these drugs can cause. The consequences of drug use include changes in behavior, academic issues, strained family relationships, depression symptoms, and even suicide risks and loss of interest in the future. Research has found that teens desire the facts about drugs, without lectures or scare tactics. They are very interested in knowing more, and they need help in staying drug-free.

The DEA Museum has developed a new exhibit, for use in public libraries, to inform young people about drugs. The exhibit addresses teens and younger children by asking, "So what's the big deal about drugs?" The exhibit, entitled ***Drugs and You: Use your Head***, provides information about specific drugs, addiction, and peer pressure, but goes on to encourage teens to develop dreams for their future, engage in healthy activities, and build positive friendships.

*Drugs and You* is a "pop up" two-sided, three-dimensional unit/exhibit approximately 8 feet high and 5 feet wide. All exhibit information is presented in a friendly, engaging way that welcomes the visitor to explore the exhibit in discrete sections. An appealing graphic novel design and informational "bubbles" invite teens to learn through words on the panel and through the content connected to QR codes that are integrated within the design.

It is recommended that a five-foot circumference surrounding the exhibit be maintained for visitor viewing and engagement. While there are no computers or speakers in the exhibit, teens/visitors will be viewing videos on their phones or tablets, so audio should be considered when the library location is chosen.

The exhibit is being loaned to libraries at no cost for an agreed upon duration **while supplies are available**. The length of time the exhibit will be shown is up to the venue, but a recommended time duration is at least two months. The exhibit is easy to set up and take down by following the included directions.

A printed resource sheet and QR code flyers are also provided to distribute to the public.

For more information contact: [deamuseum@dea.gov](mailto:deamuseum@dea.gov)



[www.deamuseum.org](http://www.deamuseum.org)

# DRUGS AND YOU: USE YOUR HEAD

SO, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT DRUGS?  
WRAP YOUR HEAD AROUND THIS!

**MARIJUANA**  
Marijuana has THC, a mind-altering chemical that enters the brain and body. Today, the amount of THC in marijuana, **there has been a rise** in the last 25 years. High THC strains can cause **hallucinations, paranoia, and anxiety**, and can be addictive. **Smoking or vaping** marijuana can raise blood pressure, affect breathing, and make it hard to drive. **Smoking weed can be your neighbor. Using weed can be your worst enemy.**

**Customize your try it.**

**Fake Pills**  
In just one year in the United States, 107,276 people died from a drug overdose. Two-thirds of those deaths were caused by fentanyl. **It's invisible to the naked eye and can be found in nearly all illicit drug supply.** Synthetic drugs are made in a laboratory, not grown like plants. Drug traffickers combine fentanyl with other chemicals to make **free pills that look like real medicine.** They sell fake pills online and through dealers, which has increased overdose deaths. **4% of pills for every fake pill with fentanyl causes a potentially lethal dose.**

**Did you know? ONE pill can kill.**  
Learn more at [DEA.gov/onepill](http://DEA.gov/onepill)

**Cocaine**  
Cocaine is a highly addictive stimulant or a chemical that speeds up the body's system. It can **alter brain structure**, especially when the brain is still developing (ages and age 20-30). Cocaine can cause an irregular heartbeat, increased blood pressure, anxiety, addiction, and depression.

**Opioids**  
An average **120** overdose die every day from an opioid overdose. **Opioids can alter your brain and body, affect your lungs and kidneys, and affect your ability to drive.** An opioid overdose can be fatal. **Use your medication as prescribed. Opioids can be addictive and abused.**

**METH**  
Methamphetamine, or meth, is a stimulant that **changes the brain's circuits**, making it difficult to stop using the drug even when it hurts the body. Meth use can cause anxiety, depression, fatigue, or paranoia. **The more meth in the body, or the longer it stays, even less meth use can damage 80 percent of brain receptors that control how people feel pleasure.**

**Inhalants + Vaping**  
Inhalants are **gases or fumes** from everyday products that are inhaled and produce a high called "huffing." Smoking pipes, vapes, and e-cigarettes can be **used to inhale the fumes**. Inhalants can be **used to inhale the fumes more than once** and cause "sudden sniffing death," **collapse and death.**



DEA.gov

Helping communities learn about and prevent drug misuse through education and outreach.



DEAMUSEUM.org



Learn More



## DEA MUSEUM'S EASY TO USE EXHIBIT FOCUSES ON TEENS AND LIBRARY VENUES

One in five young adults and one in ten teens report using prescription drugs off-script. According to the National Survey performed by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration, 49 million people in the U.S. ages 12 and older, or more than 1 in 6, reported a substance use disorder in 2022.

Drug deaths caused by accidental poisoning among Americans ages 13-24 almost doubled during the first year of the coronavirus pandemic and spiked in 2021 by a further 20%. At the same time, the deadliest drug threat our nation has ever encountered continues. Fentanyl, a highly addictive synthetic opioid that is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine, is being laced in fake pills sold online to people of all ages through social media. Seven out of ten fake pills in this country now contain a potentially deadly dose of fentanyl.

Social pressures, a desire to take risks, insecurities, and many other factors affect a teen's decision to try illicit drugs and/or continue to experiment with them. Most teens do not understand the long-term harms these drugs can cause. The consequences of drug use include changes in behavior, academic issues, strained family relationships, depression symptoms, loss of interest in the future, and even suicide risks. A teen focus group conducted by the DEA Museum, along with other scientific research, has found that teens desire the facts about drugs, without lectures or scare tactics. They are very interested in knowing more, and they also need help in staying drug-free.

## EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION SPEAKING TO TEENS THROUGH A COMPACT EXHIBIT

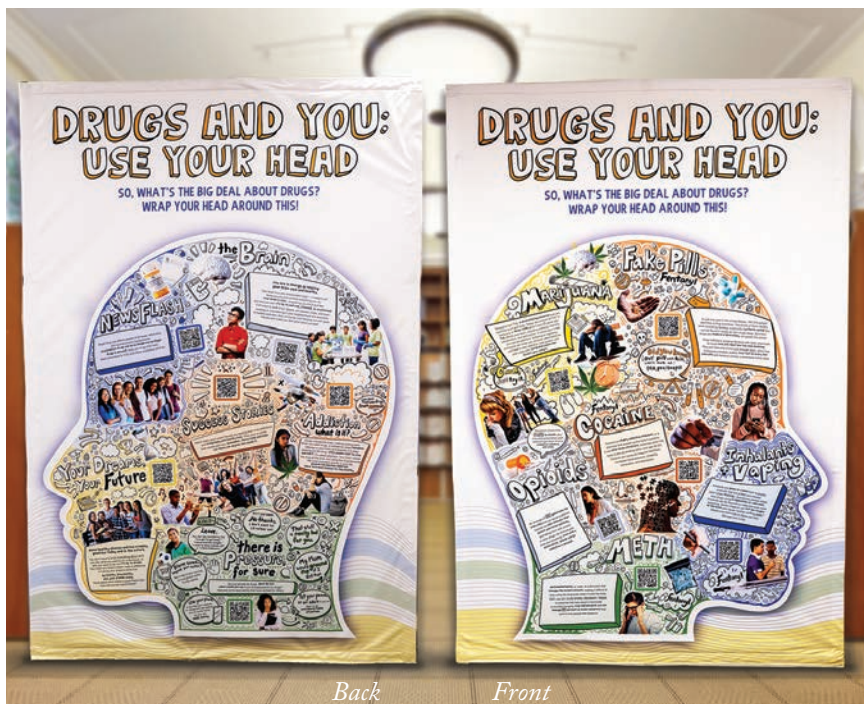
The Drug Enforcement Administration's DEA Museum has developed a new exhibit, for use in public libraries around the country, to inform young people about drugs. The exhibit addresses teens and younger children by asking, "So what's the big deal about drugs?" The exhibit, entitled *Drugs and You: Use your Head*, provides information about specific drugs but goes on to encourage teens to develop dreams for their future, engage in healthy activities, and build positive friendships.

All exhibit information is presented in a friendly, non-threatening way that welcomes the visitor to explore the exhibit in discrete sections. An appealing quasi-graphic novel design and informational "bubbles" invite teens to explore information on the panel and to QR codes that are integrated within the design. The QR codes connect with further information on specific exhibit topics through videos, written materials, and an interactive game. The exhibit is relevant and engaging.

### The topics covered:

- ✶ Marijuana
- 🌀 Opioids
- 📦 Methamphetamine
- 📄 Cocaine
- 👤 Inhalants and Vaping
- 👁️ Fake pills and fentanyl

- 🧠 The role of the brain and brain development in young people
- 💊 Prescription drugs
- 👤 What is addiction?
- 🚫 How to avoid pressure to take drugs
- ☀️ Living a healthy life
- 🌟 Making dreams and goals toward a positive future



## EASY TO SET UP AND USE

Drugs and You is a “pop up” two-sided, three-dimensional unit/exhibit approximately 8 feet high and 5 feet wide.

It is recommended that a five-foot circumference surrounding the exhibit be maintained for visitor viewing and engagement. While there are no computers or speakers in the exhibit, teens/visitors will be viewing videos on their phones or tablets, so the library location should be chosen with audio considerations in mind. Exhibit videos are accessed through QR codes on each topic.

The exhibit comes with resource websites to obtain educational, printed materials and additional information, directions (including a video) on how to setup and take down the exhibit, a condition report sheet, instructions for filing a final report, and logistical information. It is recommended that the library venue present the exhibit for at least a two-month period.



## LIBRARY PARTNERS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

As a natural partner to museums, libraries are poised to communicate this important topic more fully to teens and families. An input session conducted during this exhibit’s development with librarians from around the country found that libraries are interested in helping young people learn more about drugs. Libraries are vital to a healthy society, promoting civic discourse and a sense of community, providing a conduit to literacy, and providing education and assistance in everyday living. Libraries perform many healthy and welcome functions. They connect people to information, are safe environments for learning, and provide social opportunities for people to discover together. Libraries are natural partners with the DEA Museum.

We hope you will join our mission to educate young people about the dangers of drugs.

**For more information about hosting this traveling exhibit in your library, contact your local DEA Field Division Office or the DEA Museum at [DEAMuseum@dea.gov](mailto:DEAMuseum@dea.gov)**



## SPECIFICATIONS AND SET UP

1. The exhibit is 8' by 5' and needs a five-foot circumference to be viewed from both sides. Do not place the exhibit against a wall.
2. Instructions for setup are in the flap on the black soft case that holds the metal components of the exhibit's structure. Please follow the directions. The fabric is strong but should be handled delicately. The fabric fits over the metal frame. (The setup instructions are also in this booklet.)
3. Ideally, the exhibit should be placed where young people congregate. The exhibit can be viewed by anyone, young or old, but it is designed for middle school and high school students
4. Keep in mind that videos will play on visitors' phones, so the exhibit should be placed where this will not be a concern.
5. Moderate security is needed – there should be someone to keep an eye on the exhibit.
6. DEA Museum will request visitor statistics at the end of the exhibit presentation.

**Please store the exhibit shipping case in a safe place.**

Development of the exhibit: Special thanks to DEA's Community Outreach and Prevention Support office, the DEA Educational Foundation, and our many national partners.

Jan McKay Wrzesinski  
DEA Museum Director  
deamuseum@dea.gov  
(202) 307-3463

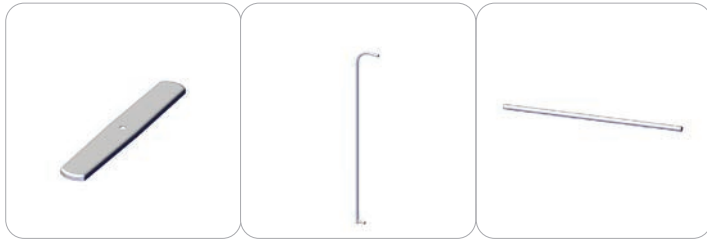
The DEA Museum is open to the public and located at:  
700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA

For more information about the Museum, operating hours, tour scheduling and more:  
[www.deamuseum.org](http://www.deamuseum.org)

Mailing Address:  
8701 Morrissette Drive  
Springfield, VA 22152



## Included In Your Kit



FMLT-ESS-S-1500-2-FOOT x2

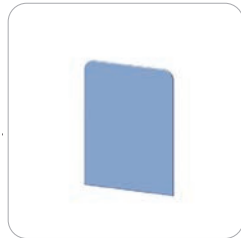
FMLT-ESS-S-1500-2-LT x2

FMLT-ESS-S-1500-2-T1 x1



FMLT-ESS-S-1500-2-T2 x1

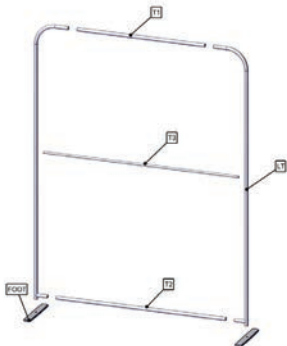
FMLT-ESS-S-1500-2-T3 x1



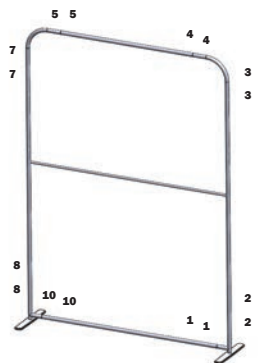
Graphics

FMLT-ESS-S-1500-2-G x1

## Labeling Diagram



## Exploded Diagram

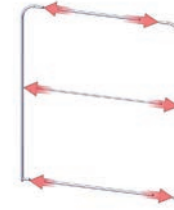


## Kit Assembly

### Step by step

#### Step 1.

Gather the components to build the frame. Use the Exploded View and the Labeling Diagram for part labels.



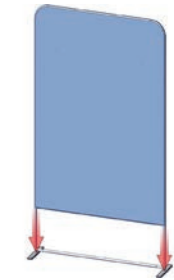
#### Step 2.

Gather the components to attach base hardware. Use the Exploded View and the Labeling Diagram for part labels.



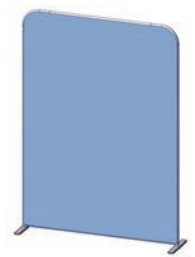
#### Step 3.

Gather the components to attach the graphic. Use the Exploded View and the Labeling Diagram for part labels.

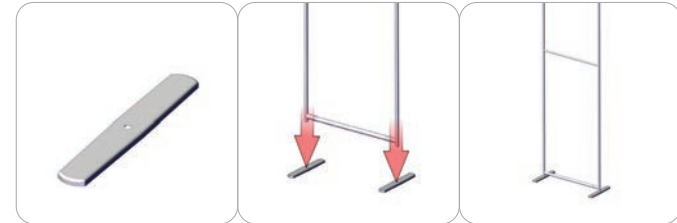


#### Step 4.

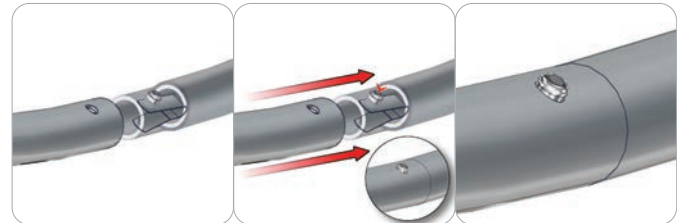
Setup is complete.



## Connection Method



First, attach the base plate with the M10 screw. Once the base plate is in the desired position, fasten the set screw to hold the insert in place.



Attaching the tube swage design end and snap button is easy - simply press the snap button in and slide it into the next tube. With the tube on, make sure the snap button comes out all the way through the tube hole.



Traveling exhibit, Drugs: Costs and Consequences

## DEA Museum Exhibits

**Drugs and You** – a pop-up exhibit for public spaces geared to teens and youth.

**Drugs: Costs & Consequences** – a national traveling exhibit that explores the story of illegal drugs from their initial production, to trafficking and law enforcement, effects on individuals and the environment, and their profound impact on society. The comprehensive exhibit, which covers the historical, psychological, and social aspects of illegal drugs, also includes an expansive section on the science of drugs and drug use, mental health, and addiction. Tailored to each city, the exhibit brings schools, parents, and communities together, fostering conversations on change for a healthier world for all of us.

Experienced by millions of people in over twenty cities across America.

The exhibit is embraced by educators and school districts, elected officials, law enforcement, health providers, and media outlets across the country. It offers school groups, scouts, civic groups, addiction specialists, and teens and families a phenomenal learning opportunity.

Primarily presented at museums and science centers dedicated to serving their communities, the exhibit is a catalyst for community conversation and education.

For information on hosting this free traveling exhibit, visit [www.drugexhibit.org](http://www.drugexhibit.org)

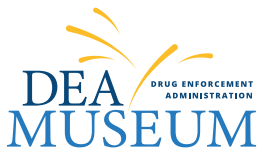
For information on DEA Museum programs, online exhibits, and youth tours, visit [www.deamuseum.org](http://www.deamuseum.org)



DEA Museum - Arlington, Virginia



DEA Museum - Arlington, Virginia



**DEA.GOV**