



DEA YOUTH SUMMIT FIELD TRIP SUMMARY

DEA 360 Philadelphia Youth Drug Summit November 27, 2018

DEA 360 is a comprehensive approach aimed at tackling the cycle of violence and addiction generated by the link between drug cartels, violent gangs, and the rising problem of prescription opioid and heroin abuse in the United States. The goal of this initiative is to stop the deadly cycle of drug abuse by eliminating drug trafficking organizations, raising awareness in the medical community of the dangers of prescription opioid misuse and the link to heroin and through strengthening community organizations best positioned to provide long-term help and support for building drug-free communities.

The Philadelphia Field Division of DEA, under the leadership of Special Agent in Charge Jonathan A. Wilson, has made drug prevention education the primary focus of our community outreach initiative. In collaborating with Temple University and CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America), we hope to provide 4th & 5th grade students of select Philadelphia schools an opportunity to participate in a fun interactive educational experience. The summit will feature college students of Temple University's School of Theater, Film, and Media Arts serving as mentors and collaborating with elementary school students in the artistic development of a theatrical production with the theme of drug prevention and an emphasis on the importance of healthy choices. Temple University Professor of Urban Theater Kimmika Williams Witherspoon will strategize with elementary school teachers and principals on ways to retrieve creative input from the children to produce an interactive play. The anti-drug presentation will be on the campus of Temple University allowing the children to observe the theatrical program inspired by their ideas and viewpoints about the consequences drug abuse and addiction. A supporting theme of the event is the importance of making good choices and the necessity of a healthy mind and body in achieving your dreams.

The summit will also highlight performances by Hip Hop Fundamentals, a DEA K-9 Detective demonstration as well as playing a round of "Wheel of Misfortune" coupled with an interactive presentation by CADCA. The day will include a free lunch, gift bags, T-shirts, and DEA Special Agents who will accompany students on buses to and from the event and who will assist in escorting the children throughout the day to various break out rooms. The ultimate objective is to have the children understand the importance of making positive choices about not using drugs. Participating in the creative development of an artistic expression focusing on drug free living will result in the student adopting ownership and a vested interest in the message of living drug free.