

LOST CHILDHOODS

EXHIBITION PROSPECTUS



FOSTER YOUTH MUSEUM

y.o.u.t.h. 
TRAINING PROJECT


CALIFORNIA YOUTH CONNECTIONS
A PUBLIC CORPORATION

LOST CHILDHOODS

Foster Youth Museum presents a groundbreaking exhibit about youth experiences in foster care. With compelling photos, donated objects, videos, foster youth art, and text, **Lost Childhoods** tells the story of loss and powerlessness – and the human capacity for resilience and connection.



You may be surprised by some of the artifacts that youth have chosen to save and share, which reveal disrupted childhoods, redemption, and personal transformation. In a contemplative setting, visitors come face-to-face with foster youth and have the opportunity to consider how to engage youth in their own communities.

By providing diverse youth voices, the exhibition is a unique opportunity to understand foster youth perspectives and how youth can heal and grow with supportive relationships, collaborative decision making, positive encounters, and respect.

Foster youth can be left alone for hours if they “act out.”

Donated by JJ Fryzel

“The foster care system leaves a footprint of loss and I’ve had to unlearn every single way the system raised me.”

—Jennifer Rodriguez



JJ Fryzel, Artist

ENGAGING YOUR COMMUNITY

Lost Childhoods is your opportunity to present a unique and culturally relevant exhibit to your visitors – and engage the community.

Upon entering the gallery, each visitor may pick up an *Exhibit Journal*, a booklet in which to reflect on certain objects, themes, and questions. For instance, the *Exhibit Journal* asks, “What object have you carried through your life and why is it important to you?” At the end of the exhibit, we invite people to hang their *Journal* and become part of our community of youth and youth supporters.

To further extend the reach of the exhibit, consider staging a community conversation about foster youth. Possible topics include:

- Social justice and providing opportunities for foster youth to realize their full potential
- Foster youth and homelessness
- Foster youth, education, and employment
- The commercial sexual exploitation of children
- Local and state policies that can positively affect the lives of foster youth
- Working with LGBT youth
- Building communities of support
- The cultivation of resilience



“I was developing everything of who I am today in my hardest moments in foster care.”

—Haydée Cuza



Photo by Ray Bussolari

EXHIBITION PACKAGE

1. Curatorial information
2. Shipping, handling and installation instructions
3. Ability to link to Foster Youth Museum blog
4. Public relations support, including digital press release, images, and logos
5. Advice on promoting the exhibit and hosting special events
6. Educational and programming resources

PROJECT PARTNERS

Y.O.U.T.H. Training Project is a unique collaboration between current and former foster youth (ages 16-24), child welfare professionals, and youth-serving organizations. The Project empowers transition-age youth, who are experts in navigating the foster care system, to develop and deliver best practice training for professionals who support transition-age youth—and curate Foster Youth Museum.

California Youth Connection is a youth led organization that develops leaders to transform the foster care system through legislative and policy change. A national model for youth advocacy, CYC members are transforming the face of foster care in California and beyond. CYC is home to the Y.O.U.T.H. Training Project.

Foster Youth Museum
California Youth Connection
1611 Telegraph Avenue, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
415.442.5060 ext. 25
youthtrainingproject.org



(Cover photo) Captain Young – Photo by Ray Bussolari,
in collaboration with Captain Young

EXHIBITION SPECIFICATIONS

Contents:	Portraits, vitrines, videos (tablets), and labels
Supplemental:	<i>Exhibit Journal</i> visitor reflection; promotional resources
Participation Fee:	\$2,000 per 8-week booking period + shipping
Size:	Approximately 100 running feet
Weight:	500 lbs
Category:	History & Culture; Social Justice
Security:	Varies by installation
Contact:	Jeanie Yoon, 415-442-5060, ext. 25 jeanie@calyouthconn.org
Tour Begins:	March 2015, Booking Now

To bring *Lost Childhoods* to your museum, gallery, training or convening, contact Jeanie Yoon at 415-442-5060, Ext. 25 or jeanie@calyouthconn.org.

“It’s important for foster youth to have documentation of their experience.”

—Sophia Herman



Photo by Ray Bussolari