

# NLM Traveling Exhibitions

## PR Information



### **AIDS, Posters & Stories of Public Health:**

**A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF A PANDEMIC**

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/aids-posters/>

The National Library of Medicine produced *AIDS, Posters, and Stories of Public Health: A People's History of a Pandemic*. The exhibition was guest curated by Theodore Kerr, a writer, organizer, and founding member of What Would an HIV Doula Do?.

The traveling exhibition and companion website explore the archive of public health posters about AIDS at the National Library of Medicine which is rooted in the cultural output of artists, activists, and community workers. Their work—specifically, the use of personal narrative, drawing as a visual art strategy, language, and the collective process in the creation of AIDS posters—continues to broadcast the message that, 40 years after the crisis began, AIDS is not over.

*AIDS, Posters, and Stories of Public Health* includes an [education component](#) with a college and university level class resource. A [digital gallery](#) features a curated selection of fully digitized items from the historical collections of the NLM, which are also available in the entirety in [NLM Digital Collections](#).

Please include this courtesy line with all public announcements about the project:

**The National Library of Medicine produced this exhibition and companion website.**

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Host venues for *AIDS, Posters and Stories of Public Health: A People's History of a Pandemic*, receive a link to download the following PR images. For your reference, included here are thumbnail images and brief captions. Please include **Courtesy National Library of Medicine** when using them.



Members of the group ACT UP demand improved AIDS care at King County Hospital, Brooklyn, NY

*ACT UP demonstration, Kings County Hospital*

Creator: T. L. Litt, 1989

**Courtesy National Library of Medicine**

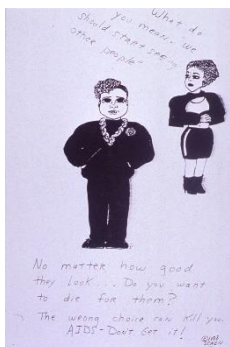


"Believe me sweetie, HIV can still be a drag" is printed on the back of this image. No name is provided, but the text alludes to identity, with "drag" being a play on words referring to gender.

*Believe me sweetie, HIV can still be a drag*

Creator: HIV/AIDS Program, Seattle, WA, ca. 1995

**Courtesy National Library of Medicine**



An unnamed artist belonged to the close-knit community brought together by activist DiAna DiAna in her South Carolina hair salon. This is one of ten images from the unknown artist from DiAna's hair salon.

*No matter how good they look...do you want to die for them?*

Creator: SCAEN, Inc., 1988

**Courtesy National Library of Medicine**

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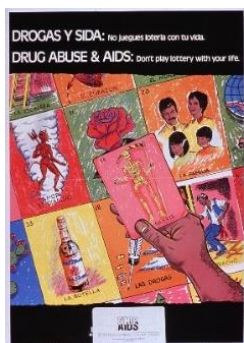
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In this poster we see people taking to the street, but not in protest. With placards in Haitian that read, “Protect yourself, family & children against the HIV virus disease,” and “My fellow Haitians let us fight this AIDS disease together,” the message is of community care.

Producer: League Against AIDS, with funding from the U.S. Office of Minority Health, ca. 1980

**Courtesy National Library of Medicine**

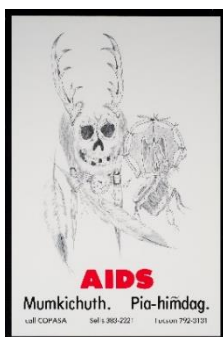


An AIDS-informed deck of Lotería, a traditional Mexican card game of chance, is used by the Texas organization STOP AIDS. The text of the poster is presented in English and Spanish to enhance efforts to reach targeted communities.

*Drogas y sida: no juegues loteria con tu vida = Drug abuse & AIDS: don't play lottery with your life*

Creator: STOP AIDS, San Antonio, TX, c. 1987

**Courtesy National Library of Medicine**



A striking drawing is coupled with a message in O’odham, the language of the Tohono O’odham Nation, Native people of the Sonoran Desert. Translated into the English, the message is akin to “AIDS. This sickness is not our way of life.”

*AIDS. Mumkichuth. Pia-himdag.*

Creator: COPASA, ca. 1980

**Courtesy National Library of Medicine**