About National Organizations for Youth Safety.
The National Organizations for Youth Safety (NOYS) is a 24-year-old coalition of over 100 federal agencies, industry leaders, and nonprofit organizations that promote youth safety through education, engagement, and empowerment. NOYS looks at the most prevalent causes of preventable injury and death among youth (ages 13-24) and mobilizes the coalition around coordinated efforts to reduce these tragedies. We also work closely with teachers, educators, and school administrators on the development and implementation of peer-to-peer education. As a coalition, NOYS reaches over 9 million annually.

Youth Interactive Lab Background.
The NOYS signature Youth Interactive Safety Lab was born in 2015, in an effort to re-imagine a 20-year-old annual Youth Safety Summit. It was a run-away success starting with 50 students and growing to become its own annual event with 700+ youth attending from all over the country. Youth and educators have been drawn to the opportunity to see state-of-the-art simulators, demonstration programs and one-of-a-kind educational tools that show how positive and negative behaviors can affect their personal safety and that of others. Hands-on experiences simulate the effects of substances, unsafe conditions, such as driving while drunk or performing "normal" tasks while drugged, drowsy, or distracted, so youth better understand their capacities and the potential consequences of poor decisions.

A special edition of the NOYS Youth Interactive Safety Lab will be held in Montgomery County Maryland during National Teen Safe Driving Week as a culmination of the Vision Zero Youth Ambassador Program. Montgomery County, Maryland became one of the first counties to adopt a Vision Zero plan in 2017 with an audacious goal of no traffic deaths in Montgomery County by 2030. The Vision Zero Youth Ambassador Program is a collaboration between the Montgomery County Department of Transportation and National Organizations for Youth Safety, to encourage youth in Montgomery County, MD to have an active role in road safety efforts and improvements. The lab will take place Monday, October 21, 2019 from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm with students cycling through lab exhibits in small groups.

Objectives.
- Use interactive demonstrations to showcase the most prevalent causes of injury and fatalities among teens
- Reinforce youth safety messages and thoughtful decision-making
- Connect youth with peer leaders and professionals to inspire positive action

Focus Areas.
- STEM Education - Fully interactive environment where students learn the valuable concepts of STEM through hands-on demonstrations, simulators and activities
- Leadership Development – Student leaders from across the country showcase successful community campaigns, multi-disciplinary professionals share career development opportunities, scholarships and programs
- Injury Prevention – Traffic safety, substance abuse and violence prevention programs and demonstrations are shared. Law enforcement, health and safety professionals lead interactive lab activities sharing specific principles in youth safety.