



# PSYCHEDELIC

---

## CLUB

### Chapter Start Guide:

### A Manual for Cultural Renaissance

V.1.1

Contributors: Joey Gallagher & Clayton Ickes

**We are a network of chapters dedicated to increasing mainstream cultural acceptance of psychedelics. Founded on the idea of cognitive liberty, we believe a personal interest in psychedelics is legitimate, healthy, and socially acceptable. By organizing above ground, welcoming everyone, and sharing honestly we facilitate societal change and fight stigma on the grassroots level; offering the most accessible way to directly participate in the psychedelic renaissance.**

**Psychedelic Family,**

[hello@psychedelicclub.com](mailto:hello@psychedelicclub.com) - <https://www.psychedelicclub.com/> -  
<https://www.facebook.com/psychedelicawareness/>

Thank you for choosing to spark a fire of shared fascination on the desolate cultural landscape, may many see your shine.

By organizing a chapter of Psychedelic Club we are bucking the entrenched Western habit of passive observation and choosing to play a participatory role in the creation of a new culture. Founded on the idea of cognitive liberty, we believe each individual has a right to explore their own awareness and that Psychedelics can be an integral part of that exploration.

Psychedelics provide some of the most fascinating experiences available to humans on this planet. Despite their potential as tools of personal healing and growth they remain stigmatized objects of fear. Our mission is to facilitate a more honest examination of these substances on the cultural level.

We take a non-judgmental, non-exclusive approach. Everyone is invited into the club, there is no prerequisite for membership. If you have been to even a single meeting and choose to identify as a member of Psychedelic Club you absolutely may.

Everything we do is informed by these 10 fundamental principles:

1. **Inclusion**
2. **Participation**
3. **Community**
4. **Honesty**
5. **Mainstreaming**
6. **Professionalism**
7. **Destigmatization**
8. **Harm Reduction**
9. **Benefit Maximization**
10. **Expression**

To these principles we hold ourselves and each other accountable as we facilitate a grassroots psychedelic community. Our job is not an easy one but the choice is very simple: create or be created. This is not about any of us personally or even Psychedelic Club as an organization. This is about widespread cultural change and reorientation of our collective path. About finding and authentically sharing who we really are. Keep this in mind as you build your chapters. Remember that you are never alone. The ego is what doubts and fears, never confident, it tells you the reasons you cannot. We are here as a community to let you know that you absolutely can.

To the Renaissance With Love,  
Psychedelic Club

# **The Surface of That Which is Herein** **Contained (Table of Contents)**

- **Lighting The Fire (Getting Started)**
- **Psychedelic Club Non-Negotiables**
- **The Logo**
- **Chapter Leadership & Meeting Specifics**
- **Meeting Ideas**
- **Finding (More Of) The Others**
- **Fundraising**
- **Communications Strategy: Tools of Informational Influence**
- **Practitioner's Perspectives**
- **Public Speaking & Navigating the Media: The Speechcraft Skill**
- **Responding to Sourcing Requests**
- **How to Contact the Psychedelic Club National Office**

## Lighting The Fire (Getting Started)

After submitting an application (Found at the bottom of this page:

<https://www.psychedelclub.com/residents>), potential new chapter founders will be contacted by a member of our national team or other volunteers to schedule an intro call. The goal of this initial call is to get acquainted with each other, communicate our mutual intentions, and gauge compatibility. Excellent chapter founders and leaders are communicative, professional, authentic, and aligned with the mission of changing the cultural psychedelic narrative. Wanting to try your hand at being a mushroom shaman or looking for people to sell acid to are not intentions that are aligned with founding a Psychedelic Club at this time. We want to live in a psychedelic utopia as much as the next person, but maintaining a certain level of decorum is crucial to being an effective leader. Flagrant and unskillful disregard for the law does nothing for our mission and detracts from our credibility. The further we distance ourselves from the mainstream, the less effectively we can influence it.

After getting to know each other we'll use the remainder of the call to co-plan logistics and next steps. First, the national team will make your chapter a Facebook group associated with our main page and give you admin access. This facebook group is a useful tool for social organization where you can organize with your leadership team and key members. The group is set to "Private" and "Visible" by default. This means everyone on the internet can see that it exists, but only people you manually approve are able to join and post. In this configuration the group is mainly a tool of *internal* communication. To face your digital presence more outwardly there are two options. You can simply change your Groups Privacy Setting to "Public" or create a separate Facebook Page for external communication while keeping the Group for internal communications. (See this article for an explanation of Pages vs. Groups: <https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/facebook-page-vs-group/>). Cultivating a well maintained page or group will serve your chapter very well throughout its existence.

Once your Facebook is established we'll add it to the chapter map on Psychedelclub.com and send you an email containing **The Digital Spore: New Chapter Start Kit**. Here you'll find a...

- **Psychedelic Education Folder**: A growing collection of resources to help you become a more effective advocate and organizer.
- **Memes Folder**: Use these to kickstart your social media presence. (Under Construction)
- **Logo & Branding Guide Folder**: Psychedelic Club logo files and our branding guide which includes a color scheme and typography. It's your logo now too!
- **Sample Constitution, ByLaws, Code of Conduct**: From the Denver Chapter. Use this to create your own (Especially useful for University Chapters).
- **PC Chapter Agreement**: READ THIS. By Founding or Running a chapter of Psychedelic Club you are agreeing to adhere to this document.
- **Sign Up Sheets**: Print and use to collect contacts when tabling and during events.

Now that we've established the virtual structures, it's time to start making things happen outside of a screen. You could call it third dimensional manifestation or just "real life", either way there are five steps.

- 1. Recruit At Least 3 Total People (and a Faculty Advisor for University Chapters):**  
These will be the founding members and initial leadership/ facilitators of your Psychedelic Club, choose wisely. Consider who will show up and bring the necessary skills to build a psychedelic community in your area. Conduct work meetings and spend time with your members. If you're a University chapter you'll want to start considering professors who may be willing to become your faculty advisor. The Anthropology, Mycology, and Psychology departments are often natural habitats of the psychedelically inclined. Look at professor biographies for hints they may be interested and start having conversations. Remember to explain that our purpose is the promotion of open, honest, and logical discussion of psychedelics and that we neither condemn nor condone substance use. Some professors may be tentative due to heavy workloads; let them know their involvement does not have to extend past the initial paperwork. Having an absentee faculty advisor is better than no advisor at all.
- 2. Define Internal Political Structure:** The constitution found in The Digital Spore establishes a Representative Democracy (with a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary). We find this structure very useful and familiar to most people but you are free to adopt any type of governance you'd like. Holacracy? Sweet. Anarchy? Rad. Steel Fisted Authoritarian Dictatorship? Goodluck. A clear and well defined structure is important to the operation of a successful chapter. It's very helpful when everyone knows what their role is and what is to be done. It can be tempting to skip this step but doing so can be like randomly throwing seeds into the dirt; things may not grow the way you'd like. Take some time to at least establish *some kind* of sound structure and distribution of work within your chapter. This will provide the framework you need to be successful and thrive far into the future.
- 3. Register As A Student Organization With University Administration:** (Skip if not affiliated with University). The process and requirements for this will differ from school to school but generally you will need a minimum number of members, a constitution, bylaws, code of conduct, and a faculty advisor. Good thing you've followed steps one and two. There will be some paperwork to fill out and you may even be asked to demonstrate support of the student body through a petition. This can sometimes be a long process but fret not, you can absolutely start holding meetings while this is still being worked on. Reach out if you hit any snags or have questions and we'll do what we can to help you through.
- 4. Find A Space:** It's very helpful to meet in the same place every time. It fosters familiarity and a greater sense of belonging when people always know where Psychedelic Club will be meeting. When looking for a meeting space try to consider the future feasibility of the space. Is it a place that can be used regularly? If you're a community chapter meeting at a place of business; consider the hours, staff, and congruence of that business. Coffee shops, bookstores, and public libraries are often great locations, especially if you can form a relationship with the humans who operate them. You want the place to be accessible and welcoming. Private residences can be used if care is taken to make the space comfortable to strangers, but usually this isn't the best. University chapters have an advantage here in that they can often book space on campus whole semesters at a time if done early enough. Community chapters, on the other hand, must work a little harder to establish a solid regular meeting place.
- 5. Plan Your 1st Meeting:** Once you've got your team, established a structure, registered your club, and identified a spot it's time to organize your first meeting. The goal of this initial public

facing meeting is simply to introduce yourselves to the larger local community and to get things started. Holding an integration circle or documentary viewing as your chapters very first meeting doesn't give you a chance to get to know people and build a community structure. Better to start slow, there will be plenty of time for the rest. Whoever facilitates this first meeting can simply pass around a sign in sheet, introduce themselves, share their interests in Psychedelics and why they're starting a club, then pass that along the circle allowing others to do the same. When everyone is done sharing you can close by explaining your plans for future meetings and events, then ask for input, feedback, and involvement from the people present. This illustrates the co-creative community nature of the club and gives people a chance to become further involved.

Psychedelic Club is all about engaging on the human level, facilitating honest communication, and experimenting with expression. **We are a bottom up, volunteer driven organization.** We cannot know the best approach for your specific locale and do not seek to tell you how to exist. The world is fascinatingly rich in micro-cultural diversity and you are a perfect expression of that diversity. As such, you're free to decide what it means to run a chapter of Psychedelic Club. Get radical, scream your truth on the streets, test the limits, wear weird hats, whatever you feel called to do. If you've been looking for permission to play and experiment, here it is. We absolutely encourage you to do what you will. We have only a handful of hard rules...

## Psychedelic Club Non-Negotiables

These are the crucial, existential things to know about running a Psychedelic Club

- **Remain in Communication With the National Team:** The initial call is just the beginning of an ongoing relationship. We ask that chapter leaders stay mindful of this relationship in general. You don't have to tell us about every little thing or ask permission to exist, just respond to our check ins. Once every month or two is just fine.
- **NO SOURCING, EVER:** Affiliates of Psychedelic Club may never engage in the sourcing of illegal substances. No chapter resource or space, real or digital, shall be used in the attempt to acquire, vend, trade, distribute, consume, or create illegal substances. Full stop, period, the end. Seriously, don't let your chapter become a place people can go to find substances. It delegitimizes the entire organization and puts you at personal risk. We can't get you out of a distribution or possession charge.
- **Preserve the 501(c)(3) Status:** Psychedelic Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that seeks to provide a safe space and community to discuss everything psychedelic. 501(c)(3) organizations are **non-partisan** and prohibited from campaigning or helping political candidates directly or indirectly. Psychedelic Club chapters and affiliated groups may never endorse any candidates running for public office or lobby for policy change. Leaders of the chapter may endorse candidates and initiatives in their personal time, but

may not do so on behalf of the chapter. Psychedelic Club chapters may never campaign for political candidates or aid political campaigns in any way, shape, or form (recruit volunteers, fundraise, etc.). People involved in decriminalization and similar campaigns may meet each other in our meetings, but their activities remain logistically separate from those of Psychedelic Club.

- We may not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office
- We CAN conduct non-partisan activities that educate the public and help them participate in the electoral process (voter registration)
- We CAN advocate for or against specific issues as long as candidates are not mentioned and this advocacy furthers the mission of the charity.
- We cannot use party labels or code words like “conservative”, “Liberal”, etc...

Here's an article with more specifics on the tax law: [Limits on Political Campaigning for 501\(c\)\(3\) Nonprofits](#)

- **Note Our Right To Disassociation:** If a chapter is found to be in violation of the Chapter Agreement and/or leaders or members of the chapter participate in activities or conduct deemed inappropriate by Psychedelic Club Nationals, Psychedelic Club reserves the right to disassociate with the chapter and revoke the group's right to operate under the Psychedelic Club name and logo. It's only under drastic circumstances this would come up. Pretty much all issues can be navigated by remaining in communication with Nationals, but it's still good to be aware of this potentiality.
- **Professionalism:** Professionalism is expected from the chapter officers at all times when representing Psychedelic Club, it's a strong tool of stigma reduction. Being organized, having a presentable appearance, and using appropriate language are all part of “psychedelic professionalism”. Clear and consistent communication is expected from chapter officers. We're not going to be authoritarian about this, but being professional when no one expects you to be is incredibly powerful.
- **Moral Fidelity:** Speakers with a history of misuse of psychedelics ([Like the Buffo Toad Gangsters](#)) or any form of violence/aggression are not permitted to speak at Psychedelic Club meetings or be given a platform to spread their toxic behavior.

## The Logo

Put on your robes, get some candles, go deep into the forest, and start chanting because this is a [magical](#) center [sigil](#)... or maybe it's just a bunch of lines. One of these views is way more *fun* than the other, but we're not going to tell you to do anything weird. We certainly would NOT

recommend feeling your feet planted firmly on the ground, fixing your gaze on the logo, and taking 7 slow breaths while visualizing a psychedelic utopia. That would be crazy... right?

We WILL tell you that this logo is made for **you**, that it is yours now too. As a chapter leader or organizer you are free to do with it whatever you see reasonable without permission from anywhere but your own pumping heart. Print T-shirts and sell them as a fundraiser, lease billboards over major interstates, make undipped blotter art, sneak into a corn field in the dead of night and stamp out a crop circle. The only thing we ask is that you do not affiliate the logo with anything which sends the wrong message or violates our 501c3 status. (Eg. Don't dip that blotter art or plaster it on a politician's billboard). This is our sacred symbol, please respect it.



*At the very center of our logo are multi-colored fragments representing the diverse perspectives and personalities of those who make up Psychedelic Club. A core of multitudinous beliefs, cultures, and backgrounds all converge towards a central point to form an eyeball; The shared vision. Its imperfect circle reminds us of our human fallibility and to not take ourselves too seriously. The interwoven knot of community encircles and supports the shared vision, giving it shape. Alone we are fragments of a single color. Together, within the knot, we are the vision that creates a new psychedelic world.*

## Chapter Leadership & Meeting Specifics

### Planning

- Officers/leaders should gather at least once a month to prepare and plan the month's meeting(s). Finalizing details of each meeting and posting them publicly *at least* a week before the meeting and at least a month before an event helps ensure attendees have



enough time to see and plan for the gathering. Posting to all forms of social media the chapter has available and emailing the chapter's master mailing list is highly recommended for maximum turnout. For larger meetings and events, chapter leaders may reach out to the national office for marketing assistance.

### **Facilitating Meetings**

- When the meeting is being planned, officers should choose a facilitator for each specific meeting. The facilitator is the person who verbally runs the meeting and keeps it on track. Ideally, there will be new members at most meetings. Icebreakers and discussion questions can help relieve social anxiety and help new members feel comfortable in the chapter.
- Often conversations during a meeting can go astray or "down a rabbit hole". It is important for the facilitator to keep the meeting on track while also giving as much time as possible for everyone to speak within reason.
- The meeting agenda is an important staple for keeping the meeting running smoothly. The agenda should include reflections on past events and announcements about upcoming events, and should be made available ahead of time.
- Meeting organizers should strive for a meeting length between 1-2 hours depending on different factors including the frequency of chapter meetings. Anything longer than 2 hours is a hard commitment for most people, especially if the chapter meets weekly or every other week. And for some, even 2 hours could be taxing. Make a decision based on what feels appropriate.
- Asking for donations every meeting will help build a fund for the chapter.
- As a facilitator of the meeting, it is important to start the meeting on time. The chapter does not want a reputation for being tardy. A well-organized meeting structure gives the chapter a more legitimate feel. Yay professionalism!
- Discussion is a centerpiece of Psychedelic Club meetings and events. Officers should plan meetings that leave time for discussion of the meeting topic. Some meetings should revolve around discussion.
- Illegal sourcing in any way, shape, or form is not tolerated at any Psychedelic Club meeting or gathering. While we are not officers of the law, it is up to chapter leaders to enforce this rule as any form of source jeopardizes the club's non-profit status.
- Every chapter is unique in their own way. Chapter leaders should listen to feedback and requests by chapter members, this is a community effort.
- Work the sign in sheet! Circulate those sheets and collect the contact info of those in attendance.

### **Within Chapter Communication**

- Quality communication is the single most important factor in community organizing. Chapter officers are expected to maintain regular contact with the national office and frequent communication with fellow officers of their chapter. The national office's preferred method of communication is an app called Slack. Chapter officers may also contact the national office via Facebook chat or email. The intrapersonal communication

method for each chapter can be decided by the chapter leaders. It is recommended using a communication app like Slack for the sake of organization. Often thoughts and ideas can get lost in simple messaging apps like Facebook messenger.

## **Organization**

- Staying organized will help the chapter thrive. Knowing what is where and how to get there is a crucial skill that will serve you in all endeavours. All sorts of organizational tools exist but we find [Doodle Poll](#) and the google suite especially useful. It's recommended to make a google drive folder for your chapter that all of leadership can access.

## **Inclusivity**

- Facilitating an inclusive community is a main objective of Psychedelic Club. This begins on the most individual level. While friendships are one of the most beautiful side effects of Psychedelic Club, it is important to welcome new members and avoid cliques. Officers should be aware of new members and do their best to make them feel at home while not putting them "in the spotlight". One maneuver would be one officer introducing themselves before the meeting starts.
- The psychedelic community itself is a very diverse community. Some members prefer nature and others prefer city life. Mysticism is important to several members of the community while skepticism is present in others. Officers should work to find balance to appease the different factions and be objective as possible when planning meetings. Officers may, of course, express their personal views on issues within the Psychedelic Club space as long as they leave room for other views also.
- Another objective of Psychedelic Club is to be the bridge between the psychedelic community and everyone else. Different communities have different privileges and challenges when it comes to life, the psychedelic experience, and the Drug War. Officers should keep diversity of meetings, speakers, and events as a top priority.
- Our job is to organize and empower those with preexisting interest so that we can effectively outreach to those who still view psychedelics as bad and dangerous.

## **Meeting Ideas**

- **Movie Night**
  - Screening a psychedelic-related film has shown to be immensely popular with those interested in psychedelics at all levels. Picking the right themed film at the appropriate time length and finding a suitable venue will be the main focus of meeting organizers. It should be noted, showing a full length (2+ hours) movie during a general or weekly meeting might be overtaxing for some people. As mentioned before a discussion is

crucial to meetings. It is recommended that the meeting organizer prepares discussion questions ahead of time relative to the film's theme.

- **Book of the Month**

- Presenting a book related to psychedelics is another popular meeting idea. For the Book of the Month style meeting, an officer or reliable volunteer assigns a book at least one month ahead of presenting it to the chapter. The meeting presenter usually summarizes the book with key points then hosts a discussion around the book and its relevance to the outside world. It is important to emphasize that everyone is encouraged to attend the meeting regardless of familiarity with the book.

- **Psychedelic Stories**

- "Psychedelic Stories" meeting theme provides a more intimate meeting as more members have more time to share personal experiences with each other. For this meeting theme, members break into small groups to discuss questions prepared by the meeting organizer.
  - Question examples
    - "Who has tried microdosing?"
    - "What's your favorite psychedelic and why?"
    - "What is your ideal set and setting?"

- **Social**

A social meeting is a great way to connect in a more casual setting. While bars and coffee shops are the most common social gathering establishments, a few chapters have found success in other venues.

- Kava bars are great meetings spots for socials. The effects of kava should be researched by officers and members before consuming.
- A meeting in the park is an easy, inexpensive way to host a large meeting depending on the weather. The meeting theme can largely vary. For instance, chapters have hosted drum circles, meditation circles, pinicks, and psychedelic peer support in the park. Officers should prepare the table with a banner in a spot easy to see far away.
- Trivia Night is a popular social meeting style that requires more planning than other socials. Officers should prepare trivia questions and prizes well in advance of the meeting.

- **Psychedelic Peer Support**

- A safe place for members to openly talk about trauma and healing with psychedelics. It should be noted this is not therapy or medical advice, just group peer support. This is not recommended as a first meeting unless you have some therapists or experienced harm reductionists involved. Build community first.
- Picking the right venue for Psychedelic Peer Support is crucial for this meeting theme. This meeting should be held in a closed, private space.

Facilitators of the meeting should hold attendees privacy at the highest priority.

- Encourage attendees and participants to read up on psychedelic peer support methods before diving into trying to help someone. Well intentioned but unskillful approaches can increase the difficulty of a person's experience. The Zendo Manual is a fantastic first resource. Available for free here: <https://zendoproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Zendo-Manual-2017.pdf>

- **Host a speaker**

- Hosting a speaker from another group or organization can easily gather large crowds. Officers must do background research on the speaker before inviting them to speak at a meeting. *Being into psychedelics or being part of the community is not solely enough to be given a platform.* Speakers with a history of misuse of psychedelics or any form of violence/aggression are not permitted to speak at Psychedelic Club meetings. If there is any doubt or question about the legitimacy of a speaker or guest, officers should reach out to the national office.
- The popularity of different speakers will widely vary. Officers should do their best to accommodate the appropriate amount of seating for the expected number of meeting attendees.
- As mentioned before, discussion should be a part of every Psychedelic Club meeting. Officers in charge of planning the meeting/event with a speaker always leave time for Q&A with the speaker.

- **Day of Action**

- April 19th, also known as Bicycle Day, has served as a primary holiday for the psychedelic community. The holiday marks the anniversary of the 1st intentional ingestion of LSD by a human, Dr. Albert Hofmann in 1943.
- September 20th is a holiday traditionally celebrated in the mushroom community.

## Finding (More Of) The Others

Getting people to show up at your meetings and events is the single best thing you can do to ensure the success of your chapter. Without people in the physical space Psychedelic Club is just some shapes on a screen. When people show up, Psychedelic Club becomes a cultural icebreaker ship plowing through the frozen intellectual crust of society into the waters of renaissance. A beacon of connective hope on an otherwise bleak horizon. A source of infinite and ridiculous metaphors.

Much has already been written about attracting humans to you and your cause. We're not going to tell you to go read Dale Carnegie but we will say that the success of your chapter is directly proportional to the ability of its leaders to get along with people. Arrogance and judgment repel while passion, curiosity, and authenticity invite. Whether you think of yourself as introverted or extroverted is unimportant, everyone can train themselves to navigate human interactions more

skillfully. Psychedelic Club provides a perfect venue within which to intentionally develop yourself socially, consider this opportunity as you build your chapter.

The first step to recruiting many, many people into your chapter is examining how you interact on the individual level. Are there patterns in your relationships and friendships that tend to repeat? Much like Psychedelics themselves, being in community will bring those patterns to the surface and amplify them. This is a good thing. General development of interpersonal skills is an ongoing process that is absolutely worth pursuing, but the fine details are outside the scope of this guide. In lieu of a full blown examination of the psyche and human connection, we offer you a few Psychedelic Club specific ideas to chew on:

- As an organizer of Psychedelic Club your job is simply to *facilitate*. You don't need to be the master or guru of the circle. Quoting statistics and facts is great but honest curiosity and an open mind is more than enough to start with. Take that pressure off and give yourself permission not to know.
- Authentically stumbling is better than being dishonestly perfect. We're all humans, mistakes will be made and weird moments will be had. It's all apart of the learning process. Acknowledging your fumbings and being open about your flaws gives everyone more space to be themselves.
- Anxiety is the raw material for magic. Being anxious about running a meeting, tabling, or speaking is absolutely normal and does not determine your overall worth as an organizer or as a human. By repeatedly exposing yourself to anxiety you can come to see it as an ally. Like an arrow on a map, it often shows us right where we need to go. Don't numb and don't run away. Working with anxiety, as opposed to against, can turn it into a superpower.
- Psychedelic Club is intentionally named to be bold and controversial. We took a word that some people currently associate with criminals, put "Club" at the end, and started showing up at schools. Our method and message is inherently socially disruptive, polarizing. Some people are immediately attracted to the club while others are immediately repelled. Our job is to receive and organize those who are attracted so that we can more effectively outreach to those who are repelled.

It's useful to think about chapter building in a philosophical sort of way and to consider the higher level conceptualizations of our actions, but there is also the need for a less heady concrete definition of actions themselves. Here are 8 practical things you can do to ensure that your chapter is always well attended.

## 1. Table

Tabling is a great way to get the message out about Psychedelic Club, find new members, and hone your spiel. A clean, organized, well-supplied table can be a great way to connect to the greater community. The main objective of tabling is to obtain possible members or event attendees contact info. Multiple sign up sheets should be on the table at all times. Sending

follow up emails or messages to people who just signed up are necessary to show the chapter is legitimate.

Proper tabling etiquette is expected from everyone helping out with the table. It is the chapter officers' responsibility to make sure every volunteer at the table is prepared.

- Greetings should be simple and direct, "Hi! Interested in Psychedelic Club?" "Hello! Interested in learning more about the psychedelic community?"
- Avoid arguing and scolding at all costs. Arguing at the table deters new people from approaching and often leaves people frustrated.
- Always have information on the next meeting or event. This shows people the chapter is actually active.
- Sourcing or illegal substance use at the table is strictly forbidden.



2. **Host Events:** Regularly putting on events like those described earlier in this guide gets people excited about being apart of your chapter and makes you known to the wider community.
3. **Speak in Class:** If a University chapter, ask your professors if you can have 3 minutes at the end of class to plug Psychedelic Club. Your faculty advisor should be especially amenable to this.
4. **Plaster the Town/Campus with Posters, Flyers, and Pamphlets:** Develop some materials that can be printed and posted around your area. Some examples and templates can be found in The Digital Spore.
5. **Advertise:** Speak with local papers and magazines who may be sympathetic to your cause and ask about non-profit advertising.
6. **Ask Personal Networks:** Invite your friends and their friends!
7. **Work Social Networks:** Keep an active online presence by posting memes, events, and interacting with people online.
8. **Attend Shows and Festivals:** Local shows and festivals can be a great place to table and talk to people about the club, reach out to organizers and see how involved your chapter can get.

### **Advertising Meetings**

It is important to make every public/general meeting as visible as possible. Posting to multiple forms of social media and sending out emails is vital to a chapter's meeting attendance.

- Gathering and organizing the contact information of people who are interested in the chapter is an important piece of Psychedelic Club. Use the sign up sheets and *Create a master contact list that all officers have access to*
- The level of attendance will be directly related to how well chapter leaders communicate with members.
- While using Psychedelic Club social media accounts, uniform language expressing the group effort of Psychedelic Club is expected. For example, “We are excited to see you this evening at our meeting” is preferable over “I am excited to see all of you at the meeting.” Train the dog of ego with words like “Us Us Us We We We”
- If a personal statement is to be made, the statement should be signed with initials. Example, “In my experience, caffeine makes me stay awake.- JG”
- Take and post pictures of meetings on social media!
  
- **Facebook:** This is by far the most useful tool of social organization.
  - Facebook pages will be made for each of the chapters. Pages are designed to reach a wider audience and are publicly visible even if a viewer does not have a Facebook account. Officers and social media managers should try to maximize the number of “likes” for their page. This will help with other aspects of running the chapter such as meeting visibility and event planning.
  - While a Facebook Page is for wide range public outreach, a Facebook group is for internal members. Officers need to curate and monitor the Facebook group for unlawful activity. Facebook will delete the group if anything unlawful (especially sourcing) is found in the group.
  - Events
    - Facebook events are a simple, easy way to promote an event. They can serve as the primary information source for events or as a secondary reminder. Social media managers should post every public event link within the chapter’s Facebook group
    - Multiple co-hosts are allowed on Facebook events. Every participating organization in an event should add their Facebook Page as a co-host for maximum visibility.
    - Posting within the event serves as a friendly reminder about the event and is also a medium to post updates about the event or meeting.
    - Financially boosting event
      - Invite and get as many people as possible to hit “Interested” or “Going” to the Facebook event so the algorithm does not spend money targeting them.
  
- **Email**

- Email is a reliable medium of communication that most people know how to use. Sending out consistent weekly or monthly emails helps connect to people who are not on social media and serve as a useful reminder to those who are. Chapters should set up their own email addresses which all officers should have access to.
- **Meetup**
  - Meetup.com is a paid service specifically geared to helping people find local events without the frills of social media. It is a great tool to reach potential members who are not on other social media.
- **Instagram**
  - Facebook's image and video sharing site, Instagram, is another useful tool for reaching the masses. Making simple graphics with meeting or event details can easily boost visibility especially amongst younger people.
    - The website Canva makes simple graphic design easy for those who are not as familiar with it.
- **Print media**
  - Old-fashioned print media is still a helpful way to get the word out. Printing can be expensive so officers should search for places where posters will not be taken down. Chapters have had success putting posters up in coffee shops, yoga studios, record shops, and other similar establishments. University chapters can access their school's print shop!
  - Always remember to include a way for people to reach out, such as the chapter's email address or social media accounts.
- **Direct contact**
  - Simple, direct text/online messages and reminding people in person is the best way to tell people about the next meeting or event. Do not be afraid to directly ask friends or chapter members to share events.

### **Social Media Rules**

Beware of Stigmatizing language and memes & NO SOURCING. Stigmatizing **any** substance or substance users is not tolerated in Psychedelic Club spaces, real or virtual. Objective risks and rewards of any given substance can be talked about without wrongly stigmatizing the substance and the user. [Nobody is better than anybody else because of the substances they use.](#)

### **A Study in Stigma**





Humor is a wonderful tool that can heal hurt hearts and change lives, a potent medicine. One the best things about being alive is the feeling of being taken over by full body laughter. Seeking it is a valid and worthy use of time but, like all potent medicines, there are skillful and unskillful ways to use it.

From the perspective of a human attempting to engage in cultural psychedelic revolution, this meme is an incredibly unskillful use of humor. Our mission is to align ourselves more closely with mainstream culture, to reduce the ideological distance between ourselves and the rest of the world. Like the weaving together of two cloths, there is some skill involved. We can't just start stitching randomly and hope to make something beautiful.

Take a moment to imagine the "Average American" speaking words like "Hippies", "Druggies", "Crazy People". What kind of emotional tone is in their voice? What do you imagine them claiming about these groups of people? Try to write a sentence for the imaginary character you've just created that uses these words. What does it say? It's not "Welcome all hippies, druggies, and crazy people!" is it? Even the open hearted psychedelic community struggles to welcome people labelled as such. How do you think the "Average American" will fare? How will they judge?

As builders of a new culture, our work is in that judgement. This is about more than having a laugh. We are intentionally using our presence, physical and digital, to influence the mainstream rhetoric. Allowing memes like this on your pages only creates

more distance between us and mainstream society. It's directly opposed to our mission as an organization.

## Fundraising

As explained in [The Best TED Talk on Fundraising Ever](#) by Kara Logan Berlin, the first step here is to take a very close look at your own relationship to money and reconcile your emotional baggage around it. "The ONLY difference between people who have more money than us, is that they have more money than us. How you feel about it directly affects how you approach it!...Distinguish between asking for personal money and asking for money for an idea. You are asking for money to change the world for the better, why should you feel bad about that?"

Donating to the Psychedelic Club is an opportunity to help something amazing happen in the world. It's an opportunity to directly contribute to the Psychedelic Renaissance! By donating to Psychedelic Club you are helping psychedelics become an accepted part of mainstream culture, challenging stereotypes and assumptions, changing the narrative, spreading intellectual honesty, providing community where there is none, and a thousand other bad-ass and worthy things to do with ones money.

**"You need to be as committed to the art of funding the work as we are to doing it. Provide people with an extraordinary opportunity to use their wealth in a way that will change people's lives." - Kara Logan Berlin**

Here are some more incredible tips from the ACTUAL EXPERT in the TED talk linked above:

- People give to people. Build relationships with *people*.
- It takes work and homework. Do your research and know what your donor cares about and why they should donate. Even if it's just listening closely, understanding the person is of primary importance.
- You want them to have a meaningful experience as a donor. They are not an ATM.
- Why do you invest in new ideas? It's probably not that different for them.
- Better to be a good listener than a good showman.
- Make it about them.
- ASK: "WOULD YOU CONSIDER? .... Would you consider giving \$1000?.... No? Well what would you consider?"
- Don't take back your ask. Ask, then count to ten before speaking again.
- Don't ask. Don't get.

So now you've got a conceptual framework laid out and some specific fundraising tricks at the ready, now who do you ask? What do you do? Here are some fundraising ideas and events that have been successful in the past....

- Passing around jar at every
- Merch
- Online (GoFundMe)

- Specific Fundraiser
  - Raise money for the chapter to buy a 9 panel drug testing kit
  - Pay for trip expenses to attend an event or conference

## Communications Strategy: Tools of Informational Influence

Psychedelic Club is ideally not an echo chamber, it should be a space where people interested in psychedelics can come together, organize, and then project. A projection chamber where messages are refined then sent out into the world.

The driving mission of our organization is to bring psychedelics into the mainstream. We imagine a society where people freely share and discuss their profound psychedelic experiences on a regular basis. Currently, it's considered normal to hear something like "Last night I got so drunk that I punched my best friend and slept in the yard". We want to make it just as normal to hear "Last night a lion made of light told me I was a perfect expression of nature and I cried for the first time in 5 years."

Talking about psychedelics with other people who are fascinated by them is often like catching up with an old friend, a fellow traveler on the path. There's shared ground and generally little pressure. Things can be a bit different when you're speaking with people who are not similarly initiated.

When organizing a chapter, tabling, or even just wearing a Psychedelic Club shirt you are identifying yourself as a builder of new culture. Psychedelic Club is intentionally named to be bold and controversial. We took a word that many people currently associate with criminals, put "Club" at the end, and started showing up at schools. Our method and message is inherently socially disruptive, polarizing. Some people are immediately attracted to the club while others

are immediately repelled. Our job is to receive and organize those who are attracted so that we can more effectively outreach to those who are repelled

A well rehearsed, coherent, and skillfully delivered narrative is a powertool of ideological influence that should be acquired at the earliest possible opportunity. It's part of our job as Psychedelic Club to package the narrative in a way that is clear and easily digestible and then deliver it like an Amazon box to the psychological porches of mainstream reality. Earnest time should be spent considering your personal interests in psychedelics, your story, the available research, and the wider socio-cultural impact. There are limitless intellectually delicious psychedelic questions to explore: What are they? How do they work? Why are they illegal? Could they change the world?

While none of these elements can be truly separated from our existence as an organization, it's useful to momentarily put it all aside so that we can define the club without becoming lost in the weeds...easy to do when talking about psychedelics. Our primary question of concern is not whether **DMT** entities exist objectively or even whether psychedelics should be legal, all of that can come later. First we must be able to answer: "**What is Psychedelic Club?**".

It's incredibly tempting to answer this question with an exegesis on psychedelic history, both personal and collective. But before you go spinning tales of Hoffman and your heroic dose experience (which are both great by the way) you should be able to offer a straightforward and clear explanation of the club. Here are some examples to get things going. Adapt these into language that suits you or memorize and repeat if you'd like.

- Psychedelic Club is a chapter based 501c3 non-profit dedicated to reducing the stigma around psychedelics through community organizing.
- Psychedelic Club is a network of people dedicated to increasing mainstream acceptance of psychedelics.
- A group of people who believe that a personal interest in psychedelics is legitimate, healthy, and socially acceptable.
- A public and non-exclusive chapter based organization providing an accessible way to directly participate in the psychedelic renaissance.
- Psychedelic Club facilitates societal change and fights stigma on the grassroots level by organizing above ground and promoting honest and open psychedelic discussion.

Where the conversation goes from here is entirely up to the individuals having it. It's helpful to keep our goal of mainstreaming in mind, but not every conversation necessarily needs to be a full blown attempt to spread your own personal psychedelic gospel or **convince** anyone of anything. Our mission is greatly served by simply mentioning our name and expressing a personal interest in psychedelics. Staying aware of how you come off to people and changing your message to suit your audience is a crucial skill here. What feels internally like a convincing pitch can, at the wrong time, come off as misguided zealotry. Sometimes you need to cast your linguistic spells and tell people every detail of how psychedelics changed your life. Other times

it's better to hold off and let curiosity brew. This is a judgement that must be made in every interaction. Read the room and gauge your audience.

### **Commonly Encountered Misconceptions**

Occasionally you might hear something that you know to be untrue about psychedelics specifically or the movement in general. These are situations of opportunity. Navigated skillfully this interaction could increase the individuals curiosity and help our mission of mainstreaming. Done unskillfully, however, you run the risk of alienating this person and cementing stereotypes. Simply knowing the correct information is one thing, delivering it in a way that lands is another entirely. Stay mindful of this difference as you move through the world busting psychedelic myths and untangling strands of twisted information.

- **“You all just trip a bunch, right?”:** Psychedelic Club believes that a personal interest in Psychedelics is valid, but we are not here to organize people’s consumption. We exist simply to promote discussion and say that psychedelics are objectively fascinating and should be a more widely examined piece of culture.
- **“I can buy drugs from you.”:** Absolutely not. Sourcing (buying, selling, trading, gifting) of substances is never allowed within our spaces. If you attempt it you could be asked to leave and excluded from further activities. The only things Psychedelic Club will sell you are ideas and t-shirts...maybe stickers. Pins?!
- **Psychedelics automatically make you a good person:** There are *plenty* of examples in which mere exposure to psychedelics did NOT result in a path of love and light. Check out the story of the Japanese death cult [Aum Shinrikyo](#) for a particularly striking example of [this](#). Psychedelics are wonderful tools and allies, but they are not necessarily saint makers.
- **Psychedelics are for everyone:** Some people shouldn’t take psychedelics, or should at least be exceedingly careful. Just like some people shouldn’t drink milk, eat shellfish, take certain medications, or comment on politics. People have vast physiological and psychological differences. The classic psychedelics are incredibly well tolerated by most people in clinical trials, but a careful assessment is always warranted.
- **Psychedelics will change the world:** Many of us actually believe this one to be true... But it sounds like zealotry to a lot of people so stay mindful of your audience and be willing to doubt your own assumptions. We’re trying to mainstream here, it’s better to spark widely held curiosity through tempered and intentional arguments than to affirm what those in the community already feel to be true.
- **“Hallucinogens”:** “Hallucination” is defined as perception without stimuli. Calling Psychedelics Hallucinogens implies that there is nothing there to perceive. It may or may not be true, but why assume? Besides, this is the favored word of law enforcement...
- **We promote psychedelic use:** We neither condone or condemn use. We recognize that people are going to use Psychedelics regardless of *our* actions and seek to openly acknowledge what is already taking place in order to create a safer and more intellectually honest society.
- **Psychedelics get you “Fucked Up”:** Talking about taking psychedelics like this contributes to a negative image and increases the likelihood of stigmatization. It groups

them along with drugs of escapism and makes our job harder. If you want to tune out and ignore reality, Psychedelics are probably not your substance of choice.

- **LSD: Is toxic, poisonous, etc...:** There is no known lethal dose of LSD. 1mg/Kg has been given to Rhesus monkeys with [“no lasting somatic effects”](#). To put that into perspective 1mg of LSD is equal to 1000ug (10 “100 ug hits”) and the average Rhesus weighs 7Kg. They gave those monkeys 70 hits without physiological consequences. Extrapolated to humans, a 150lb human could hypothetically take 680 “hits” of 100ug without physical consequence. For comparison, [drinking just 17 bottles of water can also kill you](#).
- **LSD Stays in Your Spine/ Is Cut with Strychnine:** These are two commonly encountered pieces of narrative nonsense. [No strychnine has ever been found in a street sample of LSD](#) and [LSD is eliminated from the body in about 4 hours](#). See Fadiman’s “[Psychedelic Explorer's Guide](#)” for a full history of these myths and their lack of basis in reality.
- **There is no good reason to take psychedelics:** Healing from trauma, personal development, problem solving, exploration, curiosity, mystical/spiritual/religious connection, fun, music/art appreciation, creativity, and social bonding are all good reasons people take psychedelics. Is there a good reason for smoking cigarettes? Eating junk food?
- **The Bad Trip:** While people do have psychedelic experiences that could easily be called “Bad” it’s often things like ill considered set and setting which spark these difficulties. Many people who take psychedelics have experienced intense fear, paranoia, anxiety, and even panic at times. For some, this is a typical part of every experience. The difficulty and intensity that arises in psychologically healthy people can usefully be thought of as a kind of emotional yoga. Uncomfortable is not the same as dangerous and, as they say in [Zendo](#), difficult is not the same as bad. Many people report their most difficult experiences as the ones they grew the most from.
- **Psychedelics are the only way to “God”:** Even people who have not taken a psychedelic can, and do, have spiritual experiences. Thinking that LSD, or even ayahuasca, makes you in any way holier than other people is an ego game. Don’t play it.
- **They scramble your brain/make your brain bleed:** The field of psychedelic neuroscience is in its infancy but already some things are pretty clear. [fMRI scans of the brain under the influence of LSD](#) show increased connectivity, but [no bleeding](#).
- **Psychedelics are a panacea. A silver bullet for depression, anxiety, PTSD:** Leading people who struggle with mental health to believe that psychedelics will automatically cure them is a huge disservice. It sets them up for deep disappointment and further depression (OR WORSE) when a single experience fails to solve all of their problems. Many psychedelics delivered in clinical settings with a therapist can greatly alleviate these issues, but they are not necessarily a magical cure.

Throughout the course of your adventures in psychedelic community organizing you may come across other myths and misconceptions. Keep note of these and send them to nationals so they can be added to future versions of this guide! Send submissions to [hello@psychedelicclub.com](mailto:hello@psychedelicclub.com)

**Speak from the heart first:** Lived first hand experience spoken with passion can be a convincing form of activism. We share our experiences openly and freely with whoever will listen, even when it's hard, even when it's scary. Those people that we want to speak to the least are often the very ones who we need to be engaging with. Our family, our teachers, the police, vocal opponents. These are the people we need to be talking to.

**Speak from the brain second:** The mind is a beautiful tool, but it's not the master.

### **The Disease of Prohibition**

Our lack of access to psychedelics is merely a symptom of a larger disease, the [War on Drugs](#). It's a terrible and painful "symptom" which prevents people from accessing healing medicines and may even be slowing evolution of the species, but it's not directly lethal. The Opioid epidemic, on the other hand, is unambiguously lethal symptom of the same disease. More people in the US died of opioid overdose [LAST YEAR](#) than in the Iraq, Afghanistan, and Vietnam wars *combined*. The War on Drugs is Directly responsible for these deaths. [Americans consume 80% of opioids produced around the world](#). The drug war has not reduced demand even slightly. It merely restricts supply artificially, skyrocketing prices and incentivising the creation of criminal distribution chains. Life saving services like drug checking, Narcan/Naloxone, and safe injection facilities are resisted and stigmatized as a result of faulty rhetoric generated by the Drug War.

Though psychedelics are specifically fascinating, the root of our problem lies in the War on Drugs as a whole. **By ignoring the opioid epidemic we, as a psychedelic community, are forsaking victims and casualties of the same war we are fighting.** We need to be asking ourselves questions like:

- How is the story of psychedelic prohibition related to the larger War on Drugs?
- Who is most hurt by the War on Drugs?
- How can we use our privilege to help those who have less?
- What is being done to acknowledge and treat the root disease of prohibition and those who are affected by it's more lethal symptoms?
- How can Psychedelic Club tie the new excitement for psychedelics into the larger narrative of the [War](#) on Drugs?

## **Practitioner's Perspectives**

The passages featured below were generously contributed by current practitioners of psychedelic therapy, harm reduction, and ceremony.

### **Gifts From Beyond**



“Welcome to this movement, we are so happy to have you. Psychedelic medicines, when used in an intentional way have the power to transform consciousness, reverse ecological damage, and evolve our species. We are collectively evolving into our highest nature of love, interconnection, and community. These medicines heal us on a soul level. They make our unconscious patterns conscious. For the last 2000 years our egos have driven humanity to the brink of extinction. There is no more important time to courageously dive deep into our psyches. As long as humans have been on the planet we have been utilizing plant medicine to transcend our egos and connect to the natural world around us. Dr. Gabor Maté tells us that our current crises are a result of our disconnection from spirit, from ourselves, from each other, and from the living world around us. Mycelium shows us that we are all interconnected and interdependent. Mycelium digests the dead and turns it into life. In our bodies, Psilocybin composts what is dead to make room for new life. Psychedelics show us that we are the creator of our lives. We are able to move past the ways society conditions us to think, and we get to choose another way. Psychedelics deeply and gently unwind the knots that we have inherited from generations past. They remind us of our true nature, a gentleness many of us have forgotten about. Our current world is driven by fear, and we have the power to shift into love. Psychedelics are tools that show us the way to our own freedom and empowerment. When we integrate their wisdom into our daily lives we become embodied divine life on earth. When we work with psychedelics we can't turn back to the old egoic ways of destruction. We make it our life's work to align with the soul's calling within us. We are able to see through the ego and it loses power in our lives. As we move towards wholeness within, we create a new reality externally together. Please, enjoy these medicines. Please be careful and have a trusted friend with you while you journey. Start small and go deeper, don't get caught up in tales of heroic doses. These tools are gifts from something beyond space and time. They deserve to be honored for the power they hold.” - **Sasha Bellucci, MA Psychedelic Therapist**

### **Mechanism of Healing**

“The healing that occurs through psychedelics is not just due to a spontaneous miraculous experience, but rather to the context in which the experience was had. This involves the history of the individual, including all of the experiences someone has had up until that point, as well as the context in which they actually take the substance. When LSD was first discovered the conclusion was that it induced psychotic and incredibly unpleasant experiences. It wasn't until LSD was used in different contexts by individuals who had studied mystical experiences in other cultures that the angelic and beatific qualities were understood and highlighted. It is unrealistic and wishful to think that the use of high doses of psychedelic drugs would resolve the problems of greed and sociopathy that we see in people who hold positions of power. That experiment was already done. The 60s and 70s were a time period when people had more access to high-dose LSD than any other time in history. The average "hit" of LSD was in the 200ug range. Despite the amount of people who turned on, the reality is that we live in a country that had been traumatized by big psychedelic experiences it had no cultural context for (which led to mass illegalization) and that has experienced unspeakable traumas stretching back several generations (think WWII). I think it's very important to remove the popular belief that if everyone simply took more psychedelics things would be better. Large doses of psychedelics doesn't make people think the way you think they should. At best, it brings a big insight that particular



individual needed. At worst, a forced experience traumatizes a person and causes an even stronger psyche to emerge as a way to deal with that experience.” - **Rafael Lancelotta, MS Therapist & 5-MeO-DMT Researcher**

“With all the media hype about psychedelic psychotherapy, it’s easy to focus on the wonderfully positive results and forget about the difficult therapeutic journey. After two years of offering ketamine- and cannabis-assisted psychotherapy, I have seen that this type of healing takes an extraordinary amount of hard work, courage, and time. Psychedelics provide a shortcut to processing by softening defenses and allowing clients direct access to their traumatic material, a powerful feature that can lead to intense destabilization. Our defensive structures are an intelligent web created to keep us safe, and when we bypass them, we gain access to the difficult emotions we have pushed away; we feel old pain, past terror, and dissociated states that were created during our most traumatic events. The path toward healing requires feeling the difficult feelings instead of pushing them away. Every time my clients return for another session, they are knowingly entering their worst nightmares, ready to feel what they went through, integrate their experiences, and achieve the freedom to move forward with their lives. While psychedelics open the door, my clients choose to step into the long, hard, painful work.” - **Aviva Bannerman, LPC**

## Public Speaking & Navigating the Media: The Speechcraft Skill

\*Contact Nationals before responding to any requests coming from major news outlets or high-profile figures\*

Speaking in public is one of the most powerful tools of cultural transformation. Throughout the course of your chapter’s existence there will be a need to speak in front of groups of people and there may even be chances to engage with the media, whether it be a newspaper, magazine, podcasts, television, or other forms of publicly consumed content. Generally, media engagements are a fantastic opportunity to spread the word about Psychedelic Club and fan the flames of cultural renaissance. Public speaking of any kind can be frightening, but by the time these opportunities come around it’s likely that you’ve had plenty of practice talking to people about Psychedelic Club and your interest in it. Trust the truth of your passion and curiosity, lean into your discomfort.

The biggest obstacle to nailing speaking opportunities, and life in general, is often fear and anxiety. We all have an innate ability to articulate well and do so in most interactions. The skill of speaking is one that we have been unwittingly practicing our entire lives. It can be leveled up by bringing your intention to it, but for the most part you already know what to say and how to say it. The main task here is to get the fear out of the way so that the skills you already possess can

shine through. Getting fear out of the way involves first directly confronting what is uncomfortable without running away and without denying the experience of being uncomfortable. By directly acknowledging discomfort and anxiety we become capable of alchemizing it into things like wisdom, humor, and charisma.

Here are some TED talks on this subject that you may find helpful:

- Speaking Up Without Freaking Out: Matt Abrahams:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XIXvKKEQQJo>
- Is Your Voice Ruining Your Life? Roger Love:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Acl6owhFMHQ>
- The Science of Stage Fright: Mikael Cho:  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/mikael\\_cho\\_the\\_science\\_of\\_stage\\_fright\\_and\\_how\\_to\\_overcome\\_it?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/mikael_cho_the_science_of_stage_fright_and_how_to_overcome_it?language=en)
- How to speak so that people want to listen:  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/julian\\_treasure\\_how\\_to\\_speak\\_so\\_that\\_people\\_want\\_to\\_listen?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/julian_treasure_how_to_speak_so_that_people_want_to_listen?language=en)

To level up the speechcraft skill in this wild massive multiplayer 3-dimensional game of human existence is an ongoing effort. It involves stepping off the edge of comfort and into the social unknown over and over again. As you move through this process it's important to go easy on yourself. It's ok to make mistakes and it's ok to fumble. Nobody is going to judge you as harshly as you judge yourself. Take that part of your mind aside and have a talk with it. Say "Hey look I'm trying my best, and that's more than good enough."

Though interviews and speaking opportunities can feel direly important, the stakes are often not as high as your mind can lead you to believe. Drop the idea that this is a test, you're simply learning and gaining experience. This XP mindset allows you to surrender the outcome and be more present throughout the interview, speech, or presentation. Knowing what you're going to say can also greatly reduce the fear associated with getting behind that microphone, so go back and reference our Communications Strategy: Tools of Informational Influence.

A note on Reporters: When interacting with this informational priest class it's important to be aware of their sometimes duplicitous nature. Some reporters and people from the media will be on your side while others may not. Anything and everything you say in interaction with these people could be quoted and printed, even if it feels like you're just chatting casually. Their job is to tell a story in a way that gets readers/viewers. This often means finding and highlighting controversy, so be especially mindful of your language when communicating.

TIPS FOR SPEAKING TO THE PRESS – MEDIA TRAINING 101:

<https://www.eskenzi.pr.com/tips-for-speaking-to-the-press-media-training-101/>

# Responding to Sourcing Requests

Psychedelic Club will sell you on the dream of a psychedelic society, the benefits of psychedelic medicine, and the horrors drug of prohibition  
...but nothing more.

Sourcing & soliciting of scheduled substances is strictly prohibited throughout the organization. Under no circumstances should an affiliate of psychedelic club use official time, space, or resources to buy, sell, trade, gift, or in any way exchange scheduled substances. If a chapter is found to be in violation of this policy they will be stripped of their association with our non-profit, removed from Psychedliclub.com, and asked to cease all activities under the name "Psychedelic Club". This is an issue that poses an existential threat to the entire organization, we take it very seriously and ask you do as well. We know it's really not fun to have to tell a suffering human that you can't help them, especially when you know you could. The whole purpose of Psychedelic Club is to change this dynamic and one day we WILL be in a different position, but for now JUST DON'T.

All that being said, people seeking psychedelics are often in need of connection and healing. Request denials should contain an **understanding and compassionate but firm and skillful denial with a counter request**. This is an opportunity to outreach and fundraise.

Below you will find a pre-crafted response you can use right off the bat and an example that we hope will influence the tone and content of your responses.

## Pre-Crafted Response

Hello,

Thank you for reaching out.

Our culture is currently experiencing a state of mass hysteria called **Prohibition** that prevents us from assisting you in this request.

Know that your desire to access these substances is normal, healthy, and sane; unfortunately our society is not. Despite their numerous and wonderful benefits psychedelics are still illegal. For your safety and ours we ask that you refrain from attempting to buy, sell, or trade psychedelics through us. We are organizers of community, not vendors.

If your intention is healing, Psychedelic therapy with Ketamine and Cannabis is already available. Check out the directory of U.S. ketamine providers here:

<https://www.ketamineadvocacynetwork.org/provider-directory/> We recommend <https://innatepath.org/> for those in Colorado.

The madness of this prohibition will continue for as long as we let it. Changing the narrative is the first step to changing the laws, and why Psychedelic Club exists. Please consider contributing your energy to our cause of cultural renaissance. Take what you might have spent on the substance you've just asked us for, and donate here instead:

<https://www.patreon.com/psychedelicclub>. With enough support, we might be able to give a different response one day.

Love & Hope, Psychedelic Club

### **Example Interactions**

"I am a severely depressed (decades) person. Tho, as a boomer, I have never used/tried drugs, now that mushrooms are legal, I would like to try micro-dosing, right away.

Please connect me, immediately, to the best, closest person who can help me do this - thanks, Cath"

Hey xxxx,

I'm sorry to hear about your situation. An inability to access effective treatments is one of the most devastating effects of this prohibition.

Unfortunately, Psychedelic Club cannot help you source Psilocybin. It has been decriminalized in Denver county, but decriminalization is not the same as legalization and we still face serious potential consequences. For the safety of our organization, we cannot provide this service for you.

I can, however, tell you that there is legal ketamine assisted therapy being offered in Denver. Ketamine assisted therapy has shown great efficacy for depression and it sounds like you may be a good candidate for it. Here's a link to one center where that is offered.

<https://innatepath.org/>

All the best on your journey of healing,

Psychedelic Club"

## How to Contact the Psychedelic Club National Office

[hello@psychedelicclub.com](mailto:hello@psychedelicclub.com) - <https://www.psychedelicclub.com/> -  
<https://www.facebook.com/psychedelicawareness/>

Joey Gallagher - Executive Director - [Joey@psychedelicclub.com](mailto:Joey@psychedelicclub.com)

Clayton Ickes - President of National Board - [Clayton@psychedelicclub.com](mailto:Clayton@psychedelicclub.com) - 303-434-9096