#### **Sponsorship Basics**

#### The Journey from Sales to Activation to Renewal

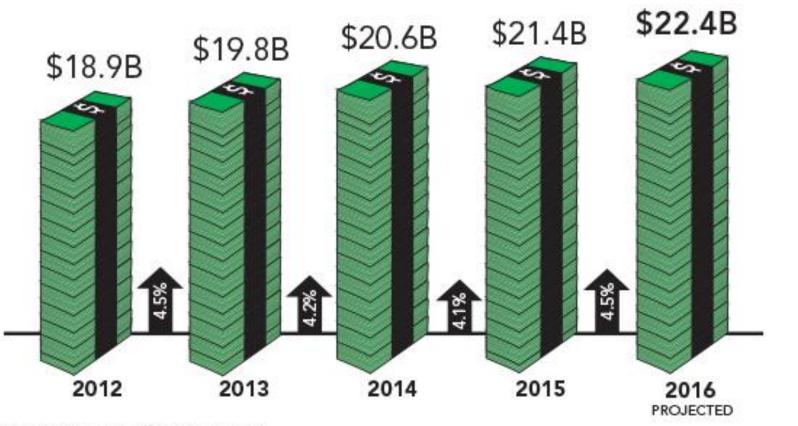


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#### Goals for Today

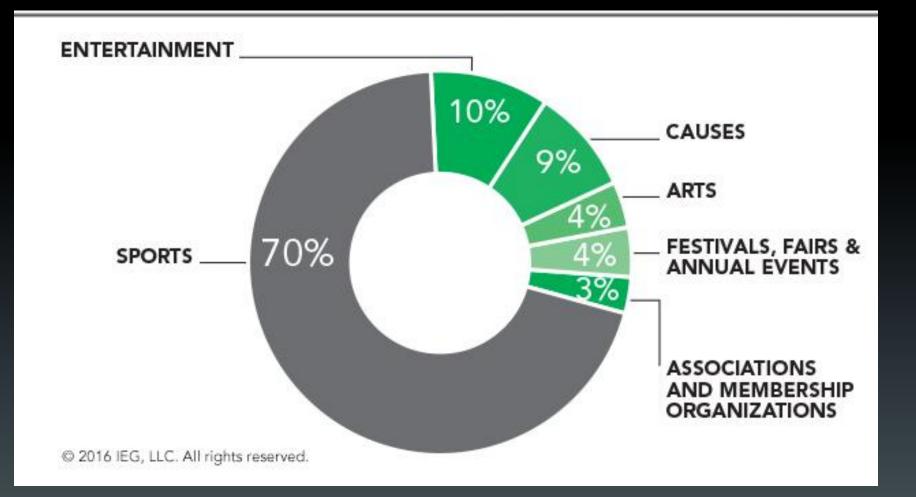
- ✓ Review the Basics of Sponsorship
- ✓ Explore Sponsorship Sales
- ✓ Brief discussion of Valuation
- ✓ Define Activation
- ✓Q&A





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#### **Benchmark Questions**

- > Who currently has sponsors?
- Cash or Trade or In-Kind
- Total Amount
  - ≻ <\$10,000
  - >\$10,000-\$25,000
  - >\$25,000-\$50,000
  - >\$50,000-\$100,000



#### **Benchmark Questions**

How many sponsors do you have?

- ▶ 1-5
- ≽6-10
- ▶ 10-20
- ➤ More than 20?

> Who currently handles sponsorship for your event?

Sales experience or professional salesperson?



# SPONSOR

# Definition: one who assumes responsibility for some other person or thing







## Two Way Street

- More than just cashing a check
- More than just providing access
- Sharing of resources
- Trade for access
- Goal = Trusted, Valued Partners





#### **Sponsorship Basics**

- Brands, Businesses & Organizations aligning with similar audiences
- Similarities in Audience Demographics, Geography
- The Maturation of the Industry
  - Not about the signage anymore
  - Must provide an excellent point of differentiation



#### Sponsorship

- Sales
  - Prospecting
  - Pitching
  - Closing
- Activation
- Review and Renewal



#### Sponsor Side

- Why do marketers sponsor events and festivals?
  - Culture Defines Us
  - Arts, Events and Festivals showcase communities
  - Only opportunity where marketers can reach groups of people in social setting
  - Addressing challenges facing company or organization
    - Marketing, Public Relations



#### Property Side

- Events use funds to offset expenses
  - Logistics
  - Programming
  - Marketing
- Sponsorship as part of Programming
- Sponsors in the Guest's Journey



#### **Sponsorship Basics**

- Different categories of sponsors
  - Trade: Dollar for dollar with media, vendors
  - In-kind: Products or services in exchange for access
  - Cash: Financial contribution
    - Philanthropic (non-profit, grants)
    - Marketing



#### Prospecting





### Prospecting

- Determine potential partners
  - 1) Compile list of marketers that currently sponsor
  - 2) What are they doing?
  - 3) Who do you have contacts with?
- What businesses have similar audiences?
- Cold calls vs. Warm leads
- Learn as much as you can about the prospect



# Selling Sponsorship

- Top Categories
  - Bank/Financial
  - Automobile
  - Beverage
  - Beer, Wine, Spirits
  - Healthcare
  - Mobile
  - Utilities
  - Service industries

Credit Card

- Insurance
- Food (Retail, Restaurants)
- Hospitality
- Fuel/Energy
- Real Estate
- Local businesses
- Local operations of nationals



### Selling Sponsorships

- More Questions
  - Business to Business B2B
  - Business to Consumer B2C
  - What data is needed for sponsors?
  - How will success be determined?



### Pitching





#### Valuation

- Sponsorship Audits & Assessments
  - What are all of your assets?
  - What is the value of these assets?
  - What resources do you put towards activation and relationship building for the long-term?
  - What is the value of a comprehensive relationship?



### Developing the Pitch

- Before The Pitch
  - Conduct an Asset Inventory
  - List everything that is potentially sponsorable
    - Physical attractions and features
    - Marketing & Communication elements
    - Naming and Presenting rights



#### Developing the Pitch

- Before The Pitch
  - Know as much as you can about partner
  - Creativity is the key in developing pitch
    - Use all elements to stand out
  - Is there an angle or tie between the brands?
    - Can you create ties to campaigns, launches?



#### Developing the Pitch

- Focus on Sponsor's business objectives
- Offer Category Exclusivity
- Multi-year Agreements



# Pitching

- Sponsorship levels
  - No Gold, Silver or Bronze
  - Customize every proposal



- Remain consistent with sponsor s business
   objectives
  - Time of year
  - Local business environment



#### How Much to Charge?

- Option One
- Take your expense per feature
  - Performer
  - Stage
  - Midway
  - Kids Area
  - Port-o-lets
  - Media
- Add 20% to those costs



#### How Much to Charge?

•	Option Two	Medium	Value per
•	Attendance Statistics		impression
	Crass Impressions	Print Advertisements	% of Cost
•	Gross Impressions	Print Materials	.01¢
	Printed Materials	Banners/Signage	.02¢
	<ul> <li>Signage Impressions</li> </ul>	Announcements	.01¢
	<ul> <li>Promotional Mentions</li> </ul>	Social Media	.005¢
	<ul> <li>Social Media Impressions</li> </ul>	Digital	.005¢
	<ul> <li>Digital (Website, Email)</li> </ul>	Divide All by 2	

Entitlement Rights : The XYZ Summer Festival

Impressions and Clicks

• Presenting Rights : The Summer Festival Sound Stage Presented by XYZ



#### What Else?

- Access to your Partner's Partners
- Sponsor's Communication Assets
  - Use your Festival for them to stand out
  - Include Your Festival in their messaging
    - Traditional Media
    - Social Media
    - Customer channels
  - There is a dollar value for this



# Selling Sponsorships

- Challenges
  - Gatekeepers
  - Brands and objectives are unaligned
    - Sometimes the perfect match isn't
    - Budget
    - Past experiences
- How do you leverage your event to drive traffic and sell more widgets, services?





#### Always

#### Think

#### RENEWAL



### Closing





### Closing

- Negotiation
  - Be wary of cherry-picking items
- Contracts
- Announcements
- Now the real fun begins...



- Signage and Presence
- Couponing and Sampling
- Product launch
- Data collection
- Engagement
  - Driving conversations
  - Inextricably linked to the program
- Leveraging assets for exclusive access
  - Content and Programming
- Leveraging or creating onsite features



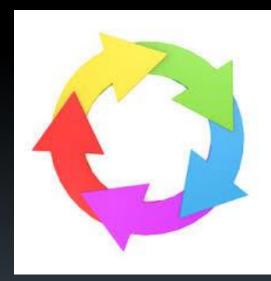


- Creating value-added benefit
  - For the Sponsor
  - For the Guest on behalf of the Sponsor
- Leveraging Sponsor's Non-Cash Assets
  - Communication/Distribution Channels
  - In-kind services
  - Volunteering
- Customizing the Guest Experience





- The Sponsorship Continuum
  - Start small, Pilot project
  - Built-in activation opportunity
  - Measurable outcomes



- Personalization and Customization
- Work toward renewal



- Sponsor Activation Commitment
  - Should be willing to invest 25-100% of value
- How have we moved the needle?
  - Met business objectives
  - Collected data
  - Activated the data





#### Collaboration

- Collaboration by Properties
  - Impact with aggregated total audiences
  - Leveraging contacts and brands
  - Creating new properties through collaborations and coalitions
- Collaboration by Sponsors
  - Leveraging your brand to your partner's clients
    - Manufacturer and Retailer
  - Leveraging the marketing channels of your partner



#### Follow-Up





#### Top 10 Sponsorship Takeaways

- 1- Over-communicate with all points of contact
- 2- Sponsor's investment in activation is vital
- 3 Sponsorship is trade, in-kind and cash
- 4 Know what is being measured
- 5 Be part of the planning
- 6 Use sponsorship as part of programming
- 7 Understand how you can drive results
- 8 Be a Sponsor
- 9 Always be thinking about the renewal
- 10 Thank the sponsor in meaningful ways



#### Asset Overview

- Branding elements:
  - Onsite announcements
  - Print advertisements
  - Onsite signage and banners
- On-site activation items (Booth, Tabling, Sampling)
  - Backdrop and tablecloth
  - Small Handouts
  - Large Handouts
  - Product brochure (D)



#### Be a Sponsor

- Trade Show Elements
  - What works?
  - What doesn't?



#### Sponsorship Sales

- What is the Hypothesis?
- What is the activation?
- Measuring goodwill
- Takeaways
  - Overcommunicate with all points of contact
  - Sponsor's investment in activation is vital
  - Roll with the punches



Introducing the All-New

#### Sponsorship Coach

A 3-month interactive session to guide you through the world of Sponsorship including: Preparing a Proposal, Valuation of Your Property and its Assets, Activation Ideas and Retaining Your Sponsors

We will take you step-by-step through a customized course with five of your Events & Festival peers as you learn directly from each other and Aspire Principal Sean King! <u>Plus, a FULL Money Back Guarantee if you do not increase your sponsorship income by the</u> <u>amount of the course registration</u> Contact Sean King at sking.aspire@gmail.com Or at 610.554.0633 for details



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