# Strategies for Virtual Engagement

February 29, 2024



Alexandria's Giving Day ented by ACT for Alexar

# **Your S2A ACT Team**



Brandi
Chief Program Officer



Vannice
Program & Development
Associate

## **About ACT for Alexandria**

ACT is Alexandria's Community Foundation



Amplifying the work of the community by bringing people and resources together.

# What is Spring2ACTion?

- Alexandria's Giving Day one day when our community comes together to support nonprofits!
- 24-hour online giving event on April 24 through a single giving platform GiveGab
- Connects donors to the charitable causes they care about most and encourages them to take action
- Capacity Building Tool providing customized trainings, tools, templates, and guides to optimize your fundraising efforts all-year round!
- Crowdfunding and peer to peer fundraising mixed with friendly competition

# Spring2ACTion 2024 **Sponsors**





### **PASSPORTAUTO**







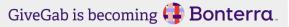












# Your S2A GiveGab Team



Kalia

Associate Project

Manager



Victoria

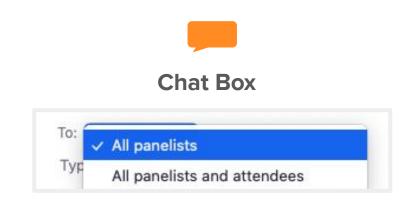
Project Manager

# **Zoom Etiquette**

This is being recorded. The recording will be available on the /trainings page by March 1.

If you have questions or comments throughout our training, please write in using your Zoom chat box.

Introduce yourself! Name, location, organization.



### **Agenda**



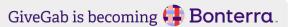
- Importance of Virtual Engagement
  - Highlighting Visual Content
    - Rallying Your Ambassadors
      - Hosting Virtual & In-Person Events
        - Key Social Media Strategies
          - Key Takeaways



# Importance of Virtual Engagement

# Why is Virtual Engagement Important?

- Online engagement is at an all-time high
- Create sense of community & belonging
- Reach more supporters where they are
- Allows for instant engagement and sharing
- Grow your team's social media and marketing skills



## **Visual Content: The Facts**

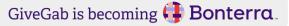
40X more likely to get shared on social media than other types of content

People remember 80% of visual information vs. 30% of read information

In a persuasive speech to an audience, 67% of the audience were persuaded with visuals versus 50% without

of people consider social media to be the communication tool that most inspires giving

87% of donors who first donate from a social referral source make their second donation from a social referral source



# Visual Content: Example

What's more memorable and easier to understand when driving?

Please be aware that there is a risk of falling rocks and that there may be fallen rocks on the road.

OR





# Highlighting Visual Content

# **Highlight Visual Content**

#### Why the Orcas?

Orca Conservancy collaborates with some of the world's top research institutions and environmental groups to address the most critical issues now facing wild orcas. The organization's urgent attention is on the endangered Southern Resident killer whales of Puget Sound. Puget Sound has the largest concentration of Orcas, making it a popular hunting ground for international whaling. Together, we can raise funds to end this and save these magnificent creatures.



DONATE

- Use an up-to-date logo
- Include relevant, visually-engaging photos
- Use the Spring2ACTion logo or other <u>shareable</u>
   <u>graphics</u> in all social media posts and emails
- Create a short video or a video series that tells a story over several "episodes"

# **Creating a Video Series**



- Weekly videos encourage consistent engagement, specifically in April leading up to Spring2ACTion
- Keep the videos short to keep the viewer's attention
- Consider some points on what to model the videos around
  - Your organization's story and/or mission
  - Your volunteers and/or staff members' stories
  - Your actions and impact on the community



# Rallying Your Ambassadors

# Rally Your Ambassadors

Reach out to existing supporters to see who is willing to

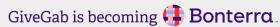
- Share your social media posts
- Write a testimonial
- Volunteer their skills
- Share their own images
- Become a Peer-to-Peer (Free Agent)
   Fundraiser

Organizations that used FAF/P2P in 2023 raised

2.7x

MORE than those that didn't!





# Fundraising Engagement

The strongest way your ambassadors can impact your organization is through Peer-to-Peer (Free Agent) fundraising. They can:

- Broaden your organization's reach by sharing social media content to their personal networks
- Generate excitement and momentum through engaging posts or livestreams
- Showcase their connection to your organization to encourage further community engagement

33%

of NPOs use an online P2P fundraising service







# **Host an Event**

# **Choosing Your Event**

### Considerations

The type of event you organize will determine your call to action.

- Know your audience when choosing your event
  - How comfortable are they using a computer?
  - Will they have access to smartphones?
  - Will they enjoy a story telling contest? Or a Live Music Session?
- Timing is your event happening before, on, or after Giving Day?
- Know which interactive tools you will use and how to use them
  - Organize a day of run-through/dress rehearsal
- Consider event follow up think about what guests will expect after the event?





# **Types of Events**



Get creative and go live on Facebook, YouTube, or other platforms leading up to and on the Giving Day

- AMA, "Ask Me Anything" with a staff member or ED
- Volunteer, Member, Board or Staff Spotlight
- News Update (post regularly, like a "Tidbit Tuesday" or "Fundraising Friday")
- Tours of your workspace
- Testimonials



# Create and Plan for Your Event

- **Step 1**: Identify your goals & audience
- Step 2: Choose the type of event you want
- Step 3: Create a call to action! Make it fun,
   make it competitive, have incentives!
- Step 4: Give specific roles to each member of your planning team
- **Step 5**: Promote your event!





# **Examples of Events**

### **Volunteer Coffee Hour**



This is a great way to bring supporters together but working toward a common goal.

- Volunteers can hang out virtually or in person while they work on individual tasks
  - Ex: knitting hats for newborns, creating care packages for the elderly, setting up P2P page
- Have volunteers share their progress on social media and ask them to promote your participation in Spring2ACTion

### **Awareness Webinar**

This event gives your organization an opportunity to tell your supporters what you are currently working on and how this ties in to your overall mission:

- Tips for Success:
  - Start with an Ice Breaker
  - Set an agenda so attendees know what to expect
  - Include lots of visuals!
  - Allow time for questions and discussion

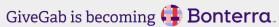


# **Host a Trivia Contest**

Invite supporters to participate in a game of Trivia!

- Tips for Success:
  - -Encourage teams
  - -Have fun! Include sound effects and visuals (if online)
  - -Consider a variety of topics so everyone has a few questions they can excel in
  - Include questions that relate to your organization and work
  - -Share teams on social media.
     -Include pictures of the winning team and samples of some of the event's toughest questions!





# Host a Virtual or In-Person Scavenger Hunt



Create teams and have a Top Secret List of random items that can be found around the house; at the beginning of the event email this list to all participants:

- Tips for Success:
  - Each item has a specific amount of points
  - Define a time limit to search for everything on the list
  - Teams must present all of their findings after the time runs out
  - The team with the most points wins!
  - Take photos of the wackiest finds and share online!





# Social Media Strategies and Tools

# **Be Active on Social Media**

- Identify the social platforms that work best for you - this does not have to be on every platform!
- Post regularly leading up to and on the Giving Day, and encourage engagement with your posts
- Post a variety of content not just
   Spring2ACTion announcements or donation solicitations
- Use visual content that connects with your community and supports whenever possible



# **Engaging Post Examples**







# **Streaming Tools**



- Youtube Live/ Facebook Live/ Facebook Event
- Zoom/ Skype/ Twitch

Are there others that you have used?

Tell us about them in the chat!

# Video Editing Software

#### Desktop

- <u>iMovie</u> super beginner friendly, only for Apple devices
- <u>ClipChamp</u> Windows video editor, beginner friendly
- <u>DaVinci Resolve</u>- slight learning curve, but powerful editor

#### Mobile

- CapCut (Android, iOS)
- VivaCut (Android, iOS)
- iMovie (iOS)



# **Live Events**



- Facebook Live lets you livestream events, performances and gatherings on Facebook. Viewers can watch from a phone, computer or connected TV. Reactions, shares, comments, and other interactive features enable you to engage with your audience.
- Facebook Events is a feature that can help you organize social gatherings via Facebook. You get a dedicated page for providing all the details of your event plus a range of tools to notify friends about it and keep track of who's going.

## YouTube Live

You can meet your audience live by using the Live Streaming feature. However, before you begin with your live video YouTube, you have to do following things:

- You need to confirm that your YouTube channel is verified.
- Also, confirm that you have no live stream restrictions over the most recent 90 days.
- You need to enable live streaming-
  - On desktop, you should go to Creator
     Studio Tools > Live Streaming.
  - -Whereas on the YouTube application on Mobile -> Create a Live Stream.



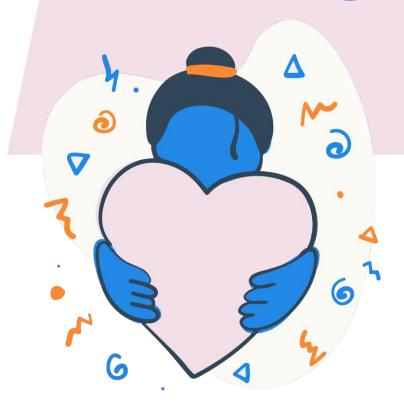
# Leverage Zoom

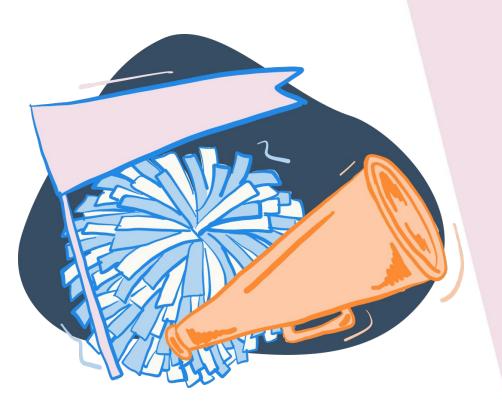


- Use Zoom to host a webinar, a discussion or to simply hang out with multiple users!
  - -To host an event on Zoom you will first need to create a Zoom account by going to <u>www.zoom.us</u>
  - -Create an account, and set up an event, that will allow participant to register
  - Share the registration link widely so anyone who wants to participate can!

# Considerations/Planning

- Schedule practice sessions with all speakers and do some testing
- Make sure you are well aware of the functionality the chosen platform offers
- Use an expert within your team
- Give yourself ample time to promote your virtual event
- Create content and share it in email blasts and across multiple social media platforms
- Make sure you have a point of contact so participants can ask questions





# Key Takeaways



**Key Takeaways** 

- Use photos & videos as much as possible when posting
- Free agent fundraisers will help you reach new audiences
- Engage with supporters in various ways on social media
- Start your online engagement before the giving day and maintain your online presence
- Have fun with it!



# Giving Day Support & Resources

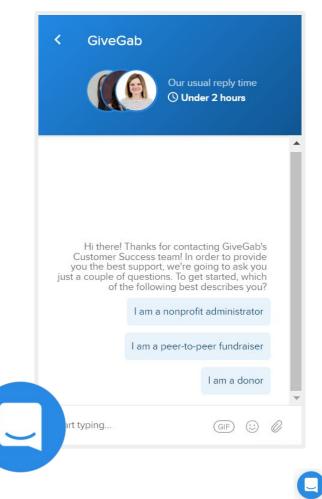
Visit our **Help Center** 

Check out Our Blog

Send us an email at

CustomerSuccess@GiveGab.com

Chat with our Customer Success Team Look for the little blue chat bubble



# **Your Next Steps**

#### What to work on over the next 54 days:

- Follow ACT for Alexandria on Social Media and use #Spring2ACTion
- Add an impact story!
- Finalize your goals, engage FAFs and consider planning an event
- Sign up for our last webinar 3/21
- Explore the toolkit
- Participate in the ALX Dog Walk NP Village on 4/20
- Sign up for office hours with GiveGab



# Questions?



April 24, 2024