

## Shaping Your Brand Story

Melanie Furey Baur FAWCO Biennial Conference Edinburgh March 2019

#### Embracing All Elements To Communicate Your Message

- Your brand includes knowing your audience
- Professionalize your communication
- Don't reinvent the wheel



#### **Our Agenda**

- Define Your Audience
- Brand Story
- Clarity Process
- Using Data
- Tools For Success
- Making Lasting Change



## **Define Your Audience**

Answer these questions:

- Who is receiving your messaging now?
- Who isn't?
- Who do you want to be listening?
- Who can you filter out?



## **Create Audience Personas**

- Work with stakeholders to determine
- Sticky note exercise
- Work broad to specific
- Filter out and curate your best audience



American

## What is a brand story?

A narrative that describes and articulates the purpose of your brand.





# What are the ingredients of a successful Brand Story?

- Meaningful
- Personal
- Emotional
- Authentic
- Simple

#### Meaningful

- Why?
- What value does your messaging

convey?

#### Personal

- Be Unique.
- Peak audiences' interest through distinct and memorable stories.
- Tell human stories.

#### Emotional

Evoke a strong feeling.
How does your audience feel when they hear your message?

#### Authentic

- Create an honest message
- What can you offer that others can't?
- How can you genuinely convey this message?

#### Simple

• Easy to understand



#### **Brand Story Example**

For women of all nationalities who embrace the "American Spirit"!

-American Women's Club of Berlin



## Go Through A Clarity Process

- Spending time talk to your members, your stakeholders, etc.
- Hold Working Sessions



### Using Data To Get Results

- Survey your members
- Ask the right questions

#### **Example Questions**

1. List the top 3 reasons you are a member.

1. List the top 3 benefits you enjoy as a member.

#### **Rewrite Question**

- 1. Please select the top 3 reasons you are a member.
  - a. To make new friends
    b. To make professional
    contacts/networking opportunities
    c. To try new activities/find new
    interests

#### **Rewrite Question**

2. Please list the top 3 benefits you enjoy as a member.

a. Access to different events, activities, and classes.

b. Access to information about settling inDüsseldorf/local services/expat experience.c. Meeting an international focused and a

globally minded group of friends

#### Results

#### AIWCD members asked for evening/weekend and partner events

#### Changes

R&R Dinner Club Brunch International Couples *The Girls* 



#### **Tools For Success**

- Consistent and effective storytelling
- Professionalize your language



#### **Tools For Success**

• Use existing resources to help professionalize your look.



#### A CULTURAL MARVE

# GET LOST IN Stockholm

Fly to the capital of Sweden via KKT Airways.





### **Tools For Success**

• Using the right social media platforms.

## **Making Lasting Change**

Create and use a Style Guide and Brand Standard

- Documents your brand story
- Shows how to use your name
- Fonts
- Proper use of logo and colors
- Letterhead
- Write everything down!





## **Making Lasting Change**

- Hold workshops with action steps at the end
- Put into practice
- Buy-in from key stakeholders
- Utilize a Style Guide





