



### Building a Predictable Pipeline

**Attendee Acquisition Roundtable October 17, 2024** 

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Numbers were looking great in 2019.

And then...





# Burning Question: Who IS our audience?

## Are You Seeing Shifting Demographics at Your Events?

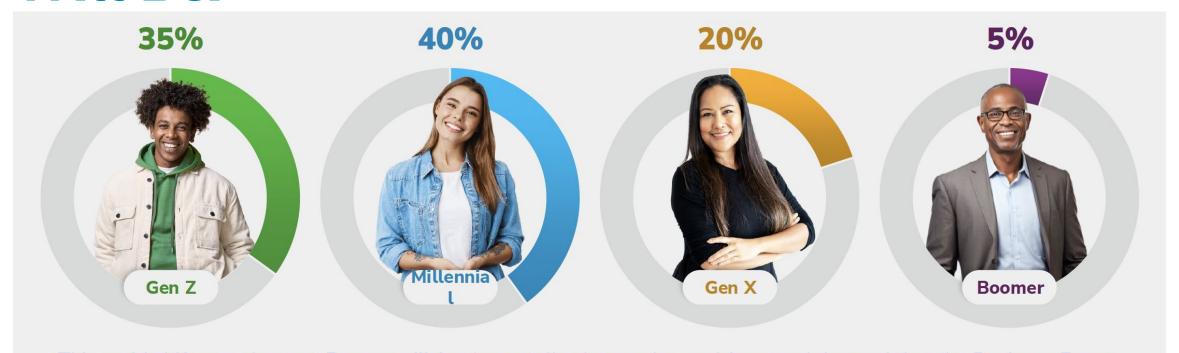


## Gen Z has overtaken Boomers in the workforce

U.S. full-time workforce, by generation



## By 2030, the Workforce Composition Will Be:



This rapid shift over the next 5 years will fundamentally change the workforce and demand that the Business Events community innovate to reach these emerging generations and design experiences tailored for these audiences

Do you know your Next Gen audience?



**Get it!** 

- Demographics
- Priorities



They want to conduct their own product research

Social media is the #1 product discovery channel

They shop on their phones more than any other device

1 in 3 use Al chatbots like ChatGPT

1 in 5 consider themselves content creators or influencers

More than half are being more careful with spending

75% say data privacy is a human right

They want to support brands committed to social advocacy

#### Generation(s) We

#### Your event attendees are consumers first

#### **NEXT GEN EVENT-GOER**

#### **TRADITIONAL EVENT-GOER**



**GENERATION Z** 1997 - 2012

**MILLENNIAL** 1981 - 1996

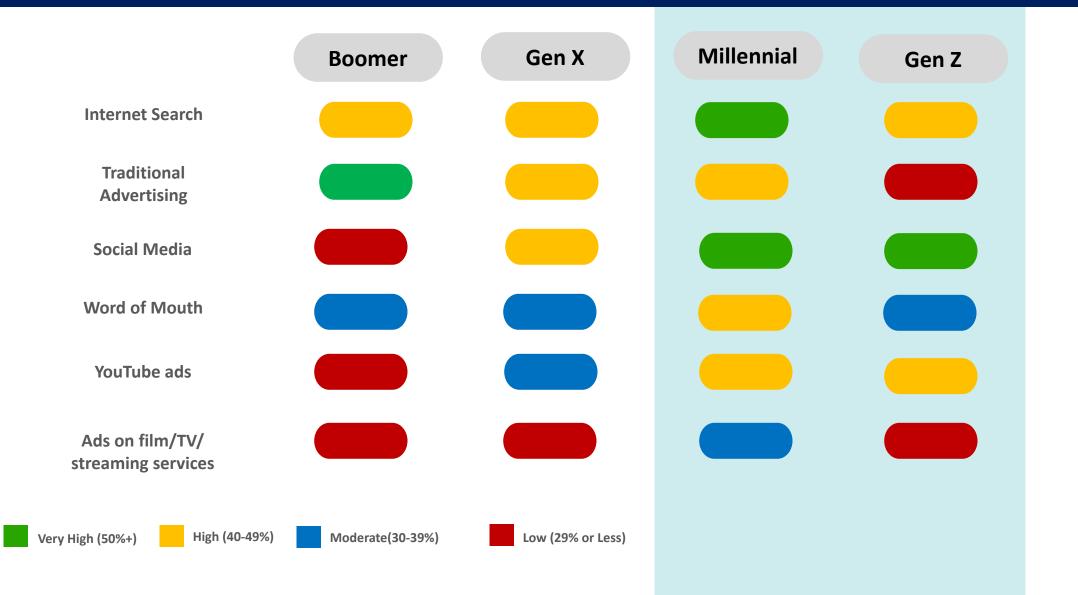
**GENERATION X** 1965 - 1980

**BOOMER** 1946 - 1964

## What We Did!

Create awareness among future attendees with digital ads, social media, **AWARENESS** content, etc. Nurture leads with retargeting, email **ENGAGEMENT** marketing, etc. Target as much as possible. Most audience acquisition touchpoints lead **CONVERSION** to the web - make sure it's compelling! Build loyal attendees by giving them curated, RETENTION personalized, enjoyable experiences. **ADVOCACY** Give attendees "ownership" of the event (as ambassadors, speakers, influencers, etc.)

#### Which channels do consumers discover products?



#### Long-term Strategy



#### **AWARENESS**

#### **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Engagement

**Impressions** 

**NOT CONVERSIONS!** 

#### **KEY MARKETING TACTICS**

Paid Social Channels

Outdoor Ad Campaign

TikTok Ad Campaign

### Sooooo....how'd we do?

#### 2022 Results — Year 1



Paid Media,
Partner Email Reads/Opens,
Organic and Direct Web Traffic

27.7

Million Impressions

Page Visits, Email Clicks, Landing Page Visits

600k

Engagements

45k Clicks 3 Conversions

TikTok Delivered
3.5 Million
Impressions

Outdoor Advertising
Delivered 750k
Impressions

28 Clicks 3 Conversions

Internet Radio
Delivered 280k
Impressions

3k Clicks

YouTube Delivered 3
Million Impressions

#### 2023 Results — Year 2



Projected: 23,100,000 Actual: 31,327,277

**36%**More Impressions

Projected: 1.5% Actual: 1.3%

85%

CTR to Goal

Paid Search is a Top
Conversion
Performer

Introduced A/B Testing in 2023 to Learn How to Optimize our Ads for Cold Audiences

#### A/B Testing Results



ADS WITH FEMALE A/V PROS DROVE ENGAGEMENT\*

**2X** 

AVG INCREASE TO CTR USING SHOW FLOOR IMAGES\*

+37%

AVG INCREASE TO REGISTRATIONS WITH "FREE" IN AD COPY\*

134%

LANDING PAGE VIEWS FROM LATAM FEMALES\*

50/50

COMPANIES
CLICKING ADS WITH
2-50 EMPLOYEES\*\*

1/3

#### Plan for 2024





Introduce
New Channels
(Reddit)

Add a
Micro
Influencer
Program

Use Our

A/B Testing

Learnings

#### 2024 Results — Year 3



Paid Media,
Partner Email Reads/Opens,
Organic and Direct Web Traffic

50.3

Million Impressions

Page Visits, Email Clicks, Landing Page Visits

3.9

Million Engagements

650k Clicks

TikTok Delivered
13.2 Million
Impressions

Outdoor Advertising
Delivered 1.2M+
Impressions

195 Clicks

Internet Radio Delivered 286k Impressions 12 Conversions

CTV/Online Video Delivered 1M+ Impressions

## Make it Work for You!

## Low-Cost Tactics to Increase Reach





REFERRAL MARKETING

BOOST SOCIAL POSTS

MEDIA PARTNERSHIPS

PRESS ENGAGEMENT

LINKEDIN TARGETING

## Let's Talk Challenges



#### **INSIGHT 1**

This is a long-term strategy which requires constant reminders.



#### **INSIGHT 2**

It's a funnel – not a tube. Keep focused on the key metrics and what they're telling you.



#### **INSIGHT 3**

Keep calm...and keep others calm by continuing to reiterate #1 and #2

## Contact Us

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