eTools for Online Communication: Analytics and Email

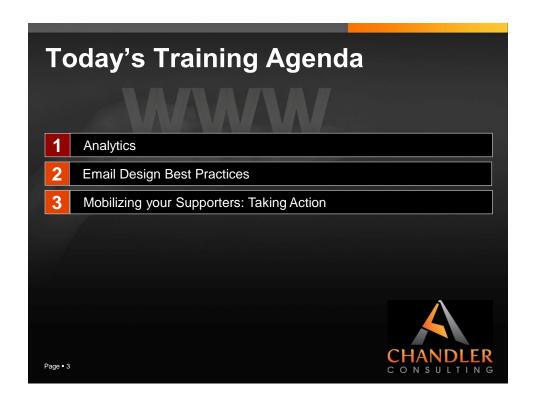
Arnold Chandler, Trainer

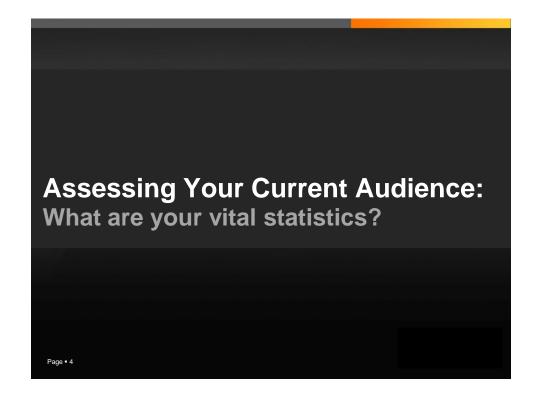


About Me

Arnold Chandler, Consultant

- Principal, A. L. Chandler Consulting (<u>www.arnoldchandler.com</u>)
- Founder of The Bay Area Leadership Network of Color (<u>www.balnc.com</u>)
- Senior Policy Associate at Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy, Berkeley Law School
- Services: Web development, online communications strategy consulting, online organizing strategy





Section Overview

- Metrics for assessing your current audience via:
 - ✓ Website
 - ✓ Email
- Comparison benchmarks for your current metrics

Page ■ 5

Web metrics

- What is my web audience size?
 - √ How many individual people are coming to my website every month? (unique visitors)
- How do visitors find my website?
 - ✓ Typing my URL into a browser? (referral source)
 - ✓ Following a link from another website, email, Twitter messages? (referral source)
 - ✓ Finding my site from a search engine? If so, what was their query? (referral source, keywords)

Page • 6

Web metrics cont...

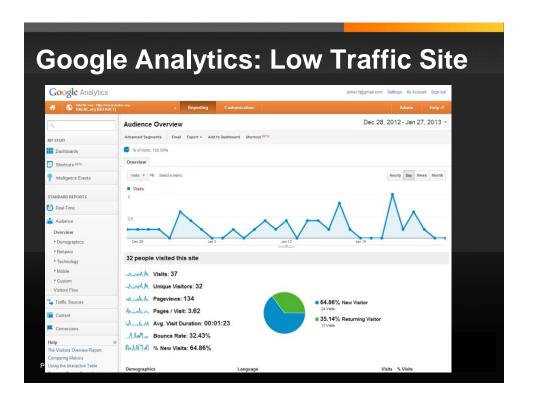
- How engaging is my website content to visitors?
 - ✓ Do people hang out on my website for a bit, or do they leave right after they get there? (average page views, bounce rate)
 - ✓ Besides my homepage, what other pages on my website do people tend to view the most? (most viewed pages)
 - √What documents do people download the most? (downloads)

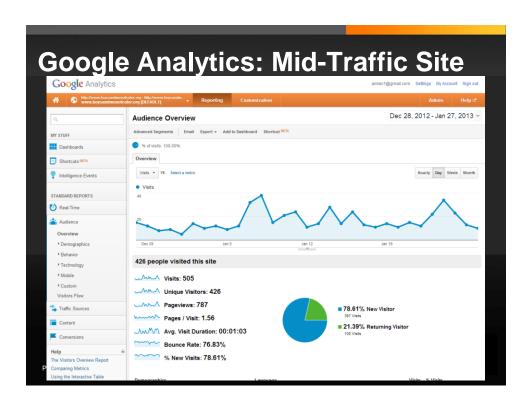
Page ■ 7

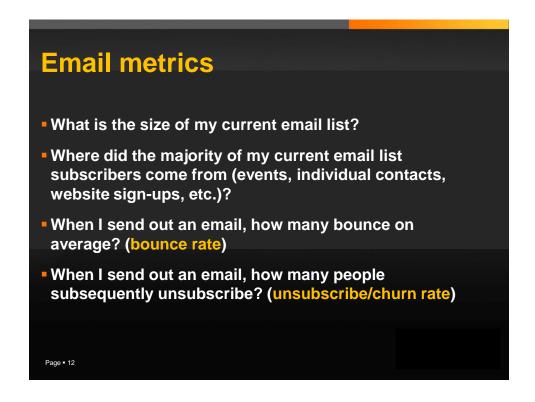
Web metrics cont...

- Where are my web visitors geographically located?
 - ✓ Are they in my city, in California, or in Singapore? (geography)

Website Benchmarks (n=43, non-random, Groundwire 2010, environmental organizations, Aug. 2009-Aug. 2010) Median website visitors: 41,838 Average page views per visit: 2.97% Bounce rate (homepage) (avg.): 44% Visitors referred by search engines (avg.): 54% Media Repeat Visitors: 33%







Email metrics cont...

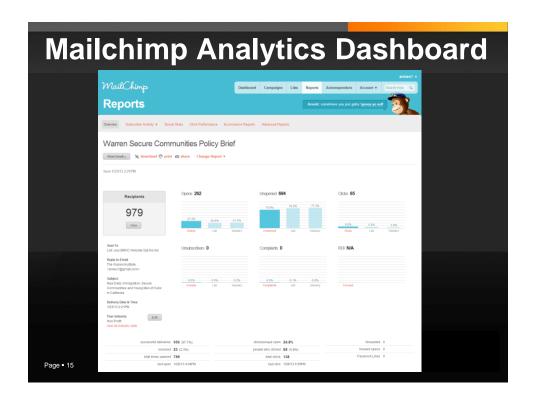
- Of those who receive my email, how many open it? (open rate)
- Of those who received my email, how many click on a link in the message either to reach something on my website or to respond to a call-to-action? (click-through rate)
- Of those who CLICK on a link in my email message, how many take the action that I've requested of them? (response or conversion rate)

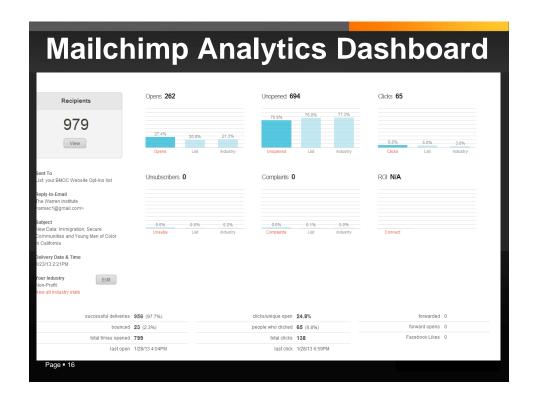
Page • 13

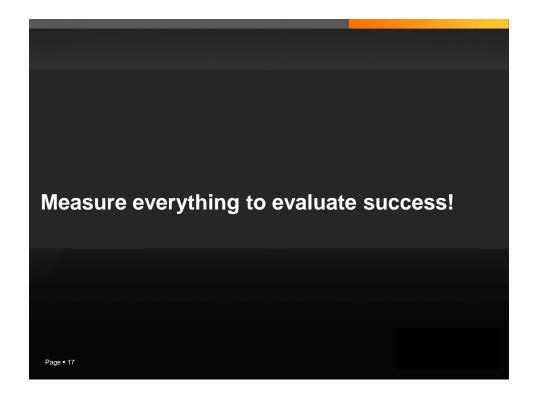
Email Benchmarks

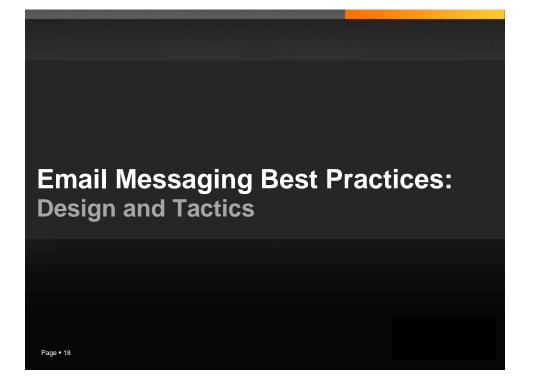
Email Benchmark	2012 eNonprofits Benchmark Study (N=44) ^a
Open Rates	14%
Click-Through Rates	2.1%
Unsubscribe Rate	0.19%
Fundraising Response Rate (average)	0.08%
Advocacy Response Rate (average)	3.8%

Page • 1









Email Messaing: The Sign-Up Process Have email sign-up forms everywhere: Website (on every page) Facebook Page Link to website form in Twitter Profile Link to website form in YouTube Profile



Email Message Design Best Practices

From Field (gets your message opened)

 Have a recognizable sender in the "From" field: Name of the Executive Director, Project Director (organization name or generic name like "Organization X Action Center")

Subject Line (gets your message opened)

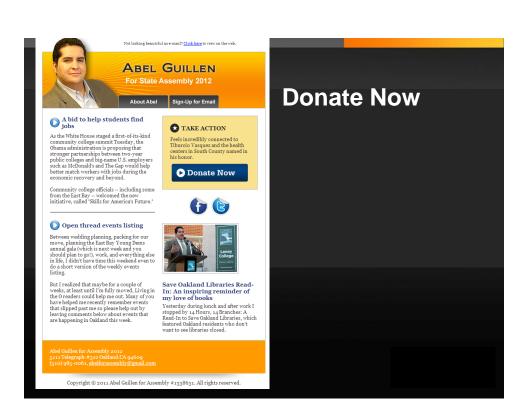
- Don't use a generic subject line: "Organization X's Newsletter"
- Use an effective lead, especially the thing you want them most to know: "Campaign Success on Multiple Fronts"

Page ■ 21

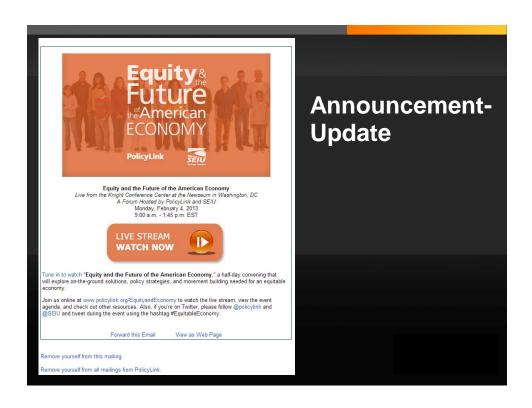
Email Message Design Best Practices

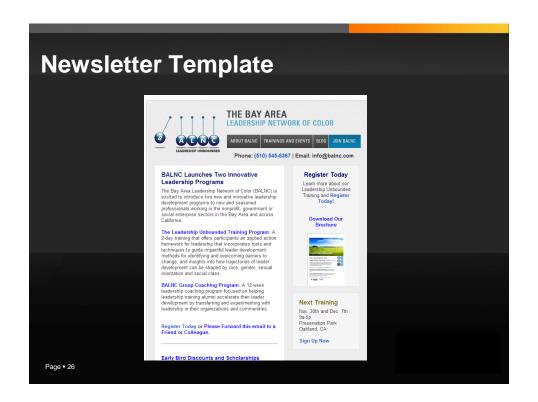
Message and Content Design (to boost click-throughs)

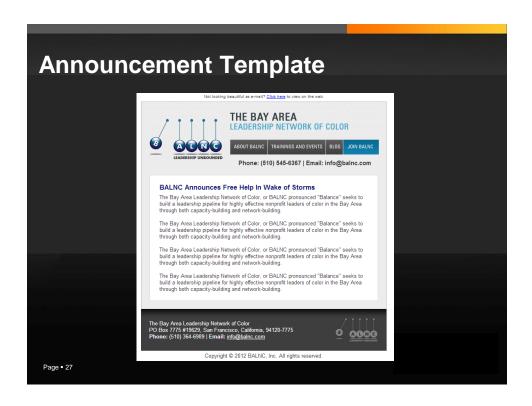
- Get a professionally designed set of email templates (~\$400-500):
 Newsletter, donation request, take action, announcement, RSVP, Register
- Include a table of contents for lengthy newsletters
- Have a "feature" section with a lead
- Keep the message well-formatted into sections that include browsable subheadings
- Use short introductions and link to the full article on your website
- Make sure to highlight upcoming events
- Include icons that link to your online presences: Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Change.org

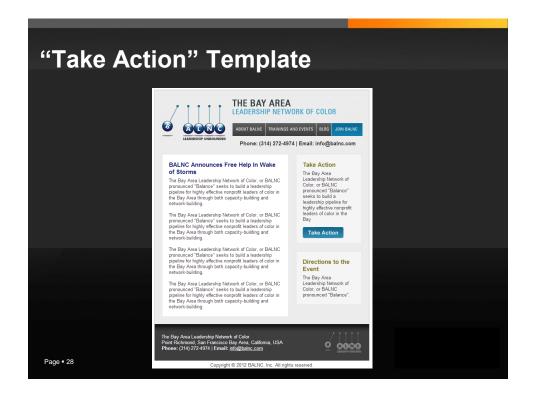


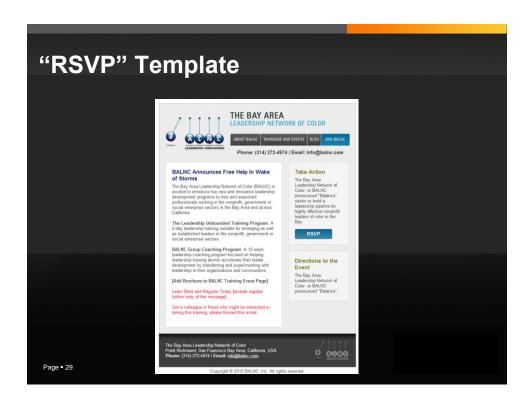




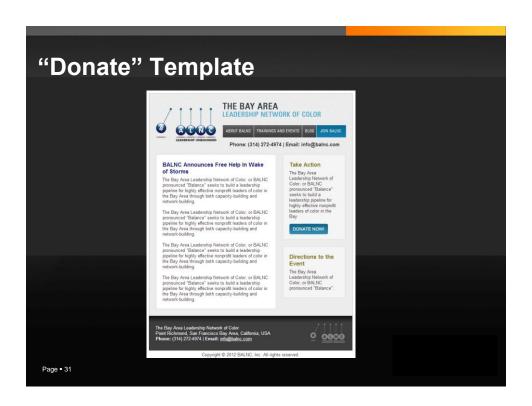


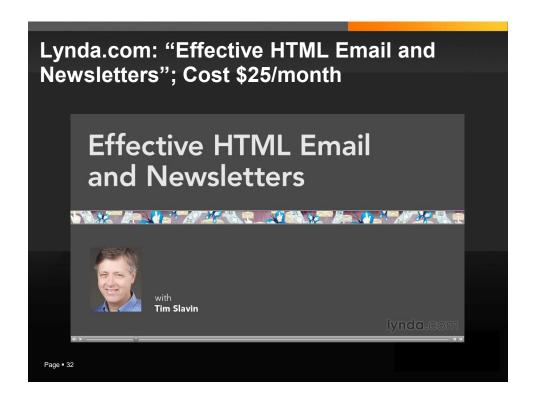


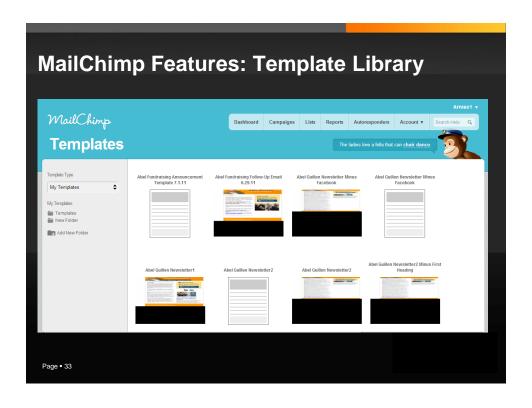


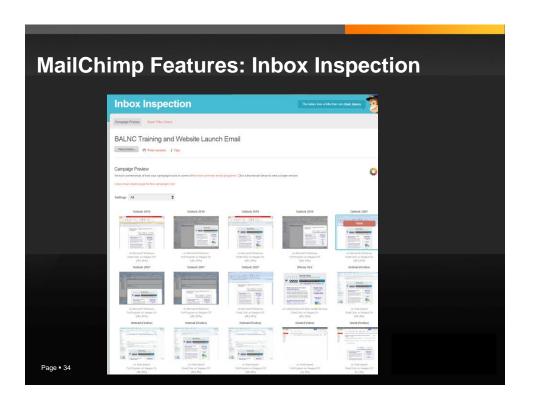


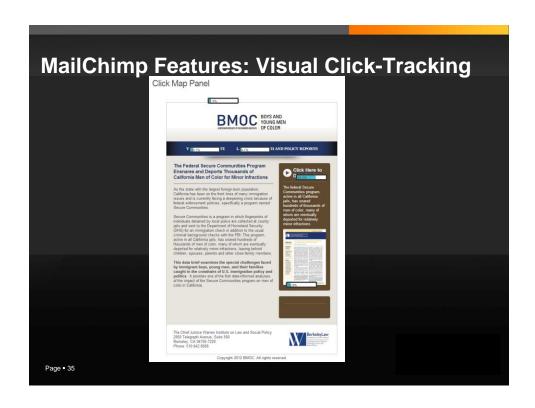


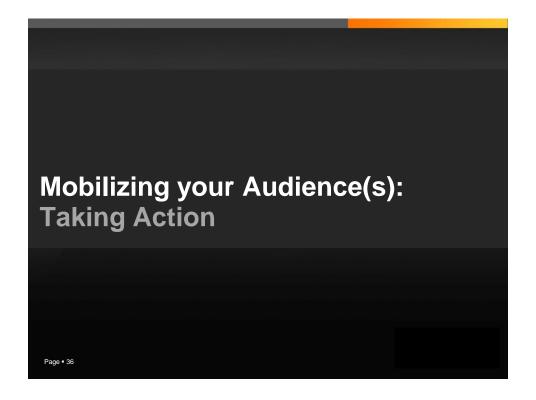




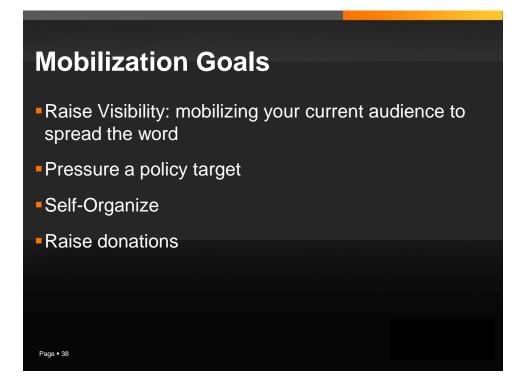






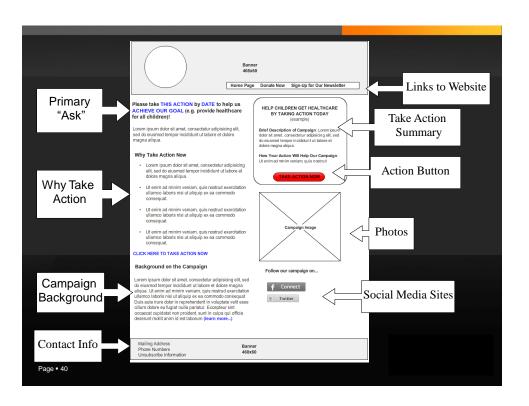


Section Overview Review General Mobilization Goals Implementing a Call-to-Action



Implementing a Call-to-Action: Design

- The subject line: the most important part of the message
- Design for browsing
- Make the "Ask" very clear
- Create a sense of urgency and include a deadline for action
- Focus on 3 main points: Problem, solution, get involved
- Keep essential information above the fold
- Provide a standard footer: contact info, forward, unsubscribe



Implementing a Call-to-Action: Process

- Distribute calls-to-action via email, highlight on your website, and post to social media sites (but shorter, more informal and drive traffic to your site)
- Make engagement meaningful: How will supporters' action make a difference?
- Provide reminders to act before the deadline
- Close the loop: Tell your supporters what they've accomplished (whatever the outcome, declare victory!)

