

Four Online Trends Every Nonprofit Should Know

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About the Presenter

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- Thirteen years experience in website development, content management and marketing
- Four years website and IT management at international development nonprofit
- Published book author and former national newsmagazine reporter
- Client list includes FairTax.org, Multiple Sclerosis Association of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States





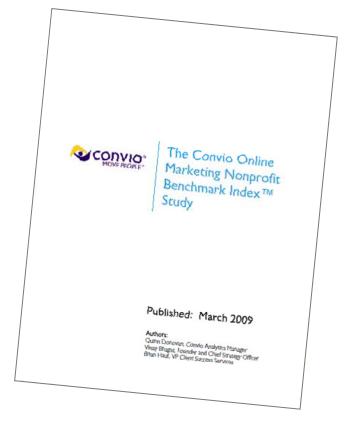
What We'll Cover in Today's Webinar

- Four key findings from the 2009 Convio Online Marketing Nonprofit Benchmark Index™ Study
- Best practices and examples from other nonprofits to benefit from these findings
- Questions & Answers



About the Benchmark Study

- Third consecutive year of the benchmark study
- Uses data compiled from nearly 600 nonprofit organizations—large sample
- Provides separate benchmarks for the nonprofit industry as a whole, and 14 nonprofit industry "verticals"





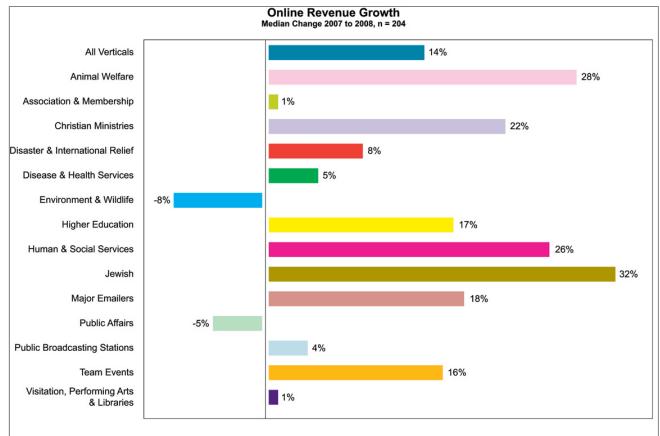
Four Key Online Trends

- 1. Online fundraising continues to generate positive yearover-year growth; direct mail results continue to decline.
- 2. Despite economic challenges, nonprofits saw their online revenue grow during the fourth quarter of 2008.
- 3. Though the average gift amount stayed mostly the same, nonprofits received a larger *number* of gifts in the fourth quarter driving an overall increase.
- 4. Email open and click through rates remain strong across all organization types.



Trend # 1: Online fundraising continues growth

 Nearly all verticals saw year-over-year gains. But continued growth requires building your site traffic and email file.





Website Traffic Growth

- Online channels/communications, such as Facebook or email newsletters, should link back to your site for more information, feedback, surveys, videos, etc.
- Offline communications including direct mail, posters, flyers, etc. should promote your site.
- Utilize (SEO) Search Engine Optimization and free Google Grants program for Search Engine Marketing (SEM). More info at: www.google.com/grants

If you are unable to view the message below, <u>Click Here</u> to view this message on our website

THE YELLOWSTONE PARK FOUNDATION



Forward to a Friend | Donate | www.ypf.org

In this Issue

April 2008

Dear System, You are receiving Yellowstone eNews at support@convio.com.

Click here to update your profile >>

Donate Now

Wolf Research is a Year-Round Effort



Each winter, Yellowstone Wolf Project staff and volunteers brave frigid temperatures and unpredictable weather on a daily basis to conduct essential research on the Park's wolf packs. A typical day begins before first light with teams heading into the field to locate and document wolf movements, kill

rates, hunting techniques, pack numbers, and wolf behavior. Days are long and rarely end before dark. But the payoff is the opportunity to contribute to one of the longest continuous wildlife monitoring programs in Yellowstone.

Winter is gradually coming to an end in Yellowstone. Annual wolf

collaring was recently completed, roads are being plowed, and

groundbreaking will soon occur for the new Visitor Education

Center. Read on to learn what's happening this spring in Yellowstone, and how you can get involved...

Learn More >>

Spring Beckons Active Visitors to Yellowstone



Spring biking and hiking are great ways to enjoy Yellowstone. Some greenery is starting to sprout, waterfalls are thundering with spring runoff, and Park visitation is lighter than in the summertime.

For a limited time, certain roads are plowed and made available to bicyclists and other non-motorized activities. And even though Yellowstone usually still has snow on the ground in the springtime, there are numerous trails suitable for spring day hiking.

Learn More >>

Contract Awarded for Visitor Education Center



Around three million people each year visit Yellowstone, and most of them make a stop at Old Faithful. Unfortunately, too many leave the Park without ever having an opportunity to learn about Yellowstone's volcanic past and the workings of the world's largest concentration of geysers and hot

Learn More >>

Online Roving Rangers

Read more

Now you can download a Yellowstone Ranger to your computer or iPod

Volunteer Anglers

Yellowstone asks fly-fishing visitors for help with native trout conservation Read more

Cycle for Yellowstone

The 11th Annual Spring Cycle Tour benefits the Yellowstone Park Foundation Read more



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Website Traffic Growth: Search Engine Marketing (SEM)

- Strategically utilize paid search
- "Purchase" keywords to promote visibility
 - "illinois" and "child abuse"
 - "illinois" and "homeless"
 - "illinois" and "food bank"
- Searchers are pre-qualified prospects -
 - compel them to visit your Web site and act
- Craft offers designed to drive traffic and registrations
- Paid SEM acquisitions can be driven down to below \$1, but cost to convert to donor still significant





Build Your Email File

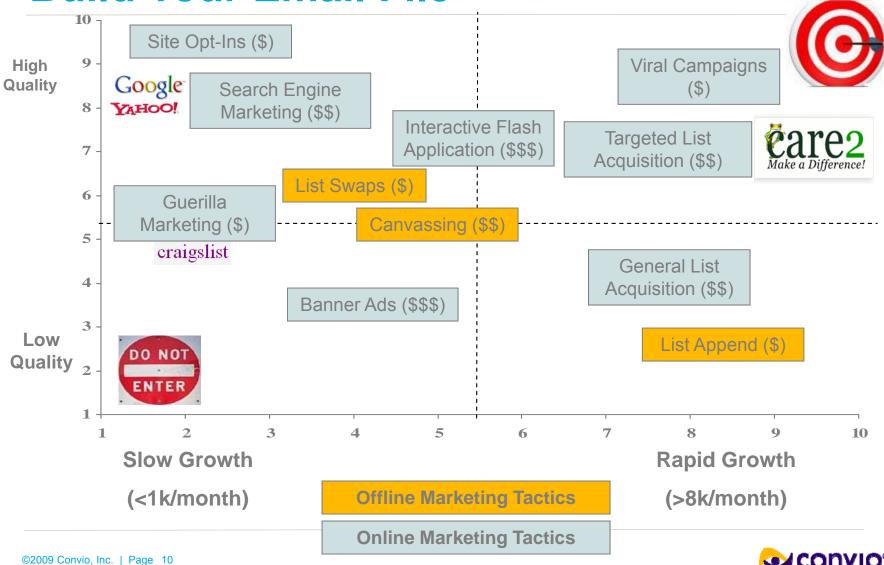
- Gather email addresses offline
 - Every time you communicate with supporters or prospects, you have the opportunity to collect email addresses.
- Promote the benefits of email communication
 - Provide benefits (even virtual ones) for your constituents by providing this information
- Gather email addresses online
 - Your website is the best source for reaching new prospects and existing constituents and collecting their email addresses.





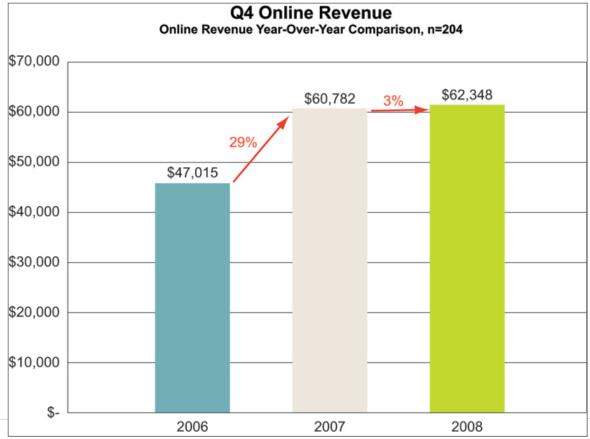


Build Your Email File



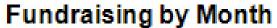
Trend # 2: Fourth-quarter online revenue growth

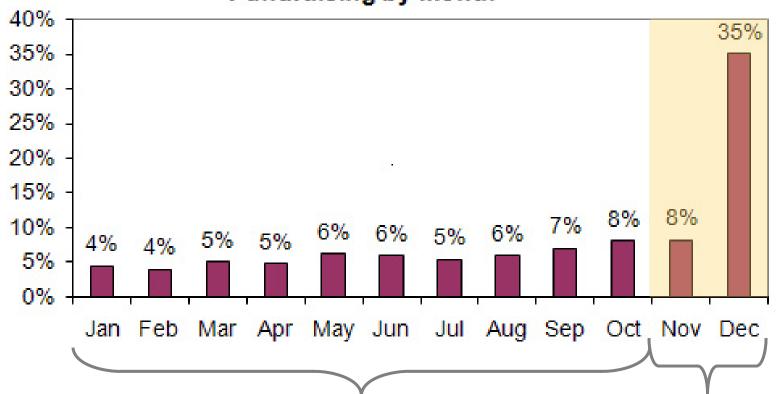
• Gains were modest in Q4 2008. Work to reduce reliance on "back-loaded" year-end donations





Sustainer Giving: Why Should you Care?





83% of calendar year accounts for 57% of total online fundraising

November and December account for 43% of total online fundraising

Source: Convio analysis of accounts during 2007 and 2008 ©2009 Convio, Inc. | Page 12



Sustainer Giving: Why Should you Care?

Supporter Benefits

- Loyalty. Creates stronger level of attachment to the organization, with benefits or membership privileges.
- **Cash-flow.** Provides simple, distributed means to support the organization beyond one-off asks.

Organizational Benefits

- **Branding.** Programs or levels can reinforce the mission and supporter connection toward those important goals.
- Development forecasting. Can smooth income over the course of the year.
- Communications. Segment and talk to group with special voice or outreach tools.
- **Defensive in tough times.** Less reliance on one-time year-end appeals when economy is soft, and donor giving impacted.



Sustainer Giving: The Basics

- Convio sustainer donation form setup similar to one-time forms, with a few additional steps.
- Price levels and giving time frames can vary from low to high (average donation window is about 10 months).
- Donors can access a Service Center to modify their billing information, discontinue payments, modify their gift amount, etc.
- Sustainer programs should be branded and carry special benefits, premiums, etc.





Make a difference for Lauren and Valeria from

Sustainer Giving: Promotion Schematic









Welcome series emails

eCards and Tell-a-Friend

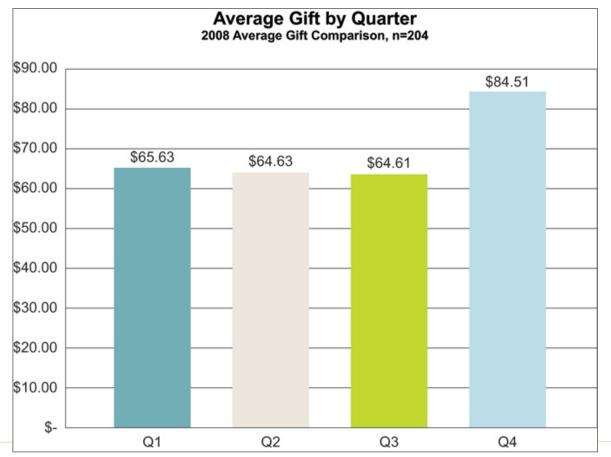
Web 2.0 banners

Site home page



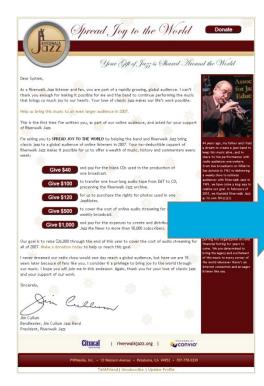
Trend # 3: Gift numbers up; gift size flat

 Effective year-end campaigns can help drive in more donations, and higher price points.





Focus on Effective Year-End Campaigns



November 26 through December 3



December 11* to 23

*These dates are for December 25th/Christmas messaging; emails targeting Jewish supporters instead should be targeted around December 11th, the first night of Hanukkah this year.



December 31

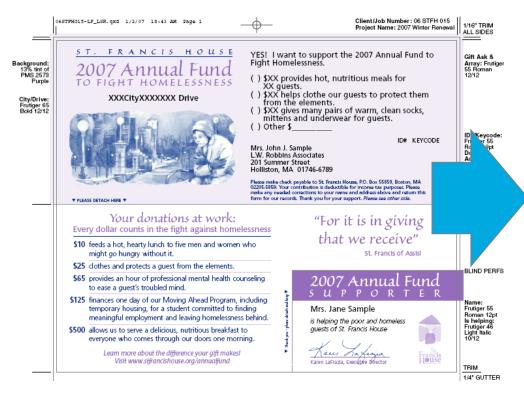
Providing a "last-chance"
December 31st message,
regardless of day of week, is
key for targeting those
motivated by tax deduction.



Year-End Campaigns: Leverage Existing Creative

Tell-A-Friend

Offline Direct Mail Proof



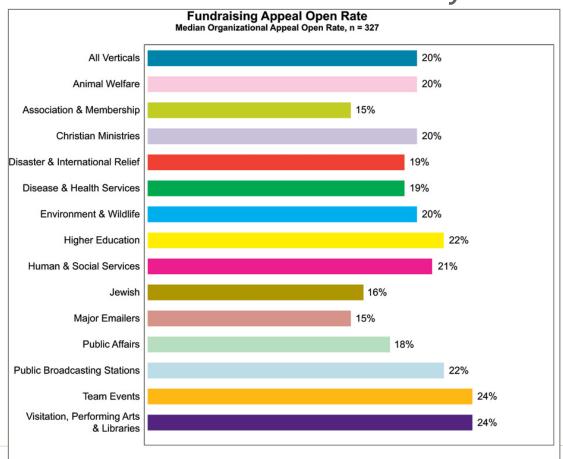
Online Email Appeal





Trend # 4: Steady email open/click-through rates

 Solid rates across most nonprofits; but crowded inboxes continue to demand a relevant and timely message





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Email Appeal Basics

- Keep copy brief (< 200 words)
- Use basic stationery
- Use layout that is easy to scan and respond to (use captions, headlines, multiple links)
- Position give buttons in upper portion of layout
- Keep design simple
- Test subject lines and sender names



Dear Friend,

Thanks to your generosity, 2007 was a remarkable year for Lauren and Valeria, students ORT America helped prepare for a brighter, hopeful tomorrow in their native Uruguay. In fact, here's just a glimpse of what your support allowed us to provide our deserving 270,000 students worldwide last year:

- Science Journey, an advanced educational program on 30 school campuses in Israel to improve science and technology instruction to nearly 30,000 students throughout Israel.
- Students at Risk (STARS), an effort to needy students in 22 countries to
 obtain hot meals, clothing, transportation vouchers, school supplies and
 textbooks (unlike Americans, most students must pay for their own school
 books). In Israel alone, over 4,000 students have been identified for the STARS
 program.
- Project Smile, launched at Be'er Sheva's Soroka University Medical Center, a
 teaching hospital linked with Ben Gurion University, which enables 10,000
 children undergoing lengthy hospital treatment to keep up with their lessons so
 that, once recovered, they can easily return to school.

Make a difference for Lauren and Valeria from Montevideo, Uruguay

AMERICA
CHAMPIONS

Become an ORT CHAMPION

And this is just the beginning, as we have so much to do in 2008.

With the start of the new year, please help us deliver on that promise to our students by becoming an ORT America Golden Circle Champion now.



Email Appeals: Designing Campaigns

- Think of your fundraising campaign as having a coherent beginning, middle, and end.
- Does not require fancy design, just a cohesive message.

Launch: Define need & goals



Update:
Underscore need
and show progress



Last-Chance:
Redefine need & goals



Thank-You:
Steward donors &
cultivate non-donors





Email Appeals: Designing Campaigns

- Make subject line SHORT—should be timely and something supporters care about.
- Keep the voice of your communications consistent with your organization's brand but try using humor—even controversy at times—to grab their attention
- Keep the body copy shorter than a direct mail piece, usually 3-4 paragraphs with a strong ask in both graphic and text/link.
- A prominent Donate/Give Now button is critical. Insert it "above the fold" and make it stand out with graphics.
- Test, Test, Test!



Measuring Your Results

There are many ways to track your organization's results to your peers.
 Among some of the more interesting indicators:

Category	Nonprofit Industry	Your Peer Group (i.e. Health Services shown here)	Your Organization
Online Revenue	\$235,334	\$117,747	???
Online Rev. Growth Rate	14%	5%	???
Email File Size	34,736	26,471	???
Email Growth Rate	28%	15%	???
Conversion Rate	3.22%	2.29%	???
Site Traffic	9,830	16,246	???
Site Traffic Growth Rate	20%	17%	???



Your Questions & Answers



Thank You!

Questions? Email us at info@convio.com or call us at 888-528-9501 ext 1.

