

# MAKING MEANINGFUL READER CONNECTIONS

---

Define, Build, and Use Consumer Data

Suzie Sisoler  
Senior Director, Consumer Engagement  
Penguin Random House

---

# Connecting with Readers

Take advantage of the many touch points and marketing channels to **learn about** and **have a direct relationship with consumers.**

# Connecting with Readers

## .com

## Social

## Email

## Commerce

## CRM

### Data


- . Repeat/Unique Visitors
- . Marketing Codes
- . Popular Pages
- . Counts (Likes/Followers)
- . Demographics
- . Engagement
- . Unique Identifier
- . Preferences
- . Engagement
- . First-time v. Repeat Customers
- . (Affiliate) Retailer Preferences
- . Track, measure campaigns
- . Manage database
- . Identify engaged consumers

### Sample Use

- . Display content based on cookies
- . Align content w/core demographic
- . Send special emails based on previous response
- . Adjust weight of 'buy' selection on book page
- . Tailored marketing campaign to repeat customers subscribed to newsletter



Email is the foundation...



**Email address and permission for email communications provides a foot in the door, creating the opportunity for deeper engagement with readers.**

- Enables direct and cross-channel marketing efforts
- Connects consumer data points



# DEFINING APPROACH

---

Strategic vision and program development for a direct relationship with readers



# Consumer Engagement Goals

What are the overarching goals for developing a more direct relationship with readers?

The value assigned to various ideas will shape the strategic vision.



# Consumer Engagement Goals

- Direct marketing
- Conversion to sales
- Knowledge
- Cross-channel marketing
- One-to-one marketing
- Marketing platform
- Bullet on marketing sheet
- Marketing scale
- Richer consumer profiles





# Email Marketing Program Development

What is the goal for developing an email marketing program? How best to align email marketing goals within the larger, strategic direct-to-consumer marketing vision?

The answers should shape the approach to list development.

# List Development Approaches

## Newsletter Specific

- Consumer grants permission for a specific list/newsletter
- Decentralized
  - Imprints, departments or verticals manage lists
- No 'global' marketing permission

## Preference-based

- Consumer grants permission for email marketing
- Preferences associated with email
- Centralized program

---

# Acquisition Approaches

## Opt-In

- Explicit consent
- Requirement of some ESPs
- Considered best-practice

## Opt-Out

- Implicit consent



# BUILDING A CONSUMER DATABASE

---

Information collection, storage, working with an ESP

---

# Legal Coverage

Work with legal to ensure Privacy Policy and Terms of Use align with short and long-term goals for the collection and use of consumer data.

**Develop a good, working relationship with legal — be allies, not adversaries.**



# Consumer Provided Information

What consumer information should be collected at sign-up or registration?

Should information be optional or required? Will information be used, or just nice to have?

Are there any risks/issues with collecting specific data?



# Consumer Provided Information

- Email address
- Reading preferences
- Zip code
- DOB
- City/ State
- Physical address
- Phone / Mobile
- Survey data
- Demographic data



# Additional Data Points

Storing additional data, beyond what consumer directly provides, enriches the database and provides additional methods for targeting and segmentation.





# Additional Data Points

- Marketing Campaign / Tracking code
- Initial sign-up date
- Subscription date
- Data appends (demographic, behavioral)

---

# Storing Consumer Data

Work with technical team or developers to find optimal solution for storing consumer data that aligns with short and mid-term consumer engagement goals.

---

# Storing Consumer Data

- Database structure
- ESP
  - Subscription management; data storage
  - Good option if in-house resources limited
- Store consumer data internally
  - Requires in-house resources to create and manage database
  - Work with ESP using APIs



## Working with an ESP

Email service providers are experts in managing the deployment of email campaigns, handle white listing, and can provide robust tools for segmentation, targeting, and testing.



## Working with an ESP

- Considerations
  - Current needs
  - Estimated monthly sends
  - Acquisition and list strategy
  - Short and mid-term plans for email program
- Email vendors include: Mailchimp, Silverpop, CheetahMail, Responsys, ExactTarget

---

# Acquiring Opt-Ins

Align digital marketing efforts with consumer engagement goals.

**Make consumer data acquisition a priority.**



# Acquiring Opt-Ins

- Low-hanging fruit
- Optimize sign-up process
- New opportunities
- Campaigns with sign-up CTA
- Cross-marketing on other channels



# USING CONSUMER DATA

---

Developing and deploying campaigns



# Email Campaigns: Types of Messages

- Scheduled, manually deployed
  - Time-based: daily, weekly, monthly
- Promotion specific
- Automated
  - Welcome messages
- Transactional



# Email Campaign Analysis

- Monitor response to each email deployed
  - Key metrics: delivery, bounce, open, click, click-to-open/responder, unsub
  - Engagement metrics
  - Conversion metrics
- Develop benchmarks



# Targeted Marketing

Use knowledge about individual consumers or segments of consumers to deliver tailored, targeted promotions.

- Email campaigns
- .com / site promotions
- Social promotions



# Optimize Marketing Messages

Test marketing messages and campaigns prior to full roll-out

- A/B testing
- Segmentation



# Reporting

- Track and measure campaigns across channels
- Discover what works, what doesn't
- Identify and 'reward' most engaged consumers
- Share knowledge internally
  - Develop best practices
  - Reinforce importance of direct marketing