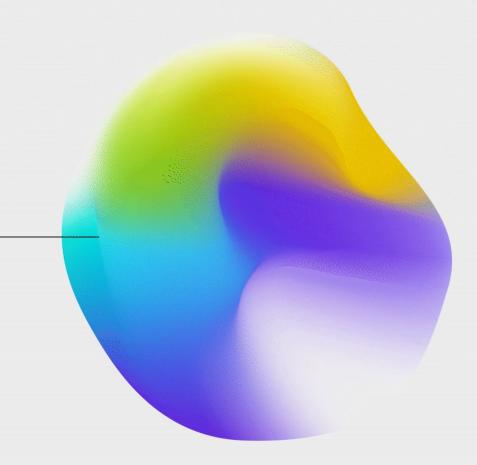
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> the **art** + **science** of experiential engagement

CEMA Summit 2023 Activation Insights Report dated: August 22, 2023



STORYCRAFT LAB the art + science of experiential engagement



At CEMA Summit 2023 Storycraft Lab used the Experience Profiles<sup>™</sup> quiz and facilitated a Design Lab to activate the 'Guiding Principles in Experience Design Report'. Both of these endeavours generated a rich data set and deep insights into the CEMA audience.

If you would like to learn about how Storycraft Lab can support your experience to generate audience insights, maximize engagement and inform strategic design, please get in touch. The Design Lab activity insights

Page 3

Exploring Identities Architecting Choice Designing Belonging Value of Values Power of Play Emotional Data

#### The Design Lab ideation capture

<u>Page 18</u>

Overview Exploring Identities Architecting Choice Designing Belonging Value of Values Emotional Data

The Experience Profiles Quiz

Page 27

# Design Lab Insights CEMA Summit 2023

Report dated: August 22, 2023







The Truths Lab workshops at CEMA Summit hosted 130 participants split roughly equally across two 1 hour-long sprint sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The following pages capture insights and outcomes from the Labs.



Exploring Identities p 6-8



Architecting Choice p 9



Designing Belonging p 10-11



Value of Values p 12-13



Power of Play p 14



Emotional Data p 15-17



#### Our Hot Takes



Participants found it most easy, natural, comfortable to share the places that have shaped their identity. The audience was captivated by this exercise and appreciated having a moment to think about their unique selves, and what makes them, them.



Architecting

Choice

This activity deepened connections as attendees bonded, sharing stories of shared nostalgia. Participants expressed a desire for more optionality in session design, format; networking approaches and furniture/room layouts.



Designing Belonging This group identified Curiosity and Thinking Differently as distinct and crucial elements in their journey towards a sense of Belonging. Ensuring participatory and creative session experiences will be key in delivering Belonging for CEMA members.



There was a lot of emphasis on co-creation and collaboration in understanding audience values. There were five clear categories of value emerged from whiteboard participation: Content messaging; Co-creation with Audience; Personalization; Social consciousness and values; Transparency.



This activation presented a moment to unpack after the busy day into the slower processing afternoon. One of the main questions was "How can I build this into my event?" as attendees naturally started to strategize with what they were enjoying here.



Emotional

Data

Words are more consistently understood, especially when assessing relative intensity of emotion. If using emojis, consider adding a word of explanation alongside the image.



### **Exploring Identities**



What is one area you can push yourself

Attendees were asked four questions about an aspect of their identity and had a choice to answer any or all of the questions. They recorded their answers on sticky notes and placed under the corresponding question. Our observation was that the audience was captivated by this exercise and appreciated having a moment to think about themselves, what makes them, them. **Consistent with report findings, participants found it most easy/natural/comfortable to share the places that have shaped their identity.** 

What are the visible aspects of your identity (what others can see)?	What are the invisible aspects of your identity (what others can't see)?	What are the places that have helped define you and affected your identity?	what is one area you can push yourself to get out of your comfort zone? What support do you need to feel comfortable to try something new?
	No.     No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.       No.     No.     No.     No.     No.		March     March     March     March     March     March     March       March     March     March     March     March     March

### **Exploring Identities**

#### Recommendations and insights:

Seeing how much attendees enjoy being prompted about their identities presents an opportunity for event designers to look for spaces to comfortably enable those conversations.

Think about how networking opportunities provide the structure that facilitates such a space.

There is an opportunity to use the accessibility of surface level conversations for deeper connection. Gamification during networking can be a helpful tactic. What are the visible aspects of your identity (what others can see/perceive?)

Most of the mentions were physical attributes. Participants noting their smile, welcoming demeanor, age, and wardrobe style as the top answers. In relation to what was shared in the invisible parts of their identity, there seems to be a need to help people connect more easily, past the point of complementing their appearance. What are the in visible aspects of your identity (what others cannot see/perceive?)

Attendees answered with a wide array of elements that are understandably not easily shared, but they also shared elements that should be easily perceived, such as empathetic, leader, energetic, multi-tasker, and honest. There is a sense that we are very concerned with perception at Summit, and perhaps masking as a result.



### **Exploring Identities**

Related to the answers from the first two questions, we saw participants share how they needed to feel more comfortable navigating environments outside of their normal. Of note was the need to feel more comfortable raising their voices.

We also saw how family, home and travel were important factors informing identity. Think about how to ask and incorporate that information into their experience, permitting them to share more about who they are as part of a global community and outside of work.

How might data collected at registration be used to pre-populate a profile?

What are the spaces or places that have shaped aspects of your identity?

Top answers: Where loved ones are, being outdoors, travel and college were identified as the top places informing identity. What are the areas you can push yourself to get out of your comfort zone? What support do you need?

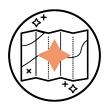
The majority of participants identified needing help feeling comfortable speaking publicly, speaking up for themselves and navigating environments outside of what they know.



### **Architecting Choice**

Four main themes emerged throughout this activity:

- 1. <u>Shared nostalgia</u>: Everyone participated in the fortune telling folding activity, and many were fondly reminiscing about their grade school experiences. This <u>activity deepened connections as attendees bonded</u>, sharing stories of their school days.
- 2. Opportunities unveiled: Throughout the attendee journey, interest emerged in <u>matchmaking activities.</u> Specifically, there was keen interest in AI enabled matchmaking.
- 3. Audience-centric approach: <u>Early engagement</u> with attendees via focus groups and surveys was as consistent theme during ideation sessions, with the goal to <u>offer intentional choices</u> through alignment and <u>understanding of an audience's</u> <u>desires</u>.
- 4. Participants expressed a desire for more optionality in session design, format; networking approaches and furniture/room layouts.



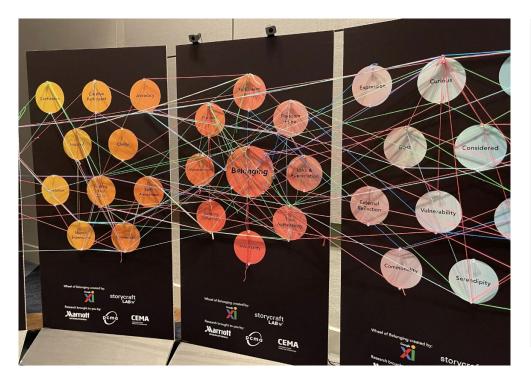


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### **Designing Belonging**



We've often heard that "CEMA Summit is all about the content" - that holds true, according to this data. BUT - it also indicates that format is critical - ensuring participatory and creative session experiences will be key in delivering Belonging.



#### Assessment:

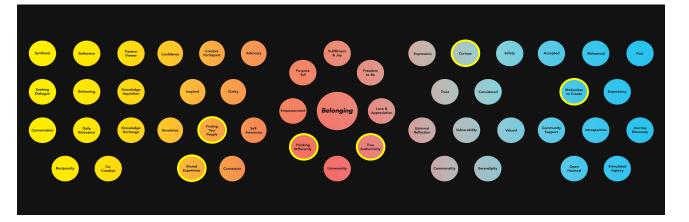
This group identified <u>Curiosity</u> and <u>Thinking Differently</u> as distinct and crucial elements in their journey towards a sense of Belonging. These top touchpoints suggest that in future experience design for this audience, the opportunity to think differently could begin with the relevance that an event or experience might offer, while breaking away from the ordinary to discover through conversation, reflection and revelation.

This strong curiosity exists alongside an interest in connecting with other <u>people</u> and <u>shared experience</u> - indicates that activities allowing <u>creativity and experimentation</u> with new things and ideas will resonate. This suggests that session designs that provide the chance to <u>engage authentically</u> with one another will spark joy and happiness, creating a feeling of "this is where I belong."

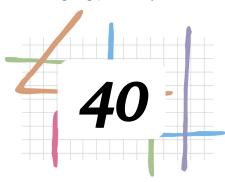
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### Wheel of Belonging Insights

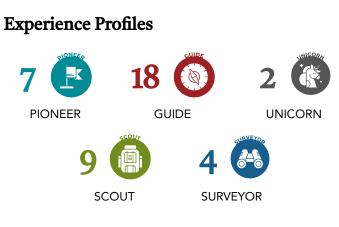
The following data points were collected at CEMA Summit during the *Six Truths for Innovative Event Strategies* Design Lab on Tuesday August 8, 2023.



#### **Belonging Journeys**



At CEMA Summit 40 Belonging Journeys were woven into the Wheel of Belonging.



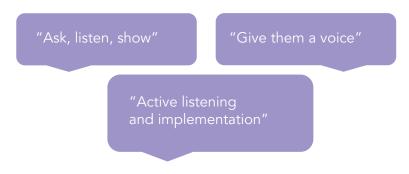
The counts above illustrate the Experience Profile breakdown for the participants of the Wheel of Belonging.

Top Touchpoin	its			
Curious	Shared Experience			
♦ 12 ♦	♦ 9 ♦			
Thinking Differently	Finding Your People			
♦ 11 ♦				
Motivation to Create	True Authenticity			
♦ 9 ♦	♦ 8 ♦			
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### The Value of Values

When asked to ideate on best ways to demonstrate that you are aligned with your audience's values, most people noted event messaging and content was the way to go. There was also a lot of emphasis on co-creation/ collaboration in understanding audience values:



Several prominent themes emerged regarding the manifestation of value alignment within the experience journey. One prevalent theme revolved around the initial step of seeking and understanding.

Additionally, there was a recurring emphasis on the importance of featuring a diverse array of speakers and values-based content.

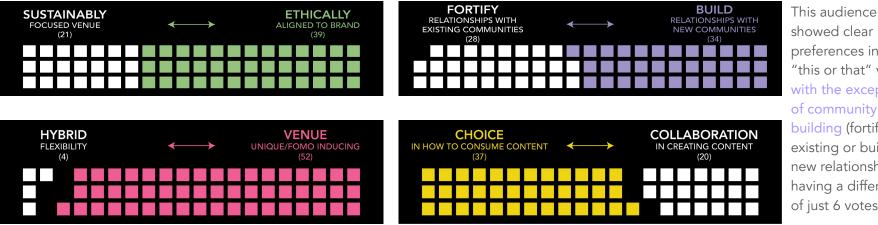
Lastly, the themes of community building, harnessing existing communities, and ensuring their sustainability post-event were also notably recurrent in the ideation data.

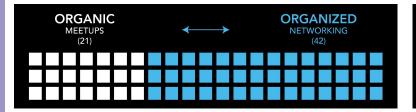


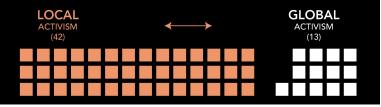
- Content messaging
- Co-creation with Audience
- Personalization
- Social consciousness/values



### The Value of Values







Do you want to dig deeper here? This is an assumption to test in your events: Votes indicate that choice and variety matter a lot when it comes to networking opportunities. But does that hold true in reality? Are we willing in practice to meet people other than those we already know? Recommended reading and examination in line with Exploring Identities truth: https://irrationallabs.com/case-studies/no-small-talk/

showed clear preferences in each "this or that" value with the exception of community building (fortify existing or build new relationships) having a difference of just 6 votes.

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#### The Power of Play





This space was free flowing and aligned well with the energy levels of an afternoon workshop. There was a lot of excited discussion about how to incorporate play - and no sticky notes!

#### Facilitator Observations

Slime: Attendees automatically gravitated towards this multi-sensory experience. They relaxed, and started to connect how play is and can be beneficial not only for their event but also for their internal teams in order to more effectively support their events. Slime sparked peer to peer sharing – there were some very interesting, productive conversations had around the slime table.

Legos: Attendees enjoyed having an option to sit down and slow down, to get strategic with their play however they saw fit. They were able to engage in deeper thinking and discussion with others as they focus on building with the Legos. Conversations segue from one area of work and personal life to another.

Gender dynamic at play here were different than at other activations, namely Mexico City: both male and female presenting attendees enjoy the play options equally.

Overall, this part of the activation presented a moment to unpack after the busy day into the slower processing afternoon. One of the main questions was "How can I build this into my event?" as attendees naturally started to strategize with what they were enjoying here.

This presents an opportunity to include a "Happy Play Hour" into future experience, and/or utilize play as one of the conduits for content delivery. storycraft

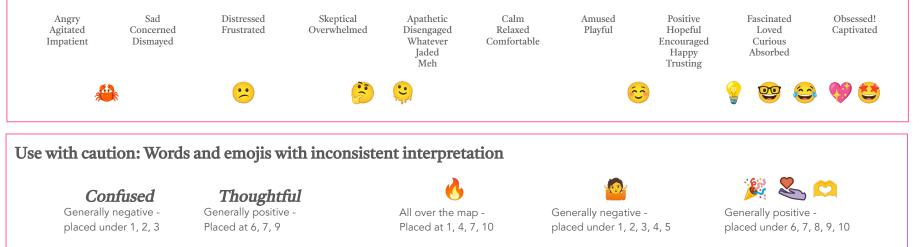


### **Emotional Data: Outcomes**



Participants were asked to place words and emojis on an emotional scale graphic. The goal of the exercise was to establish which sentiment words and emojis are consistently understood in terms of intensity on a numeric scale (and could be used reliably to measure), and conversely - those words and emojis that are interpreted inconsistently (and therefore may be problematic).

#### Use with confidence: Words and emojis listed under the numeric category at least 2/3 of the time



Insight: Words are more consistently understood, especially when assessing relative intensity of emotion. If using emojis, consider adding a word of explanation alongside the image. View our detailed data spreadsheet here

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### Emotional Data: Amalgamated results (words)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
 UPSET	I DISAPPOINTED	DISCOURAGED	I UNCOMFORTABLE	 INDIFFERENT	CONTENT	 PLEASED	 OPTIMISTIC	 ENGAGED	 ELATED
Agitated	Sad	Distressed	Skeptical	Apathetic	<u>Calm</u>	Amused	Happy	Loved	Obsessed
Angry	Concerned	Frustrated	Overwhelmed	Jaded	Relaxed	Playful	Positive	Fascinated	Captivated
Impatient	Dismayed	Defeated	Confused	<u>Whatever</u>	Comfortable	Thoughtful	<u>Hopeful</u>	Curious	Committed
Frustrated	Doubtful	Dispirited	Bothered	Disengaged	Satisfied	Appreciative	Encouraged	Absorbed	Eager
Confused	Bothered	Pessimistic	Dispirited	Meh	Amused	Relaxed	Trusting	Appreciative	Appreciative
Defeated	Pessimistic	Overwhelmed	Doubtful	Bored	Thoughtful	Satisfied	Committed	Thoughtful	Fascinated
	Dispirited	Detached	Absorbed	Comfortable		Intrigued	Eager	Intrigued	
		Bored	Distressed	Detached		Loved	Playful	Enthralled	
Key:		Disengaged	Concerned	Skeptical		Interested		Interested	
•	rences (100%)	Doubtful						Committed	
Two Occurrences (66%)		Confused						Captivated	
One Occurrence (33%)		Angry						Trusting	
one occurre	(3370)							Eager	storycraft LAB 🕏



### Emotional Data: Amalgamated results (emojis)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 I	10
l UPSET	DISAPPOINTED	DISCOURAGED	UNCOMFORTABLE	 INDIFFERENT	I CONTENT	 PLEASED	 OPTIMISTIC	 ENGAGED	 ELATED
666 2022 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 2									Image: Window

# Design Lab Ideation Capture CEMA Summit 2023

Report dated: August 22, 2023







#### The number one question we heard from participants was: What is happening with all of this data? Will you share it with us?

The following pages capture document ideation from the Truths Lab workshops at CEMA Summit, August 8, 2023. This data provides an at-a-glance indication of where ideas flowed more freely for a particular topic, or where gaps exist for further exploration. The detailed transcribed and collated notes can be explored in a mural or accessed via spreadsheet. They will ultimately be compiled into a supporting document for the full report.

Overview p20



Exploring Identities p 21



Architecting Choice p 22



Designing Belonging p 23



Value of Values p 24

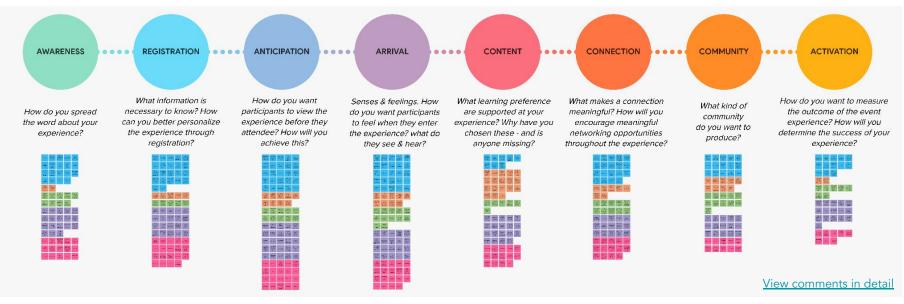


Emotional Data p 25



#### Truths Lab - Ideas Sticky Notes Collected by Truth & Touchpoint

The volume of ideas collected generally shows an interest / ease / comfort in ideating for earlier stages of an event life cycle. Architecting Choice generated more ideas for during an event (this is consistent with insights from Architecting Choice p6). Value of Values showed a fairly consistent flow of ideation throughout the life cycle.



**Do you want to dig deeper?** Use these ideas as discussion starters for your team.

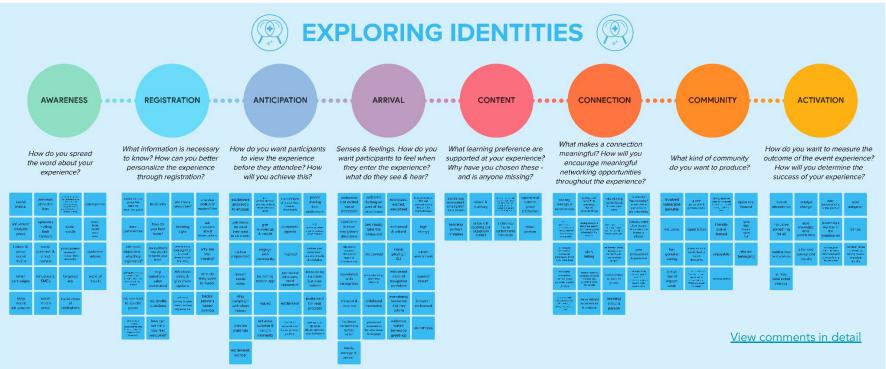
Exploring Identities & Architecting Choice & Designing Belonging & Value of Values & Emotional Data

Link to spreadsheet

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Collected by Truth & Touchpoint

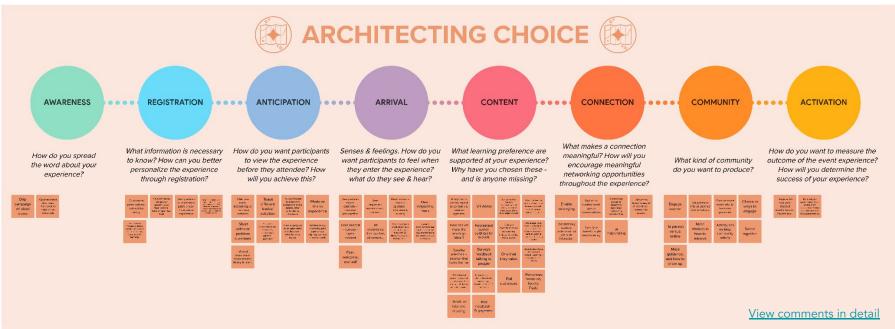


 $\blacklozenge$  In the registration touchpoint, there was an emphasis on asking questions about familiarity with the event, learning & social preferences, and what they were hoping to gain as an attendee.

◆ For connection, a high number of responses showed a need for opening up and sharing more personal aspects with others. As well as using common identities and shared experiences to help build a sense of connection.

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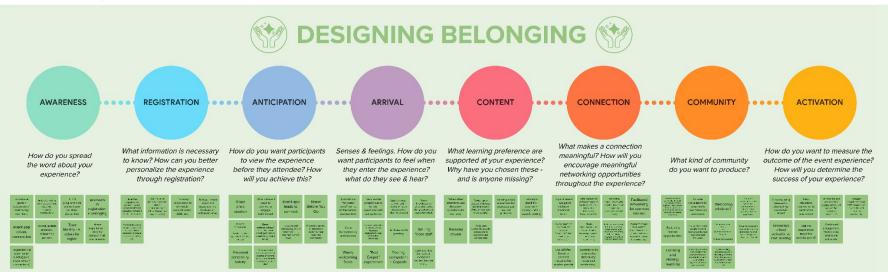
Collected by Truth & Touchpoint



◆ In terms of content, many people noted that asking their audience about their preferences would be helpful to tailoring content that they would be engaged in. In addition, there was an emphasis on providing choice throughout the event.

 $\blacklozenge$  For the community touchpoint, a few responses mentioned that providing their audience with "guidance for how to show up" was important. As well as, providing multiple occasions and setting for community to flourish.

Collected by Truth & Touchpoint

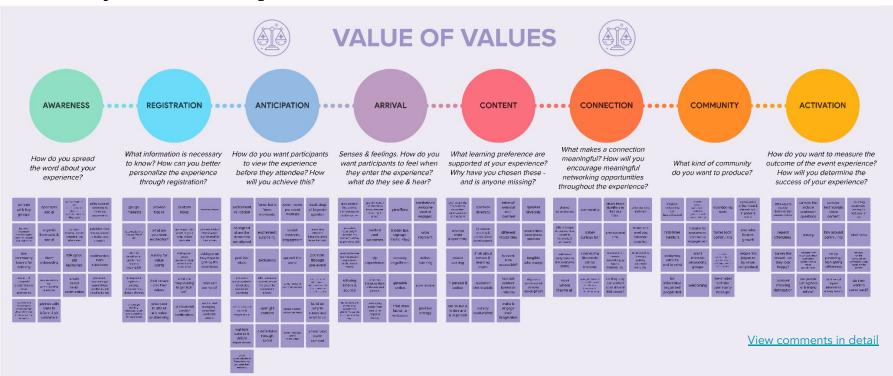


#### View comments in detail

◆ There was a high number of responses that noted the importance of priming attendees with exciting details & "must attend moments" to build anticipation. Others mentioned that setting up connections between attendees pre-event should be a priority.

♦ Regarding community, there was an emphasis on nurturing a sense of community that transensends the lifetime of the event. There were recommendations for this around pre- and post-event meetups, as well as connecting people around purpose-driven conversation topics.

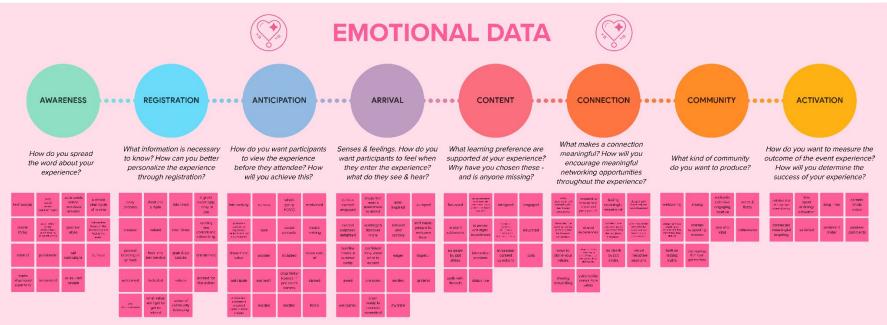
Collected by Truth & Touchpoint



 ◆ In regards to anticipations, there was a high number of responses that related to using FOMO (fear of missing out) to build engagement with pre-event communications.
 Additionally, a number of responses mentioned value driven communications that center on the event's purpose. ♦ For content, there was an emphasis on diversity. This was noted in regards to keynote speakers, learning styles, room layouts, in-person vs. on-demand, professional vs. personal development, and takeaway options. Across the board, the intent behind these suggestions was to provide the attendee with choices when it comes to content.
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Collected by Truth & Touchpoint



View comments in detail

♦ In the arrival touchpoint, there was an emphasis on creating a feeling that all are welcome. Responses included multisensory experience recommendations around using music, scent, and F&B service to engage people from the moment they walk in the door. ✤ For activation, a number of responses included ideas around creating spaces that would help attendees to build relationships that carry on after the event. People mentioned that leaning into feelings of inclusivity and welcoming people into communities would be effective in cultivating long-term relationships.

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# Thank you

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# CEMA SUMMIT

CEMA Summit Experience Profiles<sup>™</sup> Data Review

Updated 8/16/2023



### **Experience Profiles Insights**

#### The CEMA Summit group is unique.

Compared to a sample group, with whom they had similarity in professional focus, there was **a higher percentage of Pioneers and Guide profiles**.

Unicorn profiles for this group were uniquely centered on the Guide profile. This provides us with useful direction in further customizing profiles specifically for CEMA.

#### Overall, the CEMA audience is a **social**, **innovative**, **curious group interested in the intersection of ideas and people**.

They are here for content but just as important is working through that content with one another. *Content centered on new ideas accessed via shared experience is inspiring.* 

This group *is here for connections with people* but it's clear that business intention and leadership is a focus. *Agency in making choices is appreciated, as is the organizer providing info and tools* to help attendees be successful. This group likes to self determine, being quite independent and appreciates serendipity in a social setting - *the loose structure behind networking at Summit is successful for this reason, connections should not be over-managed / orchestrated.* 

More visual, more hands-on. And yet, not as interested in demos. *Environmental design is exciting to this visual and tactile group. Demos are not likely to engage - consider other options for partner participation.* 

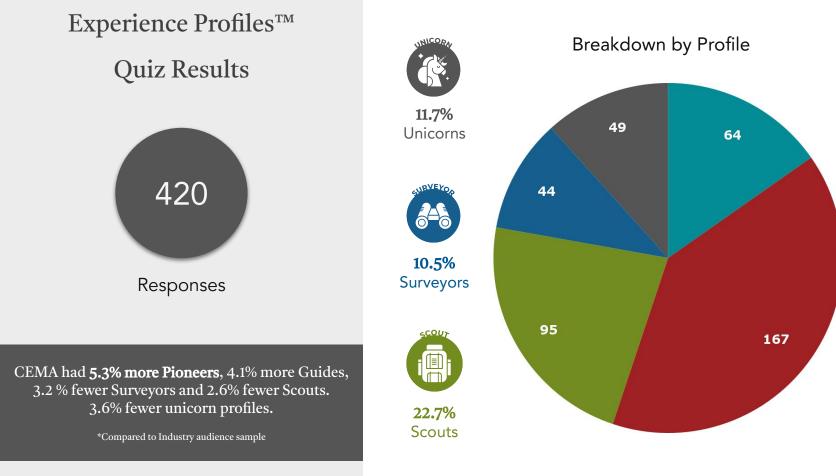
Within this group - consistent with industry wide responses - there is more interest in collaborative learning, discussion and interactive workshops. *Room set-ups to enable collaboration is important. Invest in breakouts that have interactivity built into design.*  A significant and unique number of CEMA

quiz respondents - **71%** - demonstrate their knowledge acquisition through sharing expertise. *It is imperative that this group are able to discuss and share - everywhere.* 

A significant and unique number of CEMA

quiz respondents - **77.3%** - are drawn to content with people stories. *Consider campfire sessions that open with a 'true personal story' leading to group discussion.* 

CEMA Leaders understand the power of the collective and the importance of collaboration in building buy-in. They are at Summit to build professional success. *Management topics, ideas around influence and 'moving' groups of people will be inspiring - especially if they leverage stories of success.* 



NONEF

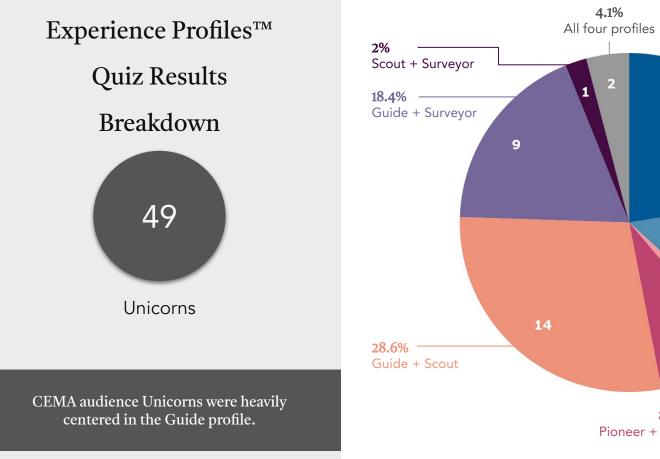
15.3%

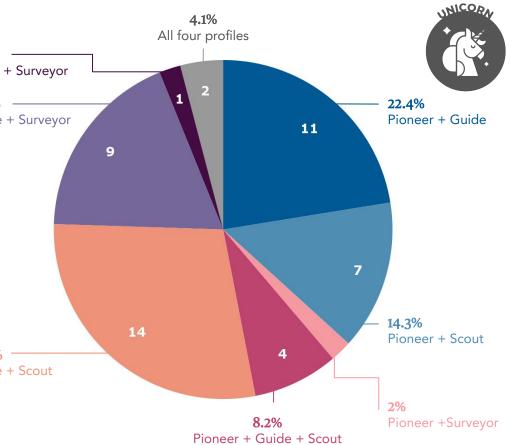
**Pioneers** 

GUID

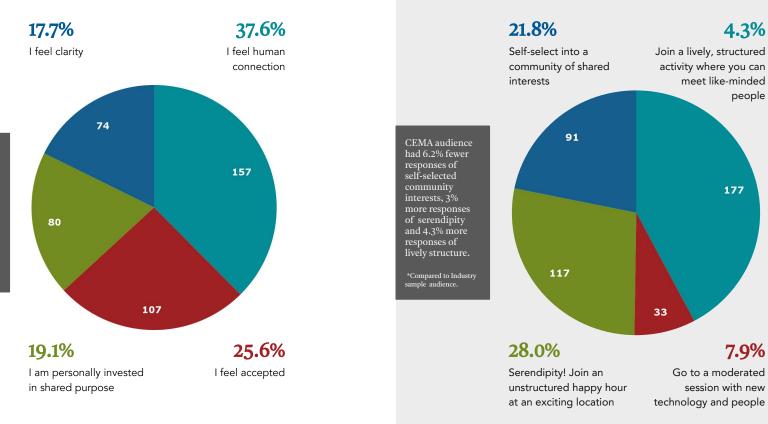
39.9%

Guides





#### I find comfort and safety most when...



4.3%

people

177

7.9%

CEMA had 5.1%

fewer responses

purpose," and

of "shared

4.6% more

"human

responses of

connection".

\*Compared to Industry sample audience.

How would you prefer to meet new

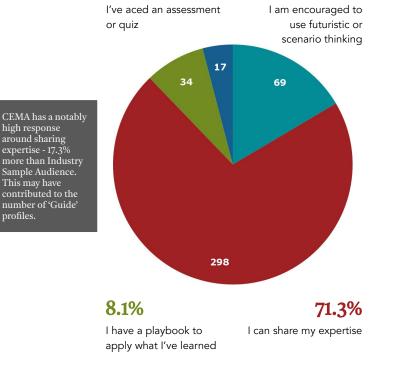
people & build relationships?



profiles.

When do you feel most confident in your knowledge

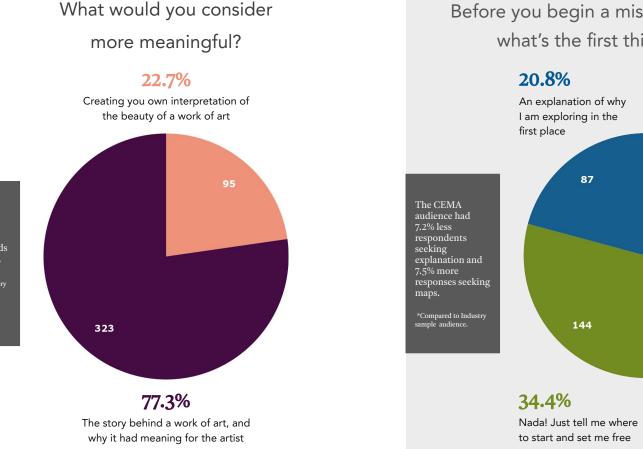
16.5%



You have an hour free in your day... How are you going to re-energize?

15.6% 22% Get Enlightened/Inspired: Get Social: Catch up Listen to a podcast or read with family/friends a book 65 92 The CEMA audience had 6.8% more "Get Moving" responses. 53 \*Compared to Industry sample audience. 208 49.8% 12.7% Get Moving: Walk the Get Creative: Re-organize dog, go to a coffee your room, create a mood shop, go to the garden board, puzzle, coloring

4.1%



Before you begin a mission of exploration, what's the first thing you need?

27.5%

own journey

A map to plot my

115

72

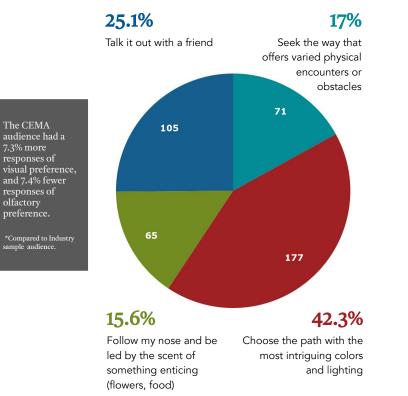
\*Compared to Industry sample audience.

A friend or trusted

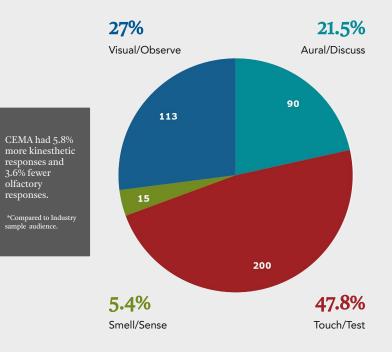
17.2%

colleague

You're on a trail and several new paths present themselves. What will guide your decision on which way to go?



You see something new, you want to understand it and learn more about it. Your first instinct is to...





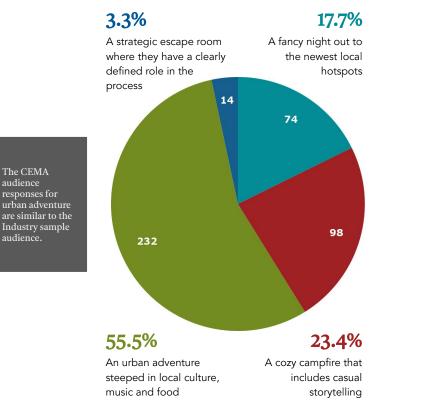
The CEMA

responses for

audience

audience.

#### What group activity sounds most exciting to you?



#### What type of learning structure sparks joy and creativity?

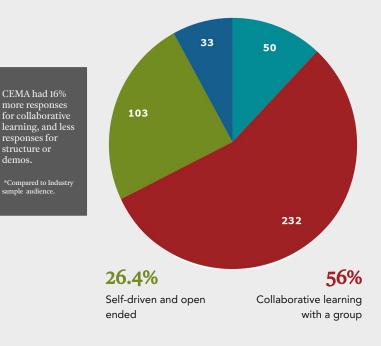
# 10

#### 7%

Structured objectives and written prompts

Cues from a graphic quide or demonstration

10.6%



#### STORYCRAFT LAB the art + science of experiential engagement



The CEMA

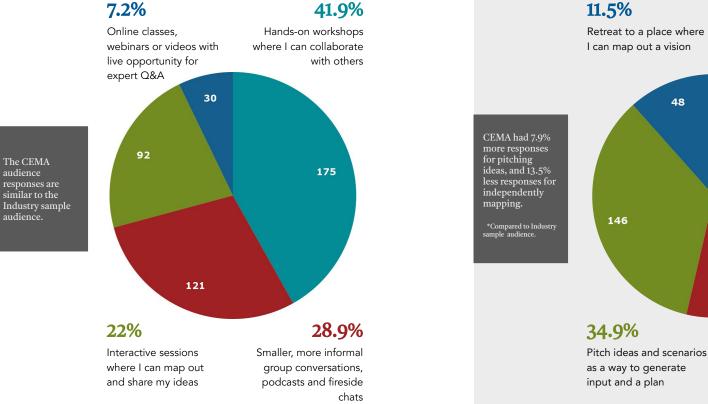
responses are

similar to the

audience

audience.

#### How do you learn best?



You've identified an opportunity

to create change for good...

# 12

29.7%

Recruit a team to help

124

make it happen

What's the first step you would take as a leader?

Leaders who understand the power of the collective and the importance of collaboration in building buy-in

Assess what tools we

have and need in

order to execute

23.9%

100

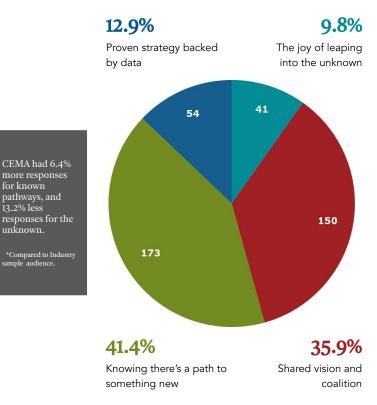


for known

13.2% less

unknown.

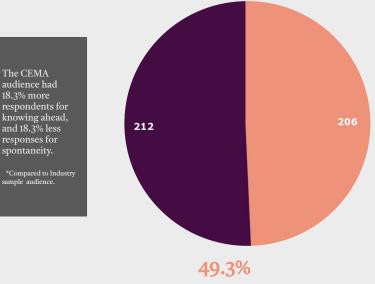
#### What inspires you to take action?



Which of these two conversation scenarios would you find most rewarding? 14

#### 50.7%

Experiencing spontaneity where organic ideas spark between participants



Knowing the subject matter in advance so I can bring points of value.

CEMA Summit Experience Profiles<sup>™</sup> Data Review

# Thank You! *Questions?*

naomi.clare@storycraftlab.com hello@storycraftlab.com



STORYCRAFT LAB the art + science of experiential engagement