

# Different by Nature.

# Visit Salt Lake 2014 Comprehensive Marketing Plan

# INTRODUCTION

Specific initiatives within each of the Visit Salt Lake's seven programs (in the following pages) will be developed for the 2014 calendar year to meet program objectives and the long-term strategies of our ongoing 5-year Strategic Marketing Plan. The initiatives will be outlined in our detailed annual work plan that will be continuously tracked, measured and updated each month.

The purpose of the annual work plan is to develop, implement, measure and amend marketing programs to meet demands in consumer behavior and travel trends to increase market share and visitor spending in Salt Lake County. All programs and initiatives in the annual work plan correlate directly to budget line items in the annual Budget.



Different by Nature.

# **BRAND PROMISE**

# **Different by Nature**

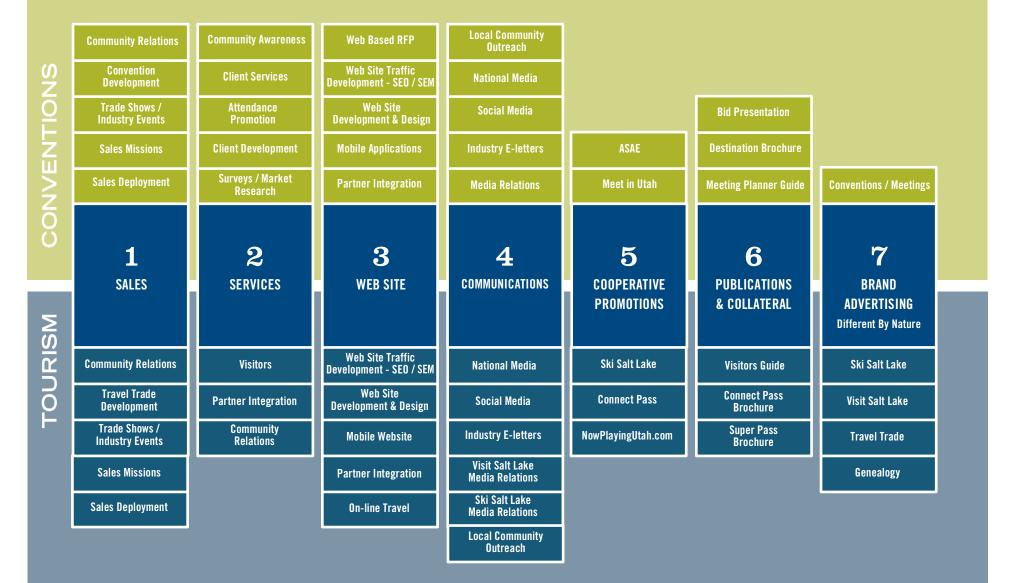
The notion that Salt Lake is not like every place else: the nature of our people, the nature of our services and the nature of our natural setting all make Salt Lake uniquely different. Salt Lake is youthful, fun, individualistic, outdoors, accessible, welcoming, accepting, with a service mentality that exceeds all expectations.

We are truly Different by Nature.



Different by Nature.

# WORK PROGRAM INVENTORY



# **SALES:** Community Relations

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Convention Committee meetings and Convention Sales meetings are held on a regular basis to ensure that maximum communication and synergies exist between Visit Salt Lake and the local hospitality community.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Convention Committee is comprised of:
- o major hotel general managers
- o Salt Palace general manager
- 0 Visit Salt Lake Executive Committee members
- 0 Visit Salt Lake leadership team

This committee meets every other month to discuss current issues, and provide direction for the Visit Salt Lake sales and marketing initiatives. General managers from all Salt Lake County hotels are invited to attend every other meeting.

• The Convention Sales meetings are attended by major hotel's director of sales and marketing. These meetings take place every other month and provide a forum to discuss key accounts, hospitality issues and the specifics of Visit Salt Lake's sales and marketing efforts.

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$4,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Six Convention Committee meetings will be held in 2014.
- Six Convention Sales meetings will be held in 2014.

### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Sales

# SALES: Convention Development

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The convention sales department utilizes a number of tools to book meetings and conventions into Salt Lake:

- Conducting site inspections for prospective clients is the most effective way to demonstrate Salt Lake's ability to host successful meetings and conventions. Site inspections also give the Visit Salt Lake sales team members, select hospitality partners and community leaders one-on-one time with the prospective clients.
- The Event Opportunity Committee evaluates Salt Palace rent waiver/rent reduction requests in an effort to increase the probability of booking conventions with the greatest economic impact upon Salt Lake County. The Committee is comprised of representatives from:
  - 0 Salt Lake County:
  - o Salt Palace Convention Center
  - Visit Salt Lake staff, including appropriate sales team members
  - 0 Visit Salt Lake Executive Committee
- Highly customized, comprehensive Bid Presentations enable Visit Salt Lake to communicate Salt Lake's citywide bids in a compelling, professional manner.
- Annually repeating conventions comprise a significant portion of Salt Lake's total convention business. Personal visits to these repeat city-wide clients demonstrate Salt Lake's commitment to their organization, convey gratitude for the business and help to ensure re-booking of their future conventions.
- Providing financial incentives to large, select city-wide clients is an effective method to land highly desirable business in a competitive market place. When appropriate, the pre-approved funds are provided to citywide conventions upon their arrival in Salt Lake. These funds are typically used for expenses related to shuttle, attendance promotion, and general convention marketing.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake hosts highly customized site inspections for targeted clients. Site inspections include tours of hotels as specified by the clients, the Salt Palace Convention Center, select restaurants, pertinent off-site venues and visitor attractions.
- The Event Opportunity Committee convenes on an asneeded basis to evaluate rent reduction and/or rent waiver requests for select groups. Consideration is given to large groups that create a significant amount of economic impact and convene during 'need' times.
- The Convention Sales staff utilizes a unique presentation 'package' for city wide convention bids, one that truly conveys the image branding of Salt Lake as "Different by Nature." The package is a box in the shape of the Visit Salt Lake logo containing a pre-loaded memory stick, designed as a, solar panel which contains the targeted bid presentation addressing the client's specific bid requirements. In addition to further conveying the brand message of Salt Lake, this unique, high-tech bid presentation is hand-delivered by a Visit Salt Lake sales person whenever possible.
- Members of the Visit Salt Lake sales team, with involvement from the Services staff and key hospitality partners, when appropriate, personally visit all repeat citywide clients on an ongoing basis throughout the year.
- Financial incentives to select city-wide clients are based on the competitive environment and evaluated on a caseby-case basis. Consideration is given to large groups that create a significant number of room nights and convene during 'need' times. As competition for city wide convention continues to grow, and other cities offer incentives, this sales tool will be come increasingly important.
- The cooperative partnership with the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) will continue to provide a comprehensive outreach to this important market leading up to and enhancing Salt Lake's status as the host of the

# CONVENTIONS

2016 annual meeting.

- The cooperative partnership with TEAMS-The athletic event conference provides a strategic outreach that builds upon Salt Lake's hosting of this event in 2013.
- Visit Salt Lake will conduct a small VIP Buyer Education Trip during the Sundance Film Festival. This event will allow us to attract key meeting planner that have been unable or unwilling to accept prior site inspection invitations.
- Visit Salt Lake Customer Advisory Board meeting will be held in April to provide direction, ideas and insight to enhance VSL's sales and marketing efforts.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$756,500

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- The Convention Sales team will host the Sundance Experience BET, and Customer Advisory Board meeting.
- The team will collectively host 162 site inspections; a 25% increase over the 2013 goal.
- Each Salt Lake-based convention sales director will complete a minimum of 104 outgoing prospecting calls and/ or e-mail contacts to new potential convention clients.
- Each executive meeting manager and national sales manager will complete a minimum of 240 outgoing prospecting calls and/or e-mail contacts to new potential meeting clients.

### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Sales

# SALES: Trade Shows / Industry Events

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The convention sales team attends select trade shows and industry events to meet with and generate leads from targeted clients. Attending these trade shows and events also enables the sales team to interact with existing clients, and enhances their awareness of industry trends and issues.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

• The convention sales team is attending the following 26 select trade shows and industry events:

#### TRADE SHOWS

- Destinations Showcase Washington DC
- MPI Tradeshows in Northern California, Dallas, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Cleveland Milwaukee, Raleigh, Atlanta and Florida.
- American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) annual meeting
- o ASAE Springtime Expo
- o HAMAI's Meet
- 0 Nursing Organizations Alliance
- o TEAMS-- the athletic event conference
- National Association of Sports Commissions
- Holiday Showcase Chicago
- o Meeting Industry Council of Colorado
- o IGLTA Global Convention
- o AIBTM
- o MPI World Education Conference
- o Connect
- 0 Collaborate

#### INDUSTRY CLIENT EVENTS

- Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA)
- Council for Engineering & Scientific Society Executives Annual Meeting
- 0 ASAE Five Star Weekend
- ASAE's Great Ideas Conference

# CONVENTIONS

 The Visit Salt Lake satellite sales directors participate in dozens of regional industry events and chapter meetings of MPI, PCMA, ASAE and other associations within their respective geographical areas.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$96,800

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• The Convention Sales staff will attend 26 targeted national convention industry trade shows and events that are focused on generating citywide group leads.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Sales

Directors of Convention Sales Directors

National Sales Managers

# **SALES:** Sales Missions

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Conducting highly customized, face-to-face sales presentations is an effective way to sell Salt Lake. Making the effort to visit prospective clients in their hometown further demonstrates Salt Lake's desire to host their meetings or conventions.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

• Sales team members collectively will conduct 55 sales missions to make personalized presentations to targeted clients. We encourage hospitality partners from hotels, resorts and the Salt Palace to join these sales missions. Whenever possible, sales missions are combined with travel to targeted trade shows/industry events in order to maximize the Visit Salt Lake's budget and staff time.

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$55,000

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• The Convention Sales team will make 55 personal targeted sales trips. This is a 38% increase over the 2013 goal.

### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Directors of Convention Sales

National Sales Managers

# SALES: Sales Deployment

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Each member of the sales team is deployed against specific vertical and/or geographical markets.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Four sales people focus exclusively on securing citywide conventions into Salt Lake. These are groups that utilize the Salt Palace Convention Center and a minimum of 750 rooms on peak night. Specific market assignments for the five directors include: Health/Medical, /Key Accounts, Corporate/Trade Show, Education, Social Welfare and Scientific/Technical/Engineering.
- Four sales people book meetings into single hotels and resorts. The Executive Meeting Manager is responsible for groups from all market segments that utilize up to 150 rooms on peak night. The three National Sales Managers pursue meetings that utilize between 150 and 749 rooms on peak night. The national sales managers are deployed against geographical regions of the country.
- One sales person focuses on booking athletic events and meetings of all sizes that produce room nights in Salt Lake County. Efforts are made to work synergistically with the Utah Sports Commission.
- Three satellite sales directors are located in the three geographical markets with the nation's highest concentration of meeting and convention clients; One in Washington DC, one in Chicago, and one in New Jersey. These sales team members work from home offices, and are responsible for generating sales leads within their respective areas.
- Three administrative assistants support the efforts of the sales team.
- One database administrator is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the Visit Salt Lake's Client Relationship Manager (CRM) software program that is used in all aspects of the sales process.

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

Salaries and Benefits

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

 Total convention room night goal for 2014 is the greater of a 2% increase over 2013 room night production, or 425,000 room nights.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Sales

# **SERVICES:** Community Awareness

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Community awareness campaigns conducted during conventions in Salt Lake assures a welcoming environment for convention attendees. In addition to extending hospitality to our clients, this service also heightens awareness of the convention within the hospitality community and gives Visit Salt Lake members opportunities to participate in convention-related business activities, including a sponsorship role if available.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Community Awareness Campaigns include the following promotions, based on peak room night attendance and client preferences:
  - Customized electronic greeting at Salt Lake City International Airport
  - 0 Window Clings placed in area businesses
  - 0 Salt Palace Welcome Flags
  - 0 Downtown Street Banner program
  - Sponsorship opportunities to maximize convention events
  - Special offer solicitation from Membership for repeat clients

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$45,000

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

 Receive the Meetings & Conventions Gold Service Award and maintain membership in the M&C Gold Award Hall of Fame.

### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Director of Convention Services

# **SERVICES:** Client Services

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Through implementation of programs such as traditional attendance promotion, revolutionary new social media outreach, site inspections and other client interaction, Services maintains a high level of customer satisfaction, thereby making it easier to retain current clients and to increase the positive perception about Salt Lake as a destination.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Services will actively manage meeting content profile on member area of VisitSaltLake.com. All Citywide meeting data will be available 6-12 months prior to convention meeting dates.
- The Services Department continues to host meeting planners in Salt Lake for their pre-convention planning trips and will provide any necessary information and services that will assist in planning a successful convention.
- The services team will offer convention specific microsites to groups to allow them to better showcase Salt Lake destination content along with meeting content. Services will audit convention microsite and regular meeting site content to make sure that the Visit Salt Lake brand message is best displayed to meeting attendees.
- The Services Department will create sustainable meeting guidelines and policies and provide meeting planners with information about Corporate Social Responsibility programs that convention groups can easily access.

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$42,500

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Receive the Meetings & Conventions Gold Service Award and maintain membership in the M&C Gold Award Hall of Fame.
- Maintain post-convention survey satisfaction average of 4.8 or higher.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Services

# SERVICES: Attendance Promotion

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Convention attendance continues to be one of the major concerns of meeting planners as they select a destination to host their meeting. Visit Salt Lake has been active in this process but as the meeting industry changes we will reposition the way we approach attendance promotion that will engage the meetings planners as a sales tool but ultimately drive more attendance and awareness of larger conventions before, during and after they are hosted in Salt Lake.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Services Department is attending as many as 6 conventions in 2014 for conventions to be held in Salt Lake in 2015 in order to promote Salt Lake the ideal convention and tourism destination to help increase future convention attendance.
- The Services Department will continue to offer traditional attendance promotion services such as customized e-mail campaigns, logos & photos, promotional text, and convention reservation links.
- The Services Department will now utilize Social Media Tools and will offer large groups a customized approach to attendance promotion campaigns. Social Networks Hub will be used to bring together and optimize current group social network sites as well as engage association members, exhibitors, thought leaders and Visit Salt Lake member businesses to increase attendance numbers.
- Meeting specific microsites will be offered to groups who are looking for Salt Lake information that can be accessed from their own websites. These microsites will feature a welcome to each group and highlight top items such as things to do, where to eat, events and Hot Deals but will be sensitive to room blocks when looking for places to stay.
- Convention profiles and booking links will be offered on regular site and can be accessed through member areas and on the booking widget.
- Conventions Services will actively work with a Marketing liaison that will be assigned to aid in the implementation of marketing tools for each convention.

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$27,500

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Receive the Meetings & Conventions Gold Service Award and maintain membership in the M&C Gold Award Hall of Fame.
- Maintain post-convention survey satisfaction average of 4.8 or higher.
- Promote Social Media Attendance promotion with a 65% adoption rate.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Services

Marketing Manager

# SERVICES: Client Development

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Services Department engages with meeting planners of booked conventions to conduct site inspections of hotels, the convention center and off-site venues to ensure maximum use of the most appropriate facilities and businesses available to assist in producing the most successful meeting possible. The Services Department personally visits various repeat in-state clients to maintain rapport, to cater to developing needs and to demonstrate that return business is not taken for granted.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Services Department conducts twice-monthly sales contacts to various repeat in-state clients.
- The Services Department will continue to host meeting planners for site inspections to showcase Salt Lake, meet the area's key hospitality partners and to inspect Salt Lake's meeting and hotel inventory.
- The Services Department continues to maintain an inventory of unique amenities for use in the sales process and for post-booking gifts to meeting planners, VIPs and other guests visiting Salt Lake.
- Using Visit Salt Lake's Customer Relationship Manager (CRM), Services will create new programs which will enable customized and personalized client contact and outreach. This will help to further distinguish Visit Salt Lake as one of the leaders in the convention services industry.
- Group assignments are distributed among the Vice President of Services, Director of Convention Services, and Convention Services Manager, based on factors which include: the size of the group, staff calendars, repeat or returning clients and other ongoing assignments and relationships.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$70,500

Salaries and Benefits

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Twice monthly visits to various in-state repeat clients
- Maintain customer satisfaction survey average of 4.8 or higher.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Services

# SERVICES: Surveys / Market Research

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Customer satisfaction is the cornerstone of the Services department. Providing great service increases the probability conventions will return, encourages meeting planners to spread the word, and also helps in selling future conventions. The Services Department conducts its own customer surveys after each convention to measure client satisfaction.

Conventions and meetings booked by Visit Salt Lake generate over \$260 million in direct spending in Salt Lake County. Knowing the economic impact patterns of specific market segments enables the Visit Salt Lake sales staff to evaluate potential business and identify markets that have the best return on investment. It also enables the Visit Salt Lake to demonstrate the enormous economic impact meetings and conventions bring to the community. Shared with the convention's meeting planner, this information is invaluable to groups in proving their respective value to future destinations. Visit Salt Lake contracts with the University of Utah's Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) department to conduct surveys and calculate economic impact, thereby providing a credible source for this information.

Taken together, these two measurement methods demonstrate in a verifiable and visceral way, the economic impact of the meeting and convention industry in Salt Lake.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

• The Services Department conducts its own customer satisfaction survey for larger groups booked by Visit Salt Lake to measure client satisfaction with the city, hotels, Convention Center, Utah Food Services and Visit Salt Lake.

Topics covered on these surveys include statistical information on the meeting, Salt Lake as a convention city, hotel and convention center information, and Visit Salt Lake sales and services. This information is shared with all entities who were involved with the convention.

- The University of Utah's Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) department conducts inperson surveys during selected conventions. Survey results will show the impact of conventions on the Salt Lake community specifically in the following areas:
- Average convention delegate spending
- o Transportation patterns of convention attendees
- o Average length of stay

### CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$31,500

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

 Maintain a post-convention survey satisfaction average of 4.8 or higher (with 5 representing "Excellent").

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Services

# WEB SITE: Web Based RFP

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake' Web-based Request For Proposal (RFP) provides meeting planners easy-to-use way and streamlined format that will be easily and quickly distributed to the appropriate Convention Sales staff member and to potential lead candidates. The RFP form will be globally featured on the meetings microsite.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Submit RFP will be one of the main navigation items featured on the Meetings section of the VisitSaltLake.com website.
- The easy-to-use RFP form will encourage submission and generate greater follow-up from Convention Sales staff.
- The RFP form integrates with the Visit Salt Lake CRM tool to generate quicker transferal of information to Convention Sales and other partners.
- This Simpleview RFP is also leveraged with EmpowerMINT. This is the industry's most comprehensive meetings database. It is a web portal that connects planners to CVBs to create a one-stop-shop for the growing online meeting and convention planning marketplace.
- Visit Salt Lake will continue is relationships with CVent. CVent is an online software tool for Event Management, Web Surveys and well as a global event directory with over 150,000 venues. RFP and leads are generated directly to Visit Salt Lake as well as our partners.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$5,000

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.
- Total convention room night goal for 2014 is the greater of a 2% increase over 2013 room night production, or 425,000 room nights.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Webmaster

CONVENTIONS

# WEB SITE: Web Site Traffic Development SEO / SEM

### CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake's web team will run key search engine optimization (SEO) strategies and targeted paid search engine marketing (SEM) campaigns to optimize and develop greater search results and traffic to the meetings microsite of VisitSaltLake.com. These strategies will be targeted specifically at meeting professionals and the potential group and meetings they represent.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake will work with the SEO team at Simpleview to optimize all meeting web pages and target key words and phrases that will increase our search rankings.
- Visit Salt Lake will continue a monthly paid search campaign with Simpleview to drive traffic on the meeting area of VisitSaltLake.com.
- Visit Salt Lake staff will increase content pages in relevant areas to allow better search performance in key areas.
- Press releases will feature new and relevant content about Salt Lake and will aid in search results for meeting information.
- Visit Salt Lake will work with Simpleview's SEO/SEM team to craft more enhanced analytics that will help display various meeting focused web results, including email delivery success, visitors analytics and most used pages.
- In 2014 Visit Salt Lake will work with Destination Analysts to conduct user studies of the Visit Salt Lake Website. Study will include usability and ROI of the meetings area of the website.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$108,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing Simpleview SEO/SEM Analyst Webmaster

# WEB SITE: Web Site Development & Design

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will create a new more visually enticing Meetings area of the website that will be easier to navigate and feature content most relevant to the perspective meeting planner. The Meetings site will feature Why Salt Lake, Salt Palace and South Towne Meeting Facilities, Meeting Facilities, Services, Convention Calendar and Submit RFP. Third party endorsement of Salt Lake's Meeting product will be weaved throughout each section of the site, showcasing the viability and desirability to host meetings of all kinds.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Meetings site will focus directly on our largest Salt Lake County owned convention Facilities, The Calvin L.
   Rampton Salt Palace Convention Center and the South Towne Exhibition Center in Sandy. Highlighting maps, booking information, virtual tours, and facility calendars.
- Meeting section of VisitSaltLake.com will include Why Salt Lake pages that will feature positive aspect of hosting meetings and convention in our area. Including, access, value, service level, destination appeal, etc.
- Meetings site will features other meeting venues that may exist in restaurants, hotels or in other Salt Lake area venues. Sortable tables are created to allow planner to search based on size and type of venue.
- Meetings tab will feature convention calendar and basic content for all meetings booked in the future.
   Information will be pulled dynamically from the Visit Salt Lake CRM.
- Meetings tab will feature meeting and business support and Convention Service provider members. We will enhance the ability to search business categories and display additional content regarding specific area of expertise.
- Meetings tab will also focus on the Convention Services that Visit Salt Lake can provide to incoming meetings and Conventions.
- Attendance promotion toolkit will be upgraded to include tools with downloadable logos, images, and videos that can be utilized and customized for each meetings planner as they see fit to promote their convention.
- Sports Event Planning area will include valuable links to/ from Utah Sports Commission website allow planners to access lodging and room block information as well and our online RFP.
- Meetings tab will continue to integrate "Green Meetings" as an important selling feature of our destination. The

Salt Palace solar panels and commitment to sustainability will be a common message throughout our website We will continue to all "green" initiatives of the Salt Palace, Visit Salt Lake, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, and if relevant, the state of Utah.

• VisitSaltLake.com/meetings will also provide links to/ from the MeetInUtah.com website and will develop strategies that will interact with statewide campaign.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$150,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Simpleview Account Manager

#### Webmaster

### CONVENTIONS

# WEB SITE: Mobile Applications

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will continue to use Mobile Website optimized technology to highlight Salt Lake as a viable destination for meeting attendees. Mobile site can be embedded in Convention applications or customized directly utilizing the Visit Salt Lake CRM database of Restaurants & Bars, Things to Do, Events and Coupons Offers.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake mobile website will continue to be optimized in an application look and style for ease of use by convention attendees.
- Visit Salt Lake will utilize event feed to display upcoming events by Today, Tomorrow or the next 7days. Events feed can be customized for the date of the upcoming convention.
- Visit Salt Lake can work with Convention Mobile apps to include PDFs of transportation routes, meeting schedules or even resort snow reports.
- Visit Salt Lake Mobile sites will utilize what's nearby functionality to establish businesses in closest proximity to mobile device.
- Visit Salt Lake will incorporate Trip Advisor reviews on any hotels or attraction listing. Open Table booking functionality will also be incorporated in 2014 on all Restaurant partners who use this service.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$10,000

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Webmaster

# **WEB SITE:** Partner Integration

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Partner Integration in all member listings on VisitSaltLake.com is designed to create greater presence and functionality to all member businesses with specific content that targets the meeting and event planner. Destination listings are also generated to provide a more inclusive, representative and relevant search for businesses and attractions in the Greater Salt Lake area.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Member listings include enhanced hotel, venue and restaurant page listings and provide links to meeting room specifics and details.
- Additional mapping features are utilized in member page listing including Google Maps street view, directions and "What's Nearby" functionality that allows or easier search of nearby members.
- Each member page includes up to ten (10) images, with links to possible video content.
- Links are being created to easily search out other businesses that planners may need to offer to their attendees. (i.e. hospitals, schools, churches, grocery, etc.)
- Visit Salt Lake's CRM integration allows members to update their own content, details and images.
- Improve content in member area of the site to provide complete and better information for the members
- Visit Salt Lake will continue to integrate destination listings from businesses and attractions that include restaurants, shopping, attractions, golf courses, hiking and biking trails, etc.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$150,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Webmaster

Vice President of Partner Development

# **COMMUNICATIONS:** Local Community Outreach

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will continue to contract with a local PR agency (Boe Marketing) to offer a Local Media Outreach program to incoming meetings, conventions and events, a unique and incredibly successful program within the meetings and conventions industry. The PR agency works in conjunction with Visit Salt Lake's in-house media relations' staff to provide exceptional service to VSL's meeting, convention and event clients. In addition, the program creates community awareness of incoming conventions and events, and the importance of presenting exceptional service levels to these impactful groups.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- In 2014, the Visit Salt Lake Local Media Outreach program will include extensive programming for incoming conventions and events, and distribution of key messages.
- The Local Media outreach program calculates and distributes the local and statewide economic impact information produced by Visit Salt Lake's sales efforts to targeted local media outlets.
- Convention key messages are disseminated to targeted media outlets throughout the local market.
- Local media outreach program will distribute key Visit Salt Lake messages, particularly economic impact and event information.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$40,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Generate the equivalent advertising value of \$10 million worth of positive earned media for Salt Lake.

### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Communications

Local PR Firm

# **COMMUNICATIONS:** National Media

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will continue to contract with a national PR firm to complement the in-house media relations staff and provide additional resources in order to execute an extensive national media relations plan. In addition, the firm works in conjunction with the Visit Salt Lake Communications team to develop a targeted, national strategy with key messages to specific markets and audience while strengthening the overall brand messaging and promise of Salt Lake being "Different by Nature."

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake and its National PR firm (Conran Communications) will implement an in-depth media plan to attract and produce relevant information by way of news releases and story pitches to the meetings and conventions media outlets (print and electronic magazines, and newsletters).
- The National PR firm will handle the coordination of a targeted media blitz with meeting/convention media outlets in 1-2 key target markets.
- National PR firm's outreach program will distribute key Visit Salt Lake messages. It will also continue to source sustainability initiatives highlighting the Solar Panel installation atop the SPCC and its benefits to incoming convention groups.

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$54,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Generate the equivalent advertising value of \$10 million worth of positive earned media for Salt Lake.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Communications

National PR Firm

# **COMMUNICATIONS:** Social Media

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake's Social Media program will continue to be an important way for VSL to reach, influence and share messages about Salt Lake as a destination as an ideal meeting and convention destination.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake will contract with Likeable Media Inc, to strategize, manage and program the VSL Facebook page. Monthly editorial posting calendars will be reviewed as a team and may target specific groups or events that may be in town during that time. Daily posts will encourage engagement and all questions and inquiries will be answered in a timely manner.
- Visit Salt Lake, in concert with Likeable Media, Inc. will also be active in the growth of its Twitter account and followers. It will engage and respond to all @followers during meetings or events that may be in town. Likeable Media will also be contracted to post and engage while listening to key words and phrases that may be particular to a certain group or event.
- The Visit Salt Lake YouTube Channel will feature videos that will be of particular interest to the meeting planner as well as the attendees.
- My Salt Lake Blog will feature 12-15 monthly blog posts that pertain to all aspects in and about the Greater Salt Lake Area. Blog posts may feature top interests including restaurants, hotels and things to do. Some posts may be specific to a current meeting group or event that may be in Salt Lake at that time.

Visit Salt Lake will engage in in photo sharing social networks, Flickr, Pinterest and Instagram. These channels will aid in creating a more visually pleasing presentation of Salt Lake through sharing and on our website.

• Visit Salt Lake, in concert with Likeable Media, will strategize and implement a LinkedIn program designed specifically for the sales team, as meeting professionals utilized this social media platform in greater numbers, and it allows for the most targeted one-to-one interaction between sales directors and meeting professionals.

# CONVENTIONS

#### PROGRAM BUDGET

\$140,000

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.
- Increase Facebook likes to 300,000 and Twitter followers to 17,000.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Marketing Director of Communications Communications Manager Marketing Manager

# **COMMUNICATIONS:** Industry E-letters

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will continue to produce a "Meet In Salt Lake" electronic newsletter targeting its top meeting planners and VSL clients, currently being distributed to about 4,500 people. These e-letters provide pertinent and updated information regarding new developments, projects and upcoming events to meeting planners with currently booked business and select industry colleagues.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- "Meet In Salt Lake" is produced monthly and includes new and fresh information pertinent to meeting planners and their attendees that may include:
  - o updates regarding new Visit Salt Lake programs
  - o city/convention district developments
  - o upcoming events and activities
- Salt Lake hospitality community news
- Each issue of "Meet In Salt Lake" will promote all upcoming conventions and large meetings. We will continue to make mention of the legacy of hosting particular past events such as the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, Outdoor Retailer, 2009 MPI and the upcoming 2016 ASAE event.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$25,000 E-mail Delivery Costs

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Distribute monthly "Meet In Salt Lake" e-letters to our targeted database of meeting planners with a 25%+ open rate.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Sales

Marketing Manager

Director of Communications

# **COMMUNICATIONS: Media Relations**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake conducts media blitzes throughout the year, targeting trade publications in key media markets, tailoring media messages and pitches to the publications' specific audience and keeping Salt Lake front-of-mind as a meeting destination. In addition, the Visit Salt Lake hosts trade publication editors and writers throughout the year, emphasizing Salt Lake's meeting and convention attributes and qualities while at the same time giving ample opportunity to sample Salt Lake's tourism-related attractions and experiences.

To assist print and electronic media with producing Salt Lake stories and articles, Visit Salt Lake will continue to provide a full menu of media materials for both print and electronic media outlets. These materials will provide all media outlets, regardless of format, the most current and up-to-date information and materials necessary to promote or enhance media coverage of Salt Lake as a year-round, world-class meeting destination.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

 Visit Salt Lake's Communications team will conduct a minimum of five trade-specific media blitz appointments with a focus on upcoming citywide conventions and their impact on both Salt Lake and the meeting industry.

The blitz messaging will include Salt Lake as a worldclass, year-round meeting destination and Salt Lake's "green" initiatives.

- Visit Salt Lake will continue to host meeting-specific media visits to promote Salt Lake as a meeting and convention destination, including experiencing Salt Lake's meeting infrastructure as well as its multitude of tourism-oriented assets: accessibility, outdoor adventure, cultural arts, dining and nightlife.
- Visit Salt Lake's media materials are updated on a regular basis, and include Salt Lake-specific news releases, an extensive online image library and high-resolution b-roll video footage.
- Visit Salt Lake's Communications team will continue to produce a targeted electronic meetings and conventions media kit. The targeted media kit and news releases reside in the media section of VisitSaltLake.com, while photography and video resides on a hosted site (Barberstock.com).

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$18,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Generate the equivalent advertising value of \$10 million worth of positive earned media for Salt Lake.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Communications

National PR Firm

Communications Manager

# **COOPERATIVE PROMOTIONS: ASAE**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will continue its three-year cooperative program that has been developed with the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE). This Corporate Partnership creates value and awareness with association executives leading towards the 2016 ASAE annual meeting that will be held in Salt Lake City.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

The ASAE Corporate Partnership include various elements. Guaranteed partnership benefits include:

- Year-round marketing recognition with each Signature Program and advertising credit to be used for additional promotional opportunities
- Partner recognition in Annual and Springtime programs.
- Access to ASAE proprietary research and survey results, membership database, and show attendee lists.
- Year-round partner recognition on web site, marketing collateral, press releases, and all publications, including Associations Now.
- Rotating logo on all pages of ASAE web site and Association Buyers Guide print and online.
- Exhibit Benefits include registration to and a 10 x 20 booth at the Springtime show and 20 x 20 booth at the ASAE annual show. This will include opportunity to distribute promotional materials in registration packets
- Promotion and access opportunity to conduct a roundtable with ASAE leadership and one focus group study with ASAE members
- Registrations to major ASAE signature events and four ASAE memberships.

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$130,000

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Total convention room night goal for 2013 is the greater of a 2% increase over 2013 room night production, or 425,000 room nights.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Convention Sales Vice President of Partner Development

Marketing Manager

# **COOPERATIVE PROMOTIONS: Meet In Utah**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Meet In Utah collaborative program is a partnership of nine of Utah's Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs) who seek to promote Utah's diverse and sophisticated meeting product. Meet in Utah is organized under the Utah Association of Destination Marketing Organizations (UADMO.) Meet in Utah's nine regions include: Cache Valley/Logan, Cedar City-Brian Head, Davis Area, Ogden/Weber, Park City, Salt Lake, St. George, Utah Valley, and Wasatch Area/Heber Valley.

Leveraging the successful hosting of MPI's World Education Congress 2009 and up-coming 2016 ASAE., Meet in Utah intends to continue with unified national branding and advertising, focusing on promoting the many attractive options for destination meetings and experiences throughout the state.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The MeetInUtah.com website will continue to be maintained and updated. Partners will continue to update text on the web site in a timely manner. A Utah print brochure is available to download from the site and a link to Utah videos hosted on YouTube.com
- An incentive gift is currently being offered to meeting professionals to entice them to submit an RFP online through the Meet in Utah Web site.
- A familiarization trip (FAM) for third-party meeting planners will be developed and separate FAMS conducted in three Utah regions: north, central and south. Partners will be actively involved in organizing and executing their portion of the FAM itinerary.

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$69,900 (total including partner contributions from 2013 and 2014) - \$25,450 commitment each year from Visit Salt Lake)

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• Successfully host five meeting planners and guests on three regional familiarization trips. Generate one lead per FAM for the MIU partners.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Partner Development

Marketing Manager

# **PUBLICATIONS & COLLATERAL: Bid Presentation**

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will continue to embrace greater and more efficient technology that will aid in the creation, delivery on meeting and convention bid presentations. A new online bid technology will be implemented that will allow Visit Salt Lake to leverage it's own CRM assets to provide an end product that both desirable to meeting planners and decision makers.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake will work with Simpleview, Inc to utilize their Bid Generator tool to leverage existing CRM assets.
- Bid Generator will allow bid to be produced in a variety of formats (Print, digital, online) in an attractive and professional format.
- Bid Generator tool will be highly customizable based on the groups needs. It will also easily integrate hotel room blocks and convention center contracts into one document.
- Bid Generator will be able to work with both large and small groups.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$20,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Total convention room night goal for 2014 is the greater of a 2% increase over 2013 room night production, or 425,000 room nights.

### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Marketing

Graphic Designer

Convention Assistants

# **PUBLICATIONS & COLLATERAL: Destination Brochure**

# CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Destination Brochure will continue to be a resource for convention/meeting planners and their members, convention attendees, Visit Salt Lake members and hospitality partners. This in-house published Destination Brochure will highlight Salt Lake's attractions and amenities, as well as that of the State of Utah, in an easy-touse and view format.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake will update, the Destination Brochure and print 20,000 in 2014.
- Distribution of the Destination Brochure is to convention attendees through the attendance promotion program, meeting planners via sales kits and sales calls, and hospitality partners using this brochure for Salt Lake promotional purposes.
- Content of the Destination Brochure includes information related to:
  - o attractions & entertainment
- shopping
- o dining & nightlife
- 0 culture
- o convention facilities
- o Ski Salt Lake
- o Salt Lake as a gateway to adventure
- 0 Utah parks & monuments
- 0 Salt Lake facts

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$5,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Total convention room night goal for 2014 is the greater of a 2% increase over 2013 room night production, or 425,000 room nights.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Director of Creative Services

Marketing Manager

# **PUBLICATIONS & COLLATERAL: Meeting Planner Guide**

### CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Visit Salt Lake Meeting Planner Guide is now a streamlined booklet that is a simple tool oriented that focuses on the key factors of Salt Lake as a Convention Destination. This piece also focuses on detailed information about the SPCC and STEC. Air access to Salt Lake, proximity of our convention district to both the airport and downtown amenities and Salt Lake's nearby outdoor opportunities will highlight this piece.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake will custom-publish and print this guide on an as-need basis. Only 1,000 pieces were produced in its first run and be reprinted and updated as needed.
- Hotel one-sheet information pieces can be included with Meeting Planner Guide as needed based on the request of the particular meeting or convention planner request.
- Convention Sales Team will still utilize Meeting Planner Guide as sales tool for in-office visits and trade show opportunities.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$3,000

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Total convention room night goal for 2014 is the greater of a 2% increase over 2013 room night production, or 425,000 room nights.

### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Marketing

Vice President of Sales

Director of Creative Services

# **BRAND ADVERTISING: Conventions / Meetings**

### CONVENTIONS

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake's branding for conventions and meetings will focus on the core business reasons that create our unique market position:

- City: a major metropolis moonlighting as a friendly mountain town: affordable and accessible with a wide variety of sophisticated amenities.
- People: friendly, service-oriented, eager to please and proud to show off their city; known for unrivaled customer service and hospitality.
- Setting: stunning backdrop of the Wasatch Mountains; incredible year-round recreational offerings and easy access to the great outdoors.
- Sustainability: As the SPCC now boasts the nation's largest rooftop solar installation, Salt Lake will further leverage its message of "Green by Nature" and a city that is healthy, active and sustainable.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

The advertising campaign will continue to leverage the sustainability message the SPCC has created with the Solar Panel installation atop facility.

Because campaign development is on a parallel path with development of the 2013 Marketing Plan, a detailed media plan is being produced as an addendum to this plan. In broad terms, the campaign is including, but not necessarily to be limited to:

Print

Ads being placed in major convention industry publications and through their online channels that target the professional meeting planner.

- Associations Now official publication of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE).
- Convene official publication of the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA).
- One+ (formerly The Meeting Professional) official publication of Meeting Professionals International (MPI).
- M&C Official Meetings and Convention Publication.

#### Internet

Electronic advertising is being increased with ads placed on major convention industry web sites to complement the above print advertising.

- Media plan is being based on selecting issues in which editorial is focused on Utah and/or Salt Lake, western destinations, convention centers, and other pertinent topics that play to Salt Lake's strengths.
- All advertising includes the VisitSaltLake.com/meetings URL to drive traffic to the meetings microsite and pertinent meeting and convention information.
- A percentage of the budget is being allocated to take advantage of new advertising opportunities within the year to extend the Salt Lake brand.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$220,000

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Marketing Manager

# **SALES:** Community Relations

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Marketing Tourism Committee will convene throughout the year to provide guidance and direction to Visit Salt Lake's tourism sales and marketing teams and to ensure that maximum synergies exist between the Visit Salt Lake and key Tourism partners.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

• The Tourism Committee is made up of Executive Committee Members. This group will meet quarterly, four times throughout the year to discuss tourism programs and how to convey messages to members and Tourism Partners.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$1,000

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Four (4) Tourism Committee meetings will be held.

### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Marketing Director of Tourism Sales

# SALES: Travel Trade Development

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Tourism sales implements a dual strategy in booking groups; focusing on Salt Lake County as a 'destination,' and also as a 'gateway' to the surrounding region. Key destinations include travel to targeted trade shows, sales trips, sales presentations, and hosting site inspections and FAM tours.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Creation of new group/FIT tour packages for domestic and international tour operators. Focus is on Internet wholesalers who can extensively promote and sell the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass, and the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass.
- A continued focus on face-to-face meetings with Salt Lake County hotel and lodging properties to enhance their business growth by educating them on the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass and the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass as valuable tools for hotel package development.
- The 'Ski and Save' rebate program will reward tour operators for booking group business into Salt Lake County.
- The tourism sales team hosts site inspections and familiarization trips for pre-qualified individuals and groups to educate them about Salt Lake's tourism offerings.
- The Tourism Sales Director continually refers the services provided by Visit Salt Lake member organizations to tour operators.
- The Tourism Sales Director continually and aggressively prospects each and every month for new business over the telephone and email.
- To sell Salt Lake as a gateway, Visit Salt Lake will partner with the Utah Office of Tourism and other Utah DMOs to leverage Salt Lake's proximity to area attractions, particularly the area national parks.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$18,000

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Tourism Sales will conduct 22 site inspections and host 3 Group FAM trips.
- Refer and record 528 tour planner services to Visit Salt Lake Members and stakeholders.
- The Tourism Sales Director will complete 180 prospecting activities.
- 100 sales leads will be uncovered and distributed to member hotels.
- 15,390 New Room Nights booked for Tourism Sales in 2014 representing an 8% increase over 2013.

### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Director of Tourism Sales

# SALES: Trade Shows / Industry Events

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Tourism Sales Director attends targeted domestic and international trade shows to meet with potential and existing clients. Our pro-active trade show efforts also present the opportunity to uncover and/or educate potential new clients on Salt Lake as a year-round, world-class tourism destination.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Trade shows that focus on 'Destination' visitors include: SkiTops Annual Meeting, Mountain Travel Symposium, Texas, Wash DC, Philadelphia, New Jersey and Chicago group shows.
- Trade shows that focus on both 'destination' and 'gateway' visitors include: World Travel Market London, ITB Germany, Go West Summit, International PowWow and NAJ Tour Operator Summit.
- One trade show that focuses solely on 'Gateway' visitors, the National Tour Association annual meeting will be attended.

Visit Salt Lake will also attend new trade shows organized by the Utah Office of Tourism in Australia and ITB/Paris Sales Mission.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$46,000

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Tourism Sales Director will attend 7 trade shows and industry events.
- 15,390 New Room Nights booked for Tourism Sales in 2014 representing an 8% increase over 2013.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Director of Tourism Sales

# **SALES:** Sales Missions

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Tourism Sales staff calls upon its top clients and prospective clients throughout the year, primarily domestic and international tour operators, in face-to-face meetings or presentations. These meetings give the Tourism Sales team the opportunity to promote Salt Lake as a leisure travel destination to group and top travel producers within the ski, motorcoach, genealogy and student/youth markets.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

• Tourism Sales Director will conduct three sales trips to make personalized presentations to targeted clients. Hospitality partners are encouraged to participate in these sales trips whenever possible.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$46,000

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Three (3) sales trips will be conducted to meet with existing and prospective clients.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Director of Tourism Sales

# SALES: Sales Deployment

### TOURISM

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Tourism Sales team consists of a Director of Tourism Sales and a Tourism Sales & Program Coordinator. Each plays a role in booking room nights and meeting performance measures.

The deployment takes a dual strategy into account; recognizing Salt Lake County as a 'destination', and as a 'gateway' to the surrounding area.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Director of Tourism Sales is responsible for new room night bookings, taking a dual strategy into account; recognizing Salt Lake County as a 'destination', and as a 'gateway' to the surrounding area.
- The Director of Tourism will also be responsible for the new online booking engine relationship with aRES Inc. and the lodging and attraction community that will transact business through that engine.
- The Tourism Sales Director receives support from the Tourism Sales & Program Coordinator, particularly regarding the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass, and the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass programs.
- The international sales efforts focus on visitors who utilize Salt Lake as a 'gateway' to nearby attractions, and on visitors such as skiers who view Salt Lake as their primary 'destination'. The Ski Salt Lake program is entirely focused on 'destination' visitors.
- The Tourism Sales & Program Coordinator will also work with the pass programs manager to service and sell the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass from November to April.
- The Tourism Sales & Program Coordinator will also assist as needed through the PR/communications and Social Media team along with others in the Marketing department.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

Salaries and Benefits

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• 15,390 New Room Nights booked for Tourism Sales in 2014, representing an 8% increase over 2013.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Marketing

# **SERVICES:** Visitors

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visitor Services encourage leisure and convention travelers to extend their visit in the state by maintaining a full-service Visitor Center. Services offered at the Visitor Center include tours, with special emphasis on The VisitSaltLake.com mobile site, the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass, Ski Super Pass, State and National Parks information, hotel reservation assistance and providing general information on Salt Lake and statewide attractions as tourism destination options.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Employment of (2) Information Specialists and 20 Volunteer Information Specialists to assist visitors to Salt Lake.
- Promotion of Salt Lake County and statewide attractions.
- Offering of assistance with Salt Lake hotel reservations.
- Visitor Services continue its interaction with Salt Lake hotel front-line staff.
- The Visitor Services Manager will continue to implement a Citywide Concierge Service, promoting the Salt Lake Visitor Information Center to the hotel front line staff as the most complete source for all Salt Lake information.
- The Visitor Information Specialists continue to promote and sell the Connect Pass, and Ski Super Pass. programs.
- The Visitor Information Specialists continue to interface with NowPlayingUtah.com and promote it as Salt Lake's exclusive events calendar, as well as that of the entire state.
- Visitor Services will fulfill all e-mail and request for information. They will maintain e-mail databases and report monthly on progress.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$10,000

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• Maintain a customer satisfaction survey average of 4.8 or higher (with 5 representing "Excellent").

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Service

Director of Services

# TOURISM

# **SERVICES:** Partner Integration

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Partnership Development will partner with the Visit Salt Lake members to assist them in marketing their products and services to those planning visits and to those interested in visiting Salt Lake.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The following member events are taking place:
   0 1st Quarter: Annual Meeting/Board of Trustees &
- Membership and one Social Media Seminar
- 2nd Quarter: 2Q Board of Trustees/Membership Meeting and one Member Connection
- 3rd Quarter: President's Forum (3Q Board of Trustees) and one Member Connection
- 4th Quarter: 4Q Board of Trustees/Membership Meeting and one Ski Biz Expo
- Three new-member orientations are scheduled and three round-table trainings.
- One educational member event is scheduled
- One membership survey is scheduled
- Membership works in conjunction with the marketing department to maintain and update CRM integration and further create greater presence on the Web site for each member business.
- Membership continues to encourage members to meet with the individual Visit Salt Lake departments most likely to refer their services in order to educate them about products and services available through their business.
- Visit Salt Lake member partnerships have been developed and will be actively marketed to help members increase their marketing exposure on VisitSaltLake.com, NowPlayingUtah.com, and the Salt Lake Official Visitors Guide.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$22,500

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- 252 prospecting calls per year
- Increase members by 4% over 2013
- Increase membership revenue by 4% over 2013

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Partner Development

Director of Partner Relations

Partner Development Coordinator

Membership CRM Coordinator

# **SERVICES:** Community Relations

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Membership Committee convenes throughout the year to provide guidance and direction to the Partner/ Membership staff to assure that Visit Salt Lake is addressing member needs and providing the marketing tools to keep membership relevant and of value.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Membership Committee is made up of Visit Salt Lake members, representing the major member categories of Accommodations, Dining & Nightlife, Attractions, Services and Transportation. This group meets quarterly to review membership activities and discuss member needs.
- Three roundtable trainings are scheduled, hosted by a member of the membership committee.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$1,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Four (4) Membership Committee meetings will take place.

## **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Partner Development

# WEB SITE: Web Site Traffic Development SEO / SEM

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will continue to invest in consistent, monthly campaigns to both optimize (SEO) all areas of the VisitSaltLake.com website to gain greater search results in organic rankings as well as invest in paid search (SEM) opportunities to grow search results of key words and phrases to drive traffic to targeted areas of the website.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake will work directly with the Simpleview SEO team to properly tag and rank all pages on the VisitSaltLake.com website. Monthly budget will be used to optimize all content and monthly report will be delivered to show all results.
- Visit Salt Lake will also work with the Simpleview SEM team to buy key words and phrases based around targeted promotions and top incoming events.
- Visit Salt Lake will increase content and create more pages in relevant areas to allow better search performance.
- Visit Salt Lake will be dedicating significant resources to the Social Media networks, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr to increase rankings with relevant social media searches.
- Visit Salt Lake's Web team is integrating all member content with its new CRM tool allowing for easier content creation and revisions.
- Visit Salt Lake will promote reciprocal links from all member businesses, and provide banners and text from which to link.
- Visit Salt Lake will utilize content from state-wide event calendar product, NowPlayingUtah.com but parse data to only display content relevant to Salt Lake County.
- Visit Salt Lake will utilize enhance analytic services from Simpleview Inc. that will newly include monthly reports on e-mail delivery performance, online commerce, database analysis, deeper website analytics, and advertising referrals.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$108,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILI TY

Vice President of Marketing

## WEB SITE: Web Site Development & Design

## TOURISM

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

VisitSaltLake.com, the official website of Visit Salt Lake will continue evolve while leveraging the new look, feel and brand that was established in early 2013.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The home page has been developed that will use larger sized scrollable images of the awareness of the beauty of Salt Lake to entice visitors to explore deeper into the website.
- Roll-over navigation platform allow visitors to find content easily and quickly, while being optimized for search functionality.
- VisitSaltLake.com will continue to use Simpleview's CMS web technology that will allow multiple users to create, edit and post content. Member listings, blog content and all page content will be searchable based on key words and phrases on the site's own search area.
- All member listings on site will be further enhanced with added map functionality, integration to Trip Advisor reviews, integration to Coupon Offers platform, add to Trip Planner, meeting room details and video integration.
- A new Media Gallery has been created that will feature many sets of photos and Videos, including a Pic of the day that is pulled from our Flickr group page.
- VisitSaltLake.com will continue to feature Green initiatives leveraging and building a stronger message of sustainability.
- Events area of site will utilize feed from NowPlayingUtah.com to allow users to search and find events located in Salt Lake county.
- VisitSaltLake.com will prominently feature social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, You Tube, Pinterest and Flickr as well as our own Blog that will highlight multiple topics in and around Salt Lake.
- A Coupon Offers platform is prominently featured on the website enabling members to offer coupon opportunities in many different areas. These coupons can be loaded by the members through the CRM interface and redeemed at locations with a printed coupon or by showing a mobile screen of the offer.
- Visit Salt Lake will invest in new research technology provided by Destination Analysts. This online survey group will study the intent and trends the people who visit our website and destination. This survey will also

study the usability of VisitSatlLake.com as a planning and informational tool.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$150,000

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

## WEB SITE: Mobile Web Site & Applications

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake will continue to invest in the development of it's mobile optimized website. It will still continue to have a usability similar to and application but be built on a mobile site platform. Tablets will continue to operate our full site but with customizations to the operating system that will allow full usability.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake will continue with its mobile site that will look like a mobile application for it's larger site but will in fact will still be a mobile site and pull relevant data from larger site with the ability to always go to the full site.
- Mobile website will feature top level content relevant to users: Places to Stay, Things to Do, Where to Eat, Events, What's Nearby and Coupon Offers.
- All mobile content will integrate directly with content from VisitSaltLake.com and NowPlayingUtah.com.
   Content changes will seamlessly take place on mobile site as they may be edited on regular website.
- Coupon offers will sort and feature mobile coupon offers that can be shown and redeemed and member businesses.
- Other functionality such as favorite locations, mobile mapping, one-touch calling and possible what nearby are also available.
- M.VisitSaltLake.com will be featured as one of the Green initiatives for Visit Salt Lake.
- M.VisitSaltLake.com will integrate with social media channels of Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and Flickr as well as our own Blog that will highlight multiple topics in and around Salt Lake.
- Mobile technology will be explored to possibly create a way for Super Pass and Connect Pass products to be transacted through our mobile site.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$150,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

# WEB SITE: Partner Integration

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Partner Integration in all member listings on VisitSaltLake.com is designed to create greater presence for each member business by increasing the size of their respective listing to complete/whole pages. Additional content and functionality is being added to each member listing to increase end-user experience, as well. Destination Listing will continue to be added in the categories that need a full more relevant representation. Restaurants, Things to Do, (inclusive of Golf, Hiking & Biking, Shopping) will be targets for these destination listings that only show, name, address and mapping location.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Member listings include enhanced hotel, venue and restaurant page listings and provide links to meeting room specifics and details, booking online and website links.
- Additional mapping features are added to member pages including Google Maps street view, directions and "What's in the Neighborhood" functionality.
- Visit Salt Lake's CRM integration allows members to update their own content, details and images.
- Banner advertising and featured listing opportunities are now offered throughout pages on VisitSaltLake.com. Visit Salt Lake outsources website advertising sales to Destination Travel Network (DTN) and in-house sales also contacts and sells advertising through membership packages on VisitSaltLake.com and NowPlayingUtah.com.
- Online hotel bookings are offered through a booking engine powered by the aRES,Inc Network. Revenues are created based on volume booked through this online tool. Booking widget has prominence on home page and Hotels, Things To Do and Special Package Offers pages.
- Destination Listings will need to be updated on a twice a year basis as businesses come and go.
- Additional content feeds are being looked at to provide additional content to VisitSaltLake.com. Alltrails and Open Table and just two feeds will be considered for 2014.

## **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$25,000

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Webmaster

Vice President of Partner Development

Director of Partner Relations

# WEB SITE: On-line Travel

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Visit Salt Lake Website features the booking engine technology that is powered by aRES, Inc. This booking technology includes Lodging, rental car, activities and dynamic and opaque packaging models.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The booking widget will be featured on new home page as well as all Hotel pages. Available to all visitors of website, convention housing services will also utilize as room blocks fill-up in Salt Lake area.
- aRES will supply call center back-up based in San Diego, CA that can either service existing reservations or book entire new reservations.
- Commissions will be offered for all bookings that take place through aRES booking platform or via call center. Revenues from bookings will further enhance SEO/SEM strategies for website.
- Hotel member pages are featuring online booking link that will go directly the booking engine that is powered by aRES Inc. on our site. A secondary link will be offered on each member page that will go to their own site that may offer online booking ability of their own.
- Special Package Offer links will be made available on booking engine.
- Special Package Offer links will feature promotions throughout the year highlighting Ski Salt Lake, Connect Pass, Holiday Shopping timeframes as well as larger events that may draw room night attendance but do not have contracted hotel room blocks.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$150,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.

## **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Marketing

# **COMMUNICATIONS:** National Media

Visit Salt Lake will continue to contract with a national PR firm (Conran Communications) to complement the inhouse media relations' staff and provide additional resources in order to execute an extensive national media relations plan.

In addition, the firm works in conjunction with the Visit Salt Lake Communications team to develop a targeted, national strategy with key messages to specific markets and audience while promoting the brand messaging and promise of Salt Lake being "Different by Nature."

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake will target the following print and electronic travel segments in key media markets:
  - 0 leisure travel
  - $\circ$  active outdoor
  - 0 adventure
- 0 health
- o gender-specific
- $\circ$  financial
- Regional publications, as well as daily newspapers throughout the nation will also be targeted to promote Salt Lake as a year-round, world-class tourism destination. In addition, as part of the Ski Salt Lake program, ski and snowboard media outlets will be targeted.
- Visit Salt Lake and its National PR firm executes an indepth media plan regarding Salt Lake as a year-round tourism destination, including the production and dissemination of relevant information via news releases and story pitches to an extensive list of both print and electronic media outlets.
- As part of the national PR strategy, the Visit Salt Lake Communications team hosts 10 media visits, coordinates four (4) media blitzes in media-rich cities, and updates and utilizes a comprehensive array of media materials.
- National PR Firm will continue to distribute Visit Salt Lake's key messages including Salt Lake's new developments and sustainability initiatives.
- Following all media blitzes and visits, National PR firm will handle the coordination of required follow-up with each media outlet and continue targeted media pitching efforts pertinent to the outlet and its audience.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$54,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Generate the equivalent advertising value of \$10 million worth of positive earned media about Salt Lake.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Communications

National PR Firm

Communications Manager

# **COMMUNICATIONS:** Social Media

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Visit Salt Lake's Social Media program will continue to be an important way for us to reach, influence and share messages about Salt Lake as an ideal leisure travel destination.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake's Social Media networks will aggregate and publish new and relevant content about Salt Lake throughout all of VSL's Social Media Channels (Blog, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, Pinterest and Instagram), while engaging individual travelers and driving additional traffic to VisitSaltLake.com.
- Visit Salt Lake's Social Media Networks include Blog entries, Twitter and Facebook posts, Photo uploads to Flickr and Video uploads to a specific Visit Salt Lake YouTube channel.
- Visit Salt Lake will contract with Likeable Media to strategize and maintain the editorial content on VSL's Facebook and Twitter channels.
- Visit Salt Lake's Communication team will work with Likeable to develop monthly social media editorial calendar for posting as well as listening/engagement methods to all inquiries and interactions.
- VSL, in conjunction with Likeable Media, will design and implement four (4) social media campaigns designed to increase followers/fans, engagement and drive traffic to VisitSaltLake.com.
- Visit Salt Lake will actively seek out blog contributors to enhance the collection of blog content. Blog Content will be featured on website, e-letters and Social Media posts.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$140,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.
- Increase Facebook Fans to 300,000 and Twitter Followers to 17,000.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Director of Communications

Tourism Communications Manager

Marketing Manager

# **COMMUNICATIONS:** Industry E-letters

## TOURISM

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Electronic newsletters targeting four specific Salt Lake audiences (general visitors, skiers/snowboarders, tour operators and genealogists) continue to be produced to inform these key markets about new programs, developments, events and activities pertinent to each segment. The four e-newsletters include "Visit Salt Lake," "Ski Salt Lake," "Tour In Salt Lake" and "Genealogy in Salt Lake."

In addition, VSL will continue to produce "Member News" to keep the members and targeted hospitality partners informed as to the latest developments in Salt Lake and within Visit Salt Lake.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Produced and distributed monthly, "Visit Salt Lake" continues to provide visitors and potential visitors with the most updated Salt Lake information and will be distributed to a list of individuals, currently, 80,000, that have opted to receive this e-letter. Each issue features an event highlight, lodging specials, a Salt Lake attraction, a member restaurant and nightlife location, and highlights NowPlayingUtah.com.
- Produced and distributed eight times per year (monthly in winter months and two summer issues), "Ski Salt Lake" continues to provide skiers and snowboarders with the most updated Ski Salt Lake information and will be distributed to a list of winter enthusiasts, currently 15,000. Each issue includes a seasonal feature story, video blog link, calendar of events, ski-related Web site links, featured vacation packages, "Local Lowdown" highlighting a prominent Salt Lake skier, "Dumps to Date" snow report and information on the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass.
- Produced six times a year, "Tour In Salt Lake" continues to provide tour operators with the most updated information regarding new programs, developments, projects and events happening within Salt Lake County, and is sent to targeted tour operators and industry partners, currently 2,000. Each issue features an attraction or upcoming event, the Connect Pass/City Tour or Ski Salt Lake Super Pass, Salt Lake news and hospitality partner updates, and highlights NowPlayingUtah.com.
- Produced and distributed every other month, "Genealogy in Salt Lake" continues to provide this extremely targeted market segment with the most updated information regarding new programs, developments, projects and events pertaining to genealogy in Salt Lake, and is sent to genealogists that have opted to receive this e-letter, currently 5,000. Each issue features updated news and notes on the Family History Library and staff feature, lodging specials and upcoming Salt Lake events.
- Produced and distributed monthly to Visit Salt Lake

members and targeted industry members, "Member News" provides updates on the local convention and tourism industry, member updates and industry topics. Currently sent to 1,800, the focus of this e-letter is to assist members in maximizing their membership, by providing marketing tools and industry information they can utilize to better service the visitor.

### PROGRAM BUDGET

Salaries and Benefits

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Increase visitor sessions by 25% to the VisitSaltLake.com, resulting in 1.5 million visits in 2014.
- Beginning in January of 2014, Visit Salt Lake will establish a new baseline for all active e-mail addresses. Goal will be to increase active e-mail database by 10% in 2014 and achieve an average of a 25% open rate for all email communication.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Marketing Manager

Director of Communications

Tourism Communications Manager

# **COMMUNICATIONS: Visit Salt Lake Media Relations**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Visit Salt Lake conducts various media blitzes throughout the year targeting travel-specific publications, on-line publications and newspapers in key media markets, tailoring media messages and pitches to the publications' various audiences while strengthening the Bureau's overall brand messaging and promise of Salt Lake being "Different by Nature," focused on sustainability.

In addition, Visit Salt Lake hosts domestic and international editors and writers throughout the year, emphasizing Salt Lake as a year-round tourism destination, giving ample opportunity to sample Salt Lake's varied and extensive tourism-related attractions and experiences.

To assist print and electronic media with producing Salt Lake stories and articles, Visit Salt Lake continues to develop and update a full menu of media materials for both print and electronic media outlets. Visit Salt Lake's media materials provide all media outlets, regardless of format, the most current and up-to-date information and materials necessary to promote or enhance media coverage of Salt Lake as a year-round, world-class tourism destination.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake's Communications team organizes and attends two (2) media blitzes to media-rich and targeted locations (New York City and Southern California), conducting a minimum of 25 one-on-one desk-side appointments with editors and/or writers of targeted publications.
- The PR team, in partnership with the Utah Office of Tourism and other hospitality partners, hosts a minimum of 10 domestic media visits to promote Salt Lake as a world-class tourism destination, highlighting Salt Lake's pertinent tourism product as it relates to the journalists' outlet and audience. Media outlets targeted include leisure travel, active outdoor, adventure, health and gender-specific publications.
- Internationally, Visit Salt Lake works in partnership with the Utah Office of Tourism to host 10 international media visits by journalists from Canada, the United Kingdom and Germany, to promote Salt Lake as an international tourism destination and/or a gateway destination. The international media outlets targeted include leisure travel, particularly ski, and focus on lodging in Salt Lake valley to take advantage of the varied product mix and resort accessibility.
- Visit Salt Lake media materials continue to be regularly produced and updated, and include Salt Lake-specific news releases, an extensive image library and high-resolution b-roll video footage.
- The Communications team continues to produce targeted electronic media kits, including a general Visit Salt Lake kit. The targeted media kits and news releases all reside in the media section of VisitSaltLake.com, while photography and video resides on a hosted site (Barberstock.com).

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$18,000

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• Generate the equivalent advertising value of \$10 million worth of positive earned media about Salt Lake.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Communications Tourism Communications Manager National PR Firm

# **COMMUNICATIONS: Ski Salt Lake Media Relations**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

To promote Salt Lake as the ideal ski and snowboard destination featuring one of the most flexible and convenient lift ticket programs in the industry, the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass, Visit Salt Lake cooperatively conducts media blitzes and events with its four resort partners promoting the Ski Salt Lake program to ski/snowboard, leisure, active and outdoor travel media outlets. In addition, the Ski Salt Lake PR program hosts ski and snowboard editors and writers throughout the winter, highlighting Salt Lake's four resorts and the Super Pass, giving ample opportunity to sample Ski Salt Lake's varied skiing options and Salt Lake's non-ski attractions and attributes.

To assist ski-specific print and electronic media with producing Ski Salt Lake stories and articles, Ski Salt Lake continues to develop and update a full menu of media materials for both print and electronic media outlets. Ski Salt Lake's media materials provide all media outlets, regardless of format, the most current and up-to-date information and materials necessary to promote or enhance media coverage of Salt Lake as a world-class ski/snowboard destination.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Ski Salt Lake PR team and its four resort partners organize and attend a minimum of 3-4 Ski Salt Lake specific media blitzes and participate in at least three (3) Ski Utah cooperative blitzes to media-rich and targeted locations (possible markets: New York City, Southern California, Texas, Florida, Denver, Boston, Washington D.C., Chicago).
- The Tourism Communications Manager organizes and attends three (3) media events, social gatherings and activities where Ski Salt Lake staff and its resort partners interact with a large group of editors and freelance journalists, discussing the many aspects of the Ski Salt Lake program, to media-rich and targeted locations (New York City, Southern California, Denver).
- The Ski Salt Lake PR team and its four resort partners host a minimum of 30 media visits to promote Salt Lake as a world-class tourism destination, highlighting Salt Lake's pertinent tourism product as it relates to the journalists' outlet and audience.
- Continuing on the success of the annual Ski Salt Lake Shootout, a competition among top photographers that again produced exceptional exposure to Salt Lake and its resort partners in 2013, the Tourism Communications Manager will produce and manage the Shootout again in 2014.
- Specific Ski Salt Lake media materials continue to be produced and updated regularly, and include Ski Salt Lake-specific news releases, an extensive image library, high-resolution b-roll video footage, and a targeted ski/snowboard electronic media kit.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$18,000

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Generate the equivalent advertising value of \$10 million worth of positive earned media about Salt Lake.
- Benchmark Ski Salt Lake positive earned media value in 2014

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Communications

Tourism Communications Manager

National PR Firm

# **COMMUNICATIONS: Local Community Outreach**

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Visit Salt Lake continues to contract with a local PR agency (Boe Marketing) to assist the Marketing and Communications staff disseminate information regarding Visit Salt Lake programs targeting the local community, including the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass and Salt Lake's sustainability message, via targeted local media outlets. PR agency also assists with the dissemination of large-scale events happening in Salt Lake (film festivals, sporting events, etc.).

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The PR agency disseminates Visit Salt Lake-produced program information to targeted local and regional media outlets.
- The Local Media Outreach program reinforces the Visit Salt Lake's economic impact on Salt Lake and its sustainability message level via media exposure for Visit Salt Lake programs in local and regional news outlets.
- The PR agency disseminates event program information to target local and regional media outlets when appropriate as directed by VSL.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$40,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Generate the equivalent advertising value of \$10 million worth of positive earned media about Salt Lake.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Communications

Local PR Firm

# **COOPERATIVE PROMOTIONS: Ski Salt Lake**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Ski Salt Lake cooperative promotion is a joint marketing, sales, PR and ticketing program funded by Salt Lake County, Visit Salt Lake and the four Salt Lake ski resorts (Alta, Brighton, Snowbird and Solitude). The Ski Salt Lake program creates greater awareness of the unique Salt Lake Super Pass and allows our local area hotels the ability to promote and package Salt Lake as a winter vacation destination with one easy-to-use product.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Salt Lake County is legislated to allocate \$450,000 toward the Ski Salt Lake Program.
- Visit Salt Lake is allocating \$200,000 from its public sector budget for Ski Salt Lake, and staff resources to execute its associated programs.
- Alta, Brighton, Snowbird and Solitude help to fund Super Pass promotions for the 2013-14 Ski Season in terms of 4<sup>th</sup> Day FREE Super Pass promotion.
- The Utah Office of Tourism has approved \$200,000 of matching grant funds for the Ski Salt Lake 4th Night & Day FREE promotion for the 2013-2014 Season.
- Ski Salt Lake has created a more easy-to-use booking page for the Super Pass program. This platform allows users to select and compare Super Pass price savings based on the amount of days purchased.
- Ski Salt Lake will be promoting the Super Pass through various tour operator programs in the 2013-2014 season; including Southwest Vacations, Delta Vacations, Travelocity, Expedia and Orbitz. Ski Salt Lake will be promoting a Save & Stay program that allows a greater discount f (from 15%-25%) based on a longer length of stay package that is inclusive of lodging and Super Pass.
- 150-plus Salt Lake hotels and domestic and international tour operator partners are established as sales outlets for the Super Pass.
- Ski Salt Lake will continue to urge participating hotel to feature products through top online travel agencies including Travelocity, Expedia and Orbitz.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$874,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Benchmark Ski Salt Lake resorts skier day total for 2013-2014 season.
- Increase Ski Salt Lake Super Pass revenues by 15% to \$2.64 million for the 2013/2014 Season.
- Benchmark Ski Salt Lake positive earned media value in 2014.

## **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President of Marketing

Director of Tourism

Marketing Manager

**Ticketing Manager** 

# **COOPERATIVE PROMOTIONS: Connect Pass**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass is a cooperative program that includes 13 top attractions in the Salt Lake City area in one comprehensive ticketing program. This pass product allows and encourages visitors to see multiple attractions with an easy-to-use card that hotel and tour operator partners are able to include in their Salt Lake packages, thus increasing their value.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass continues is a selfguided pass that includes admission to 13 attractions around the Salt Lake area.
- UOT has funded our Visit Salt Lake 10 Weekends promotion for 2014 with a \$67,500 Value. This promotion will highlight the summer's events but will also discuss and sell the positive aspects of the Connect Pass.
- Products will be offered in a 1-3 day as well as a 365 quantity. The Visit Salt Lake Summer Advertising Program will refocus on the awareness and sales of the Connect Pass for the 2014 Season.
- Comprehensive Advertising Banner campaign will be implemented that will drive traffic to the Connect Pass page encouraging visitors to "Buy Now" online.
- 150-plus hotel and tour operator partners are established as sales outlets for the Connect Pass programs.
- Cooperative Hotel promotions will be developed similar to Ski Salt Lake promotions where hotels will be featured promoting packages including the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass.
- Visit Salt Lake will continue to sell and market the 365 day pass that is valid for one visitation at each attraction during a calendar year.
- Visit Salt Lake will explore opportunities to involve other free attractions and coupons offering in and around the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$140,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Increase Salt Lake Connect Pass sales via hotels attractions and online channels to 20,000 days in 2014.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Director of Tourism Sales

Ticketing Manager

**Tourism Coordinator** 

# COOPERATIVE PROMOTIONS: NowPlayingUtah.com

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

NowPlayingUtah.com (NPU) is an initiative of the Utah Arts & Cultural Coalition (UACC). Development is guided by the UACC Board of Directors, Visit Salt Lake staff and the greater Utah arts and cultural community. Partners include constituents, recipients and members of the Utah Division of Arts and Museums, Salt Lake County Zoo Arts & Parks program, and Visit Salt Lake.

NowPlayingUtah.com is the comprehensive one-stop source for arts and cultural events, performances, exhibitions, sports, and recreation throughout the state of Utah. The purpose of NowPlayingUtah.com is to build audience participation in the arts and cultural community of Utah by encouraging collaborative strategies and providing a comprehensive online resource for events, venues, and artists statewide.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Software for NowPlayingUtah.com is licensed from Artsopolis.
- Content management is subcontracted to BeDynamic; web master services and grant writing are also subcontracted; daily website administration is managed by an in-house representative from Orchid Event Solutions.
- NowPlayingUtah.com sells and supplies data feeds of the content in an effort to increase the reach of events, reduce duplication of effort for partners statewide, and generate revenue.
- Weekly e-mail blasts are sent to registered subscribers seeking events information in Utah.
- NowPlayingUtah will continue to participate in the Free Night of Theater program with the goal of building audience participation by attracting new and nontraditional audiences to participating theaters throughout the state of Utah.
- NowPlayingUtah will be actively involved in pursuing marketing opportunities through the Salt Lake County/Salt Lake City Cultural Core initiative.
- NowPlayingUtah.com actively seeks revenue-generating opportunities by:
  - o selling/supplying data feeds
  - o selling website and email advertising opportunities
  - $\,\circ\,$  pursuing foundation grants and corporate financial
    - support

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$41,000

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- \$60,000 Fund-raising
- \$46,500 Website Sales
- Increase website visitor sessions by 15% over 2013
- Increase registered e-mail contacts by 10% over 2013

#### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Partner Relations

Director of Partner Relations

# **PUBLICATIONS & COLLATERAL: Visitors Guide**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Produced twice a year (Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer), the Salt Lake Official Visitors Guide is the recognized visitor publication for the entire Salt Lake Valley. The Salt Lake Official Visitors Guide is an indispensable resource for visitors, that helps them make the most of their stay, and is a primary response piece for requests for information about Salt Lake received via telephone, mail, Web site and e-mail. Visit Salt Lake will utilize a publishing partner Salt Lake Magazine to produce the guide. They will sell advertising, produce content with the oversight of Visit Salt Lake and handle distribution to all key channels both in and outside of the Salt Lake market.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake, through its partnership with Salt Lake Magazine, will produce two issues totaling 320,000 Visitors Guides. 170,000 for the spring/fall issue and 150,000 for the fall/winter issue.
- The Salt Lake Official Visitors Guide will focus more as an in-destination publication. Greater emphasis will be placed on things to do, maps and coupons.
- Distribution of the Salt Lake Official Visitors Guide includes:
- o individuals who request the Guide via phone, mail, the Visit Salt Lake Web site or email
- o convention attendees and individual visitors
- o members, including hotels, restaurants, and attractions
- o state and regional visitor centers.
- Content of the Visitors Guide includes information relating to:
  - 0 transportation
  - $\circ$  recreation
  - 0 arts & culture
- o hotels & lodging
- 0 restaurants & bars
- o shopping
- More than 25 Visit Salt Lake members advertise in each issue of the Salt Lake Official Visitors Guide.
- The Salt Lake Official Visitors Guide will be produced in a digest size allowing for easier distribution. The digest size, being easier to carry, will also aid in increasing the usage as a guide for visitors while in Salt Lake.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

Outsourced to Custom Publisher, Salt Lake Magazine

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Generate \$40,000 in Visitors Guide Advertising Sales

### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

#### President/CEO

Vice President of Marketing

Vice President of Partner Development

# **PUBLICATIONS & COLLATERAL: Connect Pass Brochure**

## TOURISM

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass brochure is an easy-to-use rack brochure explaining in detail the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass including each of the program's 13 attractions, unique offerings and pricing.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Connect Pass brochure will be produced in-house by the Creative Services of Visit Salt Lake
- Visit Salt Lake is producing 40,000 Connect Pass brochures.
- Distribution of the Connect Pass brochure is from the Visitor Center and local hotel properties, as well as to all interested individuals and groups upon request. Visit Salt Lake will utilize Certified display racks across the Wasatch Front with over 300 locations of distribution.
- Content of the Connect Pass brochure highlights each program's attractions, times and rates.
- Connect Pass Venues will distribute brochures at individual point-of purchase locations.
- Connect Pass brochure will also highlight new 365-day pass allowing one visit at each participating attraction over an entire year after the first redemption.

#### **PROGRA BUDGET**

\$9,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• Increase Salt Lake Connect Pass sales via hotels attractions and online channels to 20,000 days in 2014.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Director of Creative Services

# **PUBLICATIONS & COLLATERAL: Super Pass Brochure**

## TOURISM

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Ski Salt Lake Super Pass brochure is a produced as a companion piece to the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass as well as a quick planning tool for the Ski Salt Lake destination. Resort information, visual maps and Super Pass details highlight this 8-panel brochure.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Ski Salt Lake Super Pass Brochure will include a complete map rendering of entire Salt Lake valley the mountain resort areas within a 1-hour drive. Mileage chart to/from will be included.
- Ski Salt Lake Super Pass Brochure will include major UTA bus routes that access all four of the Ski Salt Lake resorts.
- 50,000 Ski Salt Lake Super Pass Brochures will be printed to be used for the 2012-2013 season.
- Ski Salt Lake Super Pass Brochure will be distributed in Wasatch Front Certified racks programs as well as Certified Ski Shop distribution through the Southwest and Southern California. Brochure will be a companion piece to all those who purchase the pass as well is Hotels and through travel partners.
- Ski Salt Lake Resorts Map will promote the 2012-13 package opportunities and cost savings.
- Ski Salt Lake Resorts Map will include resort details of each of the four Ski Salt Lake Resorts.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$13,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Benchmark Ski Salt Lake resorts skier day total for 2013-2014 season.
- Increase Ski Salt Lake Super Pass revenues by 15% to \$2.64 million for the 2013/2014 Season.
- Benchmark Ski Salt Lake positive earned media value in 2014.

### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Managing Director of Marketing

Director of Creative Services

# BRAND ADVERTISING: Ski Salt Lake

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

"Ski Salt Lake" is the brand initiative for Visit Salt Lake that focuses on the Winter Destination visitor product that Salt Lake has to offer. Ski Salt Lake features assets of the Salt Lake County Ski Resorts (Alta, Brighton, Snowbird and Solitude) as well the assets and the unique proximity of Salt Lake to be a complete and world-class ski destination. The Ski Salt Lake Super Pass is a lift ticket product that neatly ties together these destination assets.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- The Ski Salt Lake advertising campaign message is a value proposition of the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass: "One Pass, Four Resorts." and will be highlighted with the new Super Pass Program.
- The print advertising campaign include insertions in:
   o ski magazine verticals
- outdoor and travel publications
- o airline and regional travel publications
- A comprehensive Web banner campaign utilizing two sets of creative ads with static, gif-animated, and video web designs will be running on ski/snowboard-related Web sites. Over 100 different placements are to run on top ski content sites, regional tourism sites, ad networks and online travel agency sites throughout the entire ski season.
- The Ski Salt Lake campaign utilizes a paid search program on Google and Yahoo utilizing key words and phrases highlighting Ski Salt Lake and the four area resorts.
- Ski Salt Lake collateral including the Super Pass Brochure will have a message that will convey our "One Pass, Four Resorts" Super Pass Message.
- Ski Salt Lake will leverages promotions with top tour operator partners. Expedia, Orbitz, Southwest Vacations, Delta Vacations, Voyages Gendron and a few International Ski Partners. Each company will promote Ski Salt Lake within their product mix in exchange for marketing and sales support.
- Ski Salt Lake will be utilizing booking engine technology powered by ARES Inc., and will drive ad traffic to a promotional page that will feature Salt Lake and drive traffic to featured hotel partner packages on their own websites as well as VisitSaltLake.com.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$751,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Benchmark Ski Salt Lake resorts skier day total for 2013-2014 season.
- Increase Ski Salt Lake Super Pass revenues by 15% to \$2.64 million for the 2013/2014 Season.
- Benchmark Ski Salt Lake positive earned media value in 2014.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY**

- Vice President of Marketing
- Director of Tourism Sales
- Director of Creative Services
- Advertising Sub-Contractor

# **BRAND ADVERTISING: Visit Salt Lake**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The brand promise for Visit Salt Lake is "Different by Nature" focusing on the top area attractions that can be seen and experienced via the Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass as well as the top events and festivals that are held in and around Salt Lake during the Summer time frame.

### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Visit Salt Lake non-winter campaigns will once again featured the top events and attractions that Salt Lake has to offer.
- The Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass will continue to be our main attractions product that features 13 attractions.
  1,2,3 and 365 day passes will be available for sale through Hotels, Attractions and Tour Operator Partners
- Flash sale opportunities will be offered via, Living Social, Groupon, SL Trib Daily Deals and possibly others for the 365 Product to increase visitor as well as local traffic to participating attractions.
- Visit Salt Lake will again highlight the top events and festivals that take place in the Memorial Day to Labor Day Summer time frame.
- Visit Salt Lake has received \$67,500 from the Utah Office of Tourism co-operative funds to feature Summer Events in and around the out of state markets that are in closest proximity to Utah.
- Visit Salt Lake will utilize Newspaper, Radio, Online and Mobile advertising to promote Salt Lake Summer events, similar to the past 10 Great Weekend promotions.
- Visit Salt Lake will also utilize its Social Media Networks and Event Calendars powered by NowPlayingUtah.com to feature these top events Regionally as well as locally.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$227,500

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• Increase Salt Lake Connect Pass sales via hotels attractions and online channels to 20,000 days in 2014.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Vice President of Marketing

Director of Tourism Sales

# **BRAND ADVERTISING: Travel Trade**

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The branding for the Travel Trade market focuses on Salt Lake as the gateway to the numerous natural wonders Utah and the surrounding states have to offer. We are truly located at the Crossroads of the West "The Gateway" the perfect place to begin or end your travel western US itinerary with additional days in Salt Lake.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- To promote Salt Lake as the "The Gateway", ads focus on \$
   the proximity of all the National Parks located both
   North and South and promote Salt Lake as the best access
   point for all of these parks.
- Because campaign development is on a parallel path with development of the 2014 Marketing Plan, a detailed media plan will be provided as an addendum to this plan. In broad terms, the campaign includes, but is not necessarily limited to:

#### PRINT

Ads are being placed in major group tour industry publications that target the professional group tour operator and group travel planner.

- Courier official publication of the National Tour Association (NTA).
- Trip Planner for Student Travel NTA's planning tool geared towards student travel planners published annually with a global distribution.
- Group Tour published quarterly with regional editions that target the group tour planner in which pages are dedicated to each state in that region in each issue.

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#### INTERNET

Electronic advertising is increasing with ads placed on major travel trade industry Web sites to complement the above print advertising.

- The Yellowstone Journal co-op advertising is continuing that includes print advertising, e-mail name retrieval and Web banner advertising.
- Tour Operator co-op partnerships have been implemented with Tauck Tours and American Tours International.

#### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$46,000

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

• 15,390 New Room Nights booked for Tourism Sales in 2014 representing an 8% increase over 2013.

### IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Tourism Sales

Marketing Manager

# **BRAND ADVERTISING: Genealogy**

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The branding for the genealogy market focuses on Salt Lake as the "Genealogy Capital of the World". Genealogy is the fastest growing hobby in North America and the world's most popular destination for people in search of their ancestors is the Family History Library in Salt Lake.

## **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- Co-op advertising opportunities with hospitality partners interested in promoting genealogy packages is being explored.
- Because campaign development is on a parallel path with development of the 2013 Marketing Plan, a detailed media plan will be provided as an addendum to this plan. In broad terms, the campaign includes, but is not necessarily limited to:

#### PRINT

Ads will be placed in major genealogy publications that target professional genealogists and those that are interested in genealogy as a hobby.

- Family Tree leading "how-to" publication for the family history enthusiast.
- NGS Magazine The official publication of the National Genealogical Society

#### INTERNET

Because genealogy in Salt Lake can be directed at one of the most Web-savvy groups on the Internet, electronic advertising is being increased with ads placed on major genealogy Web sites.

 All advertising includes call-to-action to drive traffic to the VisitSaltLake.com website and subsequent content rich genealogy pages.

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

\$2,000

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

• 15,390 New Room Nights booked for Tourism Sales in 2014 representing an 8% increase over 2013.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Tourism Sales

Marketing Manager