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# A Social Media Plan for the Changemakers' Playground

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# CHALLENGE CONVENTION. CHANGE OUR WORLD.

A Social Media Plan for the Changemakers' Playground
Meng Cong
Ciara Kilian
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Sumanth Wilson
Chenyu Yan

MSPC 3999: Capstone Practicum Advisor: Laura Myers April 23, 2018

# Acknowledgements

The Changemakers' Playground Capstone group would like to begin by thanking the many people who have assisted us throughout the course of this project. First of all, this project would not have been possible without our client, Sarah Lange of New Era for NonProfits, whose creative energy and vision fueled our motivation to produce the best end result possible. We would also like to thank the volunteers of the Changemakers' Playground, Dee Wells (video editor) and David Posner (website designer), for working with us and providing any additional advice we needed.

Additionally, many thanks to Professor Mary Piecewicz of the Clark University School of Professional Studies (SPS) for making herself available to watch a rehearsal of our group's final presentation when our advisor was not available.

Finally, the group extends our deepest gratitude to our advisor, Dr. Laura Myers of the Clark University School of Professional Studies, for taking time out of her schedule to meet with us regularly and for providing valuable feedback on how to navigate what was, for many of us, the first time working with a client.

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# **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this project was to create a social media plan for the Changemakers' Playground campaign. The Changemakers' Playground is a website thought up by our client, Sarah Lange, whereby ordinary individuals doing extraordinary things in their community can be celebrated for the work they are doing. Each person featured on the website, also known as a Changemaker, was interviewed by Sarah and that interview was split into three videos to be posted on the Changemakers' Playground website throughout the week they are being featured. In short, our task was to create the Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram content to accompany each of these videos in order to maximize visibility and user engagement with the Playground when it eventually launches. The group was also responsible for coming up with at least thirty hashtags to accompany the posts which would again make the posts more visible to the general public and get more people interested in the project.

In addition to this, our group conducted extensive research on current trends in social media marketing and applied that information when recommending when and how to implement this social media plan. It was discovered that the best days to post are weekdays during the afternoon - specifically on Wednesdays and Fridays between 12pm and 2pm. Additionally, the group researched the best ways to measure success in social media marketing plans and provided a step-by-step plan on how to figure out what plan of action is best for the Changemakers' campaign. This process includes utilizing KPIs and setting benchmark goals to achieve success piece by piece in a more attainable and realistic manner.

**CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION** 

The client for this project is Sarah Lange of New Era for NonProfits. Sarah has devoted her career to the nonprofit sector and worked with many individual nonprofits before founding her own non-profit consulting business in 1999 known as New Era for NonProfits. She has consulted hundreds of organizations on how to improve their functionality and helped implement strategies for those nonprofits. With that being said, Sarah's mantra is to help everyone be the best version of themselves. She is passionate about making the world a better place and wants to inform others about the good happening in the world.

That desire to share the good work being done by others is what inspired Sarah to create the Changemakers' Playground. In short, the Playground is a website intended to highlight ordinary people doing extraordinary things. There will be one Changemaker featured at a time with three short interview videos posted throughout that week. The videos will be derived from an interview conducted by Sarah. In addition to the videos, there will be a section of the website where other Changemakers and any other interested users will have the opportunity to "play". This can be done through following the Changemaker on his or her social media pages, visiting the website of any organization he or she might be affiliated with, or donating to his or her cause. The Playground will also have a presence on social media to further enhance visibility and increase user engagement.

# **Purpose of this Project**

In short, the purpose of this project was to create and manage the social media pages for the Changemakers' Playground. However, this details of the project changed as the semester progressed. The original intention was to identify appropriate social media platforms to promote the Changemakers' Playground and, from there, create and implement a social media plan throughout the course of the semester that made the Playground visible to the general public.

However, due to constraints outside of the group's control, the project turned into a recommended plan which will be executed upon the Playground's launch at a later date. With that being said, the project group was responsible for the following tasks:

- 1. Identifying the appropriate social media platforms to promote the Playground
- 2. Developing a social media plan for implementation once Playground launches
- 3. Identifying at least thirty hashtags to be used for posts to gain visibility

With all of these objectives in mind, the group established the following mission for this project:

"To highlight those people and non-profit organizations who are making significant contributions to our community, bridge the gap between the non-profit organizations and potential sponsors via social media, and therefore enable these organizations to better serve our communities."

# Significance of this Project

First and foremost, this project is significant because its successful execution will help the Changemakers' Playground gain visibility and increase user engagement with the Playground. This is beneficial to the Playground in several ways, namely in that it will help achieve the Playground's purpose of spreading the word of good being done in the world. Additionally, increased visibility of the Playground will potentially help to find new Changemakers to be featured on the site, therefore fueling further engagement.

# What to Expect

In the subsequent chapters, the reader will be provided with an overview of current trends in the social media marketing industry in addition to a brief case study analysis of the social media strategies currently being used by several businesses and nonprofits. Additionally, there

will be a description of the proposed social media plan for the Changemakers' Playground and suggestions on how to best measure the successful implementation of the plan upon the Playground's launch. The paper will conclude with a discussion of challenges faced throughout the course of this project and a reflection of what the group learned throughout the course of the semester.

CHAPTER TWO: TRENDS IN THE INDUSTRY

#### **Trends in the Industry**

Life after the internet became universally accessible has changed the way we think about communication. This has become especially true after the introduction of social media into our everyday lives. People now have the ability to share their thoughts and photo, keep in touch with friends, play games, and read the news. Social media platforms have become the standard way for users to stay up-to-date on what is happening in the world. With an increasing number of social media users, there are endless possibilities for businesses and organizations to capitalize. With that being said, social media platforms are viewed as the "best opportunities available" for brands to connect with both existing and prospective customers (Statista, 2018). It can be predicted that, in the next five years, the importance of social media marketing will not increase in any way. In fact, it will entirely accelerate its rhythm by attracting more companies to join and extending its influence.

In order to give the client a clear understanding of what is happening in the social media marketing industry and to provide a baseline for this project, the group extensively analyzed current trends in the field. The following section includes a discussion of four trends in social media marketing as well as the presentation of several assumptions of where the industry is going.

# Trend A: Increasing Numbers of Social Media Users

It can be estimated that the number of social media users will increase enormously in next three years. As seen from Figure 1 below, the number of social media users worldwide reached 2.46 billion in 2017 (Statista, 2018). With this increased number of social media users, such as the participation of Generation Z, it is predicted that this number will reach 3.02 billion by 2021 with the largest number of users coming from China and India (Statista, 2011). The

figures below each provide more information regarding increased numbers of users and what platforms they use (Statista, 2018).

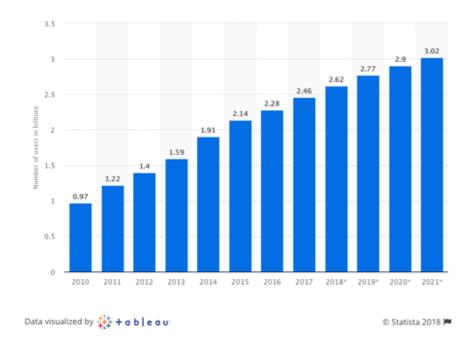


Figure 1: Social media platforms usage in worldwide in 2017

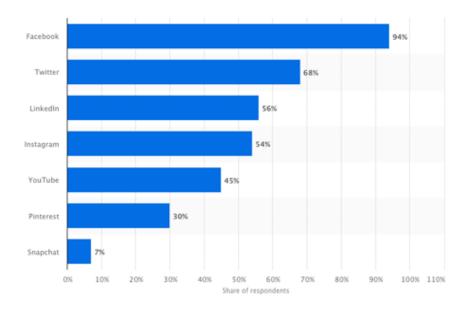


Figure 2: Most popular social media platforms in 2017

Trend B: Increased Marketing on Social Media Platforms

The statistics show that 93 percent of companies are using social media as a part of their marketing strategies worldwide. From the year 2011 to 2015, this number increased to 96 percent. Companies and individuals spent over 20.99 billion USD on global social media advertisements in 2011. With that rising trend, social media spending is anticipated to amount to \$45.39 billion USD by 2019. Additionally, social media advertising revenue is expected to grow from \$8.16 billion USD in 2015 to \$20.44 billion USD in 2021 in the United States alone (Statista, 2018).

With this information in mind, we can predict the following trends:

- a. There will be more brands engaging in social media marketing by 2018 and, with that, companies will invest more time and money on customer interaction.
- b. Artificial intelligence (AI), voice assistants and chatbots will help companies to improve customers' purchase experiences.
- c. There will be a rise consulting organizations working on social media marketing strategies.

# Trend C: Continued Investment on Social Media Platforms

In recent years, companies and organizations worldwide have realized the enormous benefits of utilizing social media platforms in their marketing plans. Between 2014 and 2016 alone, Facebook's annual revenue on social networks amounted to \$27.6 billion USD (Statista, 2018). Figure 3 below provides further details on this statistic.

Meanwhile, Yelp, an online review company, has earned \$713 million USD. In 2017, 69 percent of marketers said that interactions on social media helped improve customers' loyalty and attracted more attention (Statista, 2018). Based on this information, it can be predicted that

there will be more companies joining the market in the coming years. Figure 4 below provides more information regarding the anticipated amount of money spent on social media marketing.

Given the expected increased revenues, it can also be assumed that expenses on social media will rise tremendously as well. The most popular social media platforms (namely, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) provide free services to its users. Figure 5 details the flow of funds of Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Yelp from 2014 to 2016. These platforms rely heavily on income made as a result of advertising and, with that, it can be expected that this spending trend will continue.

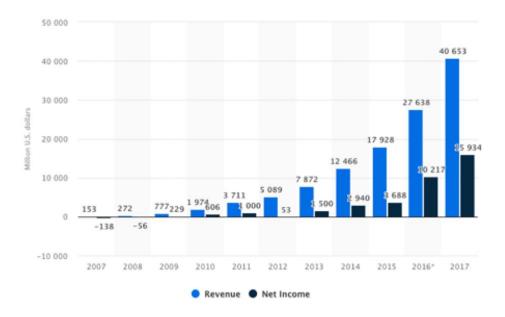


Figure 3: Facebook's annual revenue and net income from 2007 to 2017 (in million U.S. dollars)

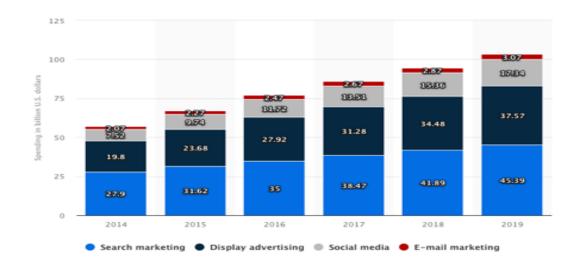


Figure 4: Digital marketing spending in the United States from 2014 to 2019

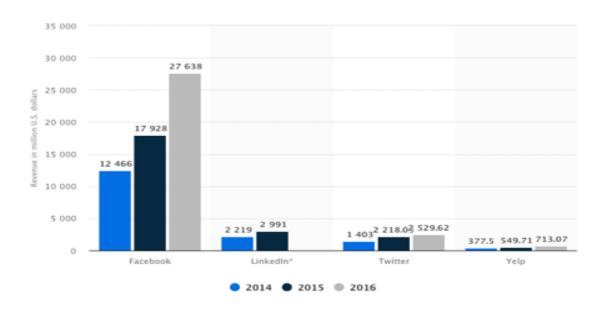


Figure 5: Revenue of selected social media companies from 2014 to 2016 (in million U.S. dollars)

# Trend D: Changing in Social Media Content

Social media is quickly changing. It is moving forward to become more engaging and compelling to use. Social media platforms are creating new functions and tools to attract more users and make themselves more useful in the real world.

One of the newest adaptations of social media involves the use of chatbots. They are changing the way we think about customer service. In the past, customers had to either call or email companies to get problems fixed. This process was took up a lot of time, money, and energy for both the company and the customer. However, at the beginning of 2018, many companies began testing Chatbots (Smartinsights, 2018). The increased use of Chatbots will make it possible to reply to inquiries and solve problems almost instantly. Geographic location will no longer be of concern. Thus, it can be predicted that Chatbots will be widely used within next several years.

# **Case Study Analysis**

To provide further information regarding current trends in the social media marketing industry, the following section will look at the social media strategies of five businesses and non-profit organizations and analyze their effectiveness in attaining user engagement. The five organizations are: the Coca-Cola Foundation, Victoria's Secret, Starbucks, Dove, and Charity: Water.

#### The Coca-Cola Foundation

According to the official page's introduction, the Coca-Cola Foundation was established in 1984 by Roberto Goizueta, the chairman and CEO of the Coca-Cola Company. The Coca-Cola Company is committed to giving back one percent of its prior year's operating income to the organization. This commitment is made through The Coca-Cola Foundation and company

donations. In 2015, Coca-Cola and the Coca-Cola Foundation gave back more than \$117 million to directly benefit nearly 300 organizations across more than 70 countries and territories.

Coca-Cola Foundation operates several social media platforms which include: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn. Like most other organizations, viewers can easily access Coca-Cola social media pages by clicking the links listed on the website. Additionally, the Coca-Cola Foundation has its own social media accounts separate from those of the wider Coca-Cola organization.

The Coca-Cola Foundation operates each of its platforms differently. While Facebook and Twitter post similar content that relies heavily on a combination of text and pictures.

Contrarily, the Instagram page posts more videos with shorter amounts of text. The YouTube channel works very well as it has all of the videos mentioned on the Facebook and Twitter pages. Although these platforms operate differently, they are work collectively like a social media ecosystem.

The most direct way to assess the success of a social media plan is to track the number of followers on each platform and likes for each post. The following chart (Figure 6) provides information regarding the number of followers on the Coca-Cola Foundation's various social media platforms:

Column1	Facebook	Twitter	Instagram	YouTube
Followers	1.12B	1.28M	72.5k	32k

Average Likes/views*	284	61	1433	435
Post Frequency (for each month)	9	12	4	21

<sup>\*</sup>Average likes calculated based on the data from the most recent 20 posts Figure 6

From the chart above one can see that the Coca-Cola Foundation has a huge follower base, however the average number of likes indicates that the majority of followers do not engage with the posts. Based on this information, it seems as though Instagram is the most effective and active social media platform currently and, because of that, it may be easiest to attract attention using this platform.

Another point worth noting is the manner in which the social media campaign managers craft the posts. When Coca-Cola Foundation's platforms introduce someone, they first provide a brief summary of the person as well as some of his or her significant achievements. This aids in drawing people's interest and makes them more likely to engage with the content.

#### Victoria's Secret

Victoria's Secret is an American designer, manufacturer, and marketer of women's lingerie and beauty products. Founded in 1977 as a response to packaged underwear, which the company's founder considered to be "ugly, floral-print nylon nightgowns", the company is now the largest American retailer of women's lingerie (Gritt, 2018).

Victoria Secret (VS) refuses to utilize celebrity endorsements and instead sticks with their own models (also known as the Victoria's Secret Angels). The Angels are selected from the world's major supermodel competitions (with elimination rates as high as 90%). The selection of the Angels in itself is an attractive marketing event. For example, Miranda Kerr, who was an

Angel from 2007 until 2014, has more than 11,720,000 followers on Instagram.

VS focuses on online marketing instead of on the product itself. In 1998, the company invested \$5 million USD to establish business-to-consumer platform (B2C) and began trying to sell online (*Sohu News*, 2017). In 2006, Victoria Secret sales website in the United States was listed as a top ten website for comprehensive e-commerce (*Sohu News*, 2017). In 2011, the company's online revenue had reached \$1.65 billion USD. In addition, the company has developed a process of understanding the customer's personality traits to better serve individual needs. There is a list of recommended products commonly purchased together and, as a result, the customer usually orders more orders than originally planned.

Finally, VS requires all service personnel to communicate with customers using the word "secret romanticism". This infectious conversation technique is very effective and, because of this, many items are often out of stock.

#### Starbucks

Starbucks is one of the most well-known enterprises both in the United States and worldwide. They have many great attributes associated with their brand including: great coffee, friendly baristas, and high accessibility as there are shops all over America. This presence of being "everywhere" extends to its social media pages as well. The table (Figure 7) below shows a comparison of Starbucks' followers over the last four years. The first set of data was collected by Travis Huff while the second set of data was collected by the project group.

23-Aug-14	14-Mar-18
37.32 million Facebook likes	37.21 million Facebook likes

6.56 million Twitter followers	11.9 million Twitter followers
2.98 million Instagram fans	16.1 million Instagram fans
2.86 million Google+ followers	4.82 million Google+ followers
160K Pinterest followers	334K Pinterest followers
32K YouTube subscribers	154K YouTube subscribers

Figure 7

As this chart indicates, the number of followers on Starbucks' social platforms has risen significantly within the last four years. The next two paragraphs will provide more details regarding the Starbucks social media strategy and how it has contributed to this increased number of followers.

The Starbucks Instagram page frequently utilizes color and beautiful imagery. The focus is placed on creating a pretty picture to make the customer desire the "look" associated with the brand. This, in combination with frequent posting and investing money in advertising, is why the account has as many followers as it does.

The Starbucks Facebook page is also posted to very frequently, typically a posting schedule of about two or three times per week. The content of these posts ranges from coffee recipes, recommended speciality drinks, and advertising new items available in the stores. The team is also regularly responses to both positive and negative comments, trying to find the best way to solve problems that customers face.

As a whole, Starbucks social media pages are incredibly well-managed. The company keeps an open mind and is responsive to its followers questions and concerns. This makes followers feel as though they are cared for by the company.

Another huge marketing strategy that the Starbucks team has established is the appeal of the "secret menu". These are items that cannot be found on the menu, and instead customers must specifically ask the barista to create them. It has attracted countless people to purchasing Starbucks products because of the appeal of exclusivity.

Finally, Starbucks is an expert in maintaining customer loyalty. It uses plenty of ways to advertise the brand. For example, in Christmas of 2017, Starbucks launched nine beautifully decorated holiday drinks that were only offered for a limited time. It raised a significant trend in social media. People learn about new products from both social media and word-of-mouth and then to the store to buy them. They then proceed to share their opinions and pictures on their personal social media pages, which then makes their own followers eager to try them. All in all, Starbucks most definitely has strategically created a social media plan that keeps the money flowing and the likes coming.

#### Dove

Dove brings a unique perspective to this analysis in that they have utilized their social media plan to sell a mentality rather than a specific product. In 2004, the body care brand launched its 'Real Beauty' campaign which sought to celebrate natural beauty and changed the way America thinks about photoshopping models. This came at a time when the company was looking to rebrand and, in the process, discovered that "only 2 percent of the women interviewed considered themselves beautiful" (Bahadur, 2014). Needless to say, Dove saw its opportunity to reestablish itself as a major brand in the beauty industry and ran with it. Now, it is one of the first brands people think of when asked about brands that spread body-positive messages.

Additionally, Dove has increased its sale to \$4 billion compared to the \$2.5 billion when the campaign first started (Skene, 2014).

In looking more closely at the brand's social media pages, it is easy to see why Dove is has had such success with its Real Beauty Campaign. While the numerous commercials and videos have been a huge part of their strategy, Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter have been integral as well. Instagram and Facebook are primarily used for advertising new products and customers sharing reviews on those products. The Dove page is very interactive with its customers, which in turn makes them feel as though the brand cares about them.

The Dove Twitter page is particularly important to the brand's social media plan because it provides an added level of customer service that feels even more personal than the other platforms. According to the company's Twitter page, "Dove is committed to helping all women realize their personal beauty potential by creating products that deliver real care". This statement indicates that they seek to help their customers by empowering them with a message of body positivity and creating products that make them feel as such. When a customer scrolls through the brand's Twitter page, they do not see a lot of 'product talk'. Instead, they see dozens of stories of women who use Dove products telling their stories of body positivity, self-esteem, and heightened confidence. This is a strategic move because it demonstrates to customers that they have a role within Dove and that the company truly is looking to help them.

# Charity: Water

Charity: Water is a non-profit organization that was founded by Scott Harrison. The organization is dedicated to drilling wells in impoverished communities around the globe and has raised more than \$100 million dollars USD (Charity: Water, 2018). They have been serving some of the world's most vulnerable populations through providing access to the most basic human need - water. The organization has been able to raise such a huge funding base because of the relationship it developed with donors.

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Mayank Dhingra, a employee of Open Air says that donor relationships are "the key currency for nonprofits and social media" and that maintaining frequent communication is a fantastic way to build and maintain good relationships (Linkedin, 2017). This is exactly what Charity: Water does. They use social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and Tumblr to connect people all over the world with an interest in improving access to water.

In the seven years since the organization's foundation, Charity: Water has raised over \$100 million USD, allowing them to reach over 500,000 people (Charity:Water, 2018). What is particularly interesting about this organization is that Charity: Water claims to spend no money on marketing. This raises the question: "How are they successful as a non-profit organization in raising funds?" The simple answer is that they use social media to maintain relationships with current and potential donors as well as other individuals who are interested in the organization's work.

The next question is concerning how the nonprofit maintains relationships with their donors and other stakeholders. First of all, they create content based on what they know their followers want to see. This encourages more content engagement and gets more individuals interested in the organization's work. Additionally, the content usually contains compelling images and tells a story about a specific person impacted by their work. This person can be either someone who has gained access to water or a donor of the organization. All in all, it has helped the organization gain a huge following on their various social media pages and, as a result, helped them increase the amount of money they have to attain the mission of the organization.

IANGEMAKERS' PLAYGROUND	2	
CHAPTER THREE: RECOMMENDED SOCIAL MEDIA PLAN		

**ANALYSIS** 

#### Overview

The following chapter is split into two different sections: the Recommended Social Media Plan and the Proposed Data Analysis methods. The first will provide a brief description of how the plan should be implemented and includes each of the posts for the plan. The second will discuss several recommendations for exactly how to keep track of user engagement and measure the success of the posting plan.

#### The Recommended Social Media Plan

After the team conducted our initial research and met with the client, it was finally decided that the Changemakers' Playground would have a presence on the following social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. This would require the creation of a new account for each platform with the account name of Changemakers' Playground. Although the client mentioned her preference for using her personal Instagram account, the team is recommending using the same username for the Changemakers' Playground across all platforms to make it easiest for users to engage with the account and find each page.

Currently, the plan involves featuring one Changemaker each week. Each interview has been edited into three separate videos to be posted on three days of that week (typically Monday, Wednesday, and Friday work best). When each video is posted to the Changemakers' website, there will be a Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram post to inform followers that another interview has been posted and direct them to the website. The project team recommends the posts include the following information about each Changemakers:

- Introduction of the Changemaker, including a picture.
- Description and official picture of the Changemaker's organization (if they are affiliated with one)

• List of that Changemaker's achievements and pictures (if available).

It is also important to take into consideration when (both time of day and day) to post to social media. Figure 8, shown below, provides the following information on when is best to post to Facebook:

- The best times to post on Facebook for nonprofits is Wednesday and Friday at 2 p.m.
- Other notably high engagement times include Monday at 9 a.m., Tuesday at 6 p.m., Thursday at 10 a.m. and noon and Friday at 9 and 11 a.m.
- The safest times to post are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays.
- Sunday has the least amount of engagement for nonprofits on Facebook.
- Weekends and Mondays see less engagement in the week for nonprofits on Facebook.

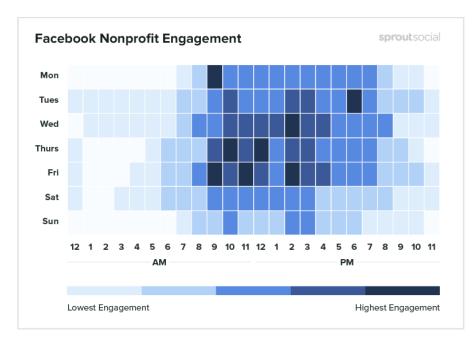


Figure 8. Source: SproutSocial

Figure 9 provides a description of when is best to post on Instagram:

• The best time to post on Instagram for nonprofits is Friday at noon.

- Other notably high engagement times include Tuesday at 3 and 9 p.m.,
   Wednesday 3 to 4 p.m., Thursday 2 to 3 p.m. and Friday at 10 a.m.
- The safest times to post are weekdays from noon to 5 p.m.
- Saturday has the least amount of engagement for nonprofits

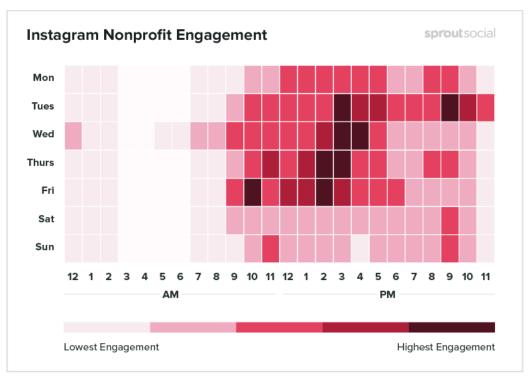


Figure 9. Source: SproutSocial

Finally, Figure 10 provides an indication of when the best times are to post on Twitter:

- The best times to post on Twitter for nonprofits are Thursday at noon and Friday 11 a.m. to noon.
- Other notably high engagement times include 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
- The safest times to post are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sunday has the least amount of engagement for nonprofits on Twitter.

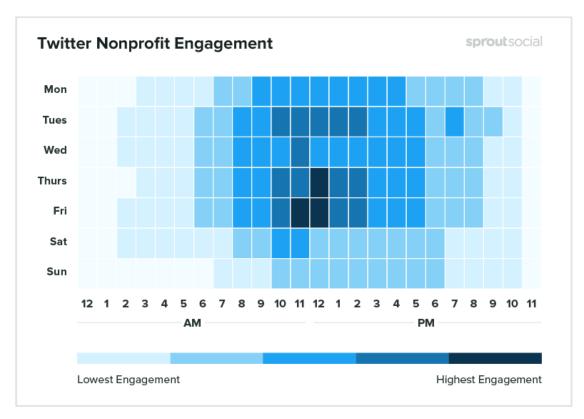


Figure 10. Source: SproutSocial

An additional component to this project was including at least thirty hashtags with each post to increase visibility and user engagement. As such, below is a list of all hashtags included throughout the posts: #ChangemakersPlayground #nonprofit #SimonSaysGive #kidshelpingkids #youngchangemakers #bethechange #inspirechange #educationaccess #socialjustice #careerchangemakers #Changemaker #femaleempowerment #bodypositive #spirituality #nonprofitorganizations #socialchange #inspiring #fundraising #MassachusettsAdvocatesforChildren #BostonChildrensChorus #HigherGround #Boston #Massachusetts #serveyourcommunity #serviceagencies #fitnesscoach #struggle #depression #mentalhealth #AmericanNinjaWarrior #inspirations #nature #LakotaYouth #music #poweroffilm #storytelling

In the pages to follow, the reader will see each post for which the group created content.

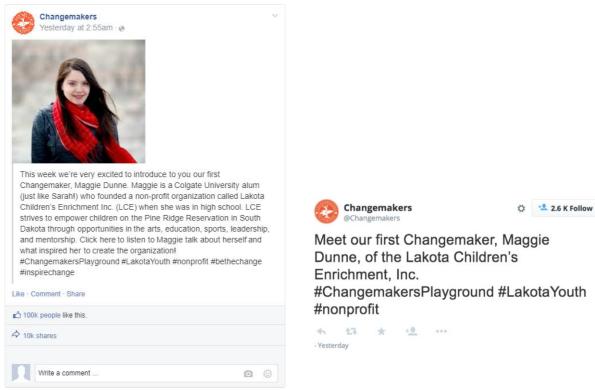
The featured Changemakers our team created content for are as follows: Maggie Dunne, Dan

Holguin, Sarah Jenks, Simon Eber, Hubie Jones, Elizabeth Sookey Sunde, Julia Saluder, and Dee

Wells.

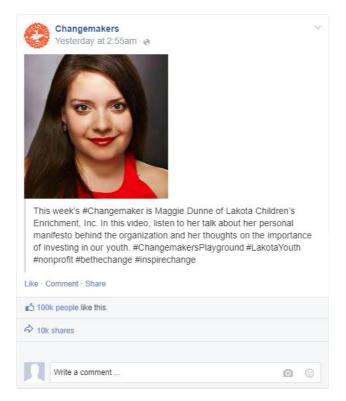
# Changemaker 1: Maggie Dunne

# Posts for Video 1





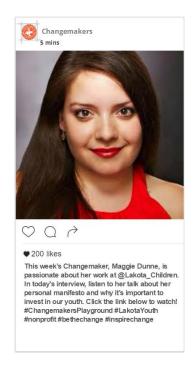
Posts for Video 2





This week's Changemaker, Maggie Dunne, is passionate about her work at @Lakota\_Children.





#### Posts for Video 3





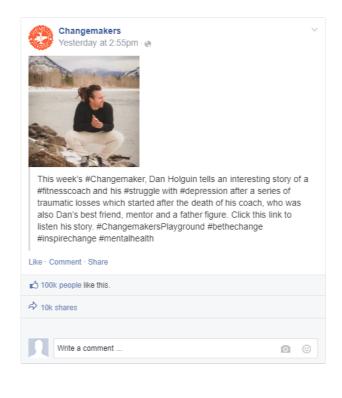
Our #Changemaker for the week, Maggie Dunne, has BIG plans for the Lakota Children's Enrichment, Inc. Watch Sarah's final interview here

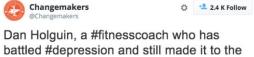




# Changemaker 2: Dan Holguin

# Posts for Video 1





battled #depression and still made it to the NBC's hit show #AmericanNinjaWarrior twice! Click the link





# Posts for Video 2





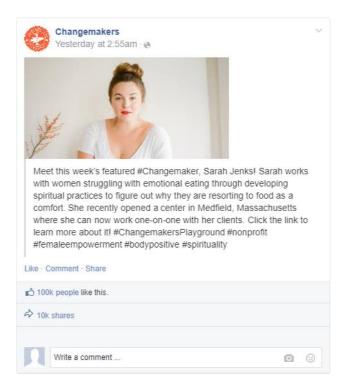


Want to know more about what inspires this week's #Changemaker, Dan Holguin? Click this link to find out! #ChangemakersPlayground



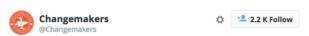
# Changemaker 3: Sarah Jenks

#### Posts for Video 1





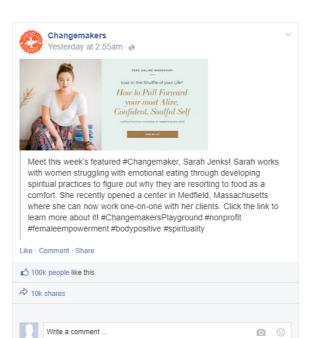




To quote this week's #Changemaker, Sarah Jenks, "women forget that they matter". Follow the link to listen to her story

\* +0 ...

4 23 - Yesterday





It is no secret that this week's featured #Changemaker, Sarah Jenks, wants to bridge resources for women to feel comfortable in themselves and develop positive eating habits. What holds them back? "Women forget that they matter", Sarah says. Click the link below to hear Sarah talk about why every woman should prioritize themselves! #ChangemakersPlayground #nonprofit #femaleempowerment #bodypositive





This week's featured #Changemaker, Sarah Jenks, has big plans for her future. Click here to listen to her talk about it! #Changemakers





## Changemaker 4: Simon Eber

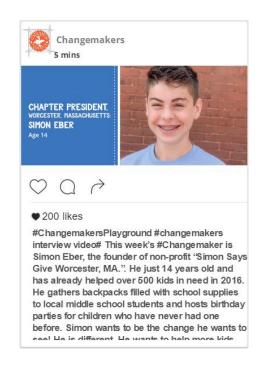
### Posts for Video 1





Our #Changemaker, Simon Eber, runs a nonprofit called Simon Says Give. They provide backpacks to middle schoolers. Click the link to watch





1.4 K Follow



"I want Simon Says Give Worcester to become Simon Says Give Massachusetts", says this week's #Changemaker, Simon Eber. Click this link.







## Changemaker 5: Hubie Jones

### Posts for Video 1





Meet this week's #Changemaker, Hubie Jones. A #careerchangemaker, Hubie has started and founded over two dozens organizations in Boston!





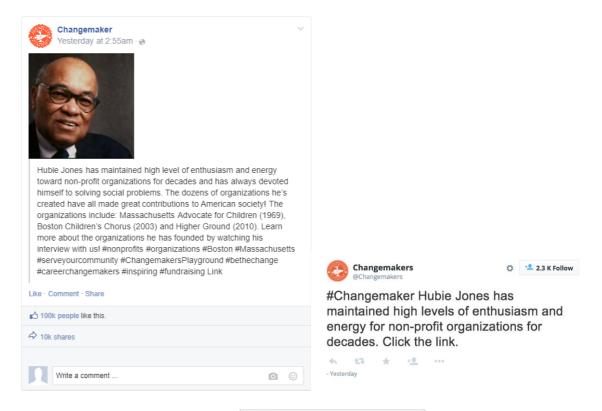




Check our website to learn about this week's #Changemaker Hubie Jones's most recent project which provides free health services!

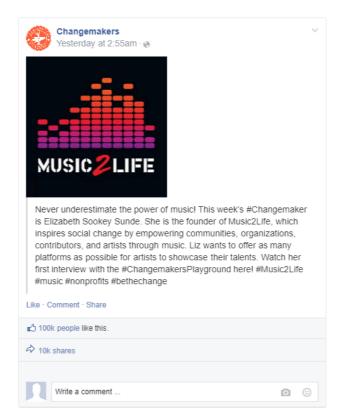








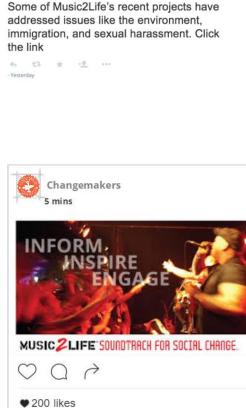
## Changemaker 6: Elizabeth Sookey Sunde











Do you love music? Are you interested in important issues like the environment, immigration, or gender equality? Music2Life investigates the power of music to influence social change. Watch the interview with this week's featured #Changemaker, Liz, to learn more about

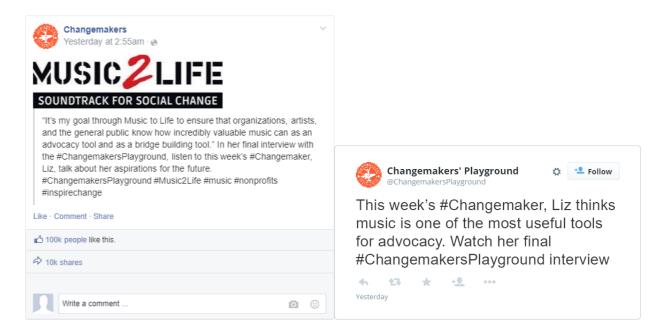
#ChangemakersPlayground #Music2Life #music

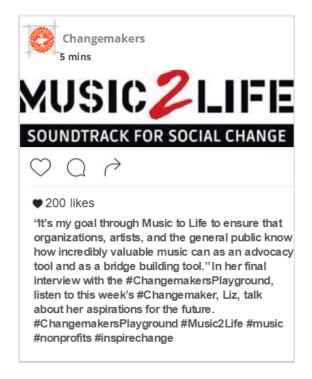
how you can get involved!

#nonprofits #inspirechange

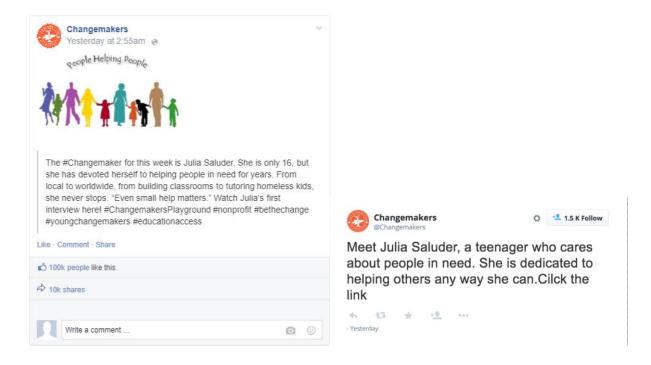
🜣 🛂 2.3 K Follow

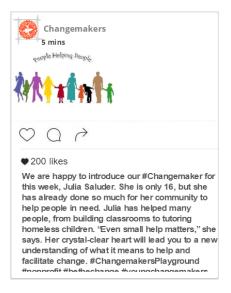
Changemakers

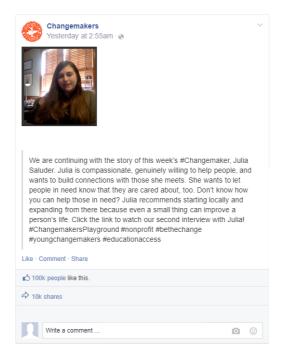




## Changemaker 7: Julia Saluder



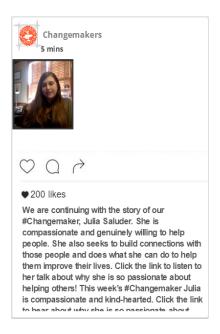






This week's #Changemaker Julia is compassionate and kind-hearted. Click the link to hear about why she is so passionate about helping!









Our #Changemaker Julia says she learned to be more compassionate after meeting the homeless. Click the link to watch her final interview





# Changemaker 8: Dee Wells











Our #Changemaker this week, Dee Wells, is passionate about helping the community. Click the link to hear his story #nonprofit









Dee Wells, our #Changemaker this week, believes in the ability of youth to be storytellers. Click here to hear him talk more about it!





The team also has some additional suggestions for the Changemakers' Playground that we think will help attract more followers to each of the platforms.

- Create a YouTube Channel for the Changemakers' Playground. This will make it easier
  for audiences to find the videos online and in one place. More importantly, it would make
  tracking views and likes significantly easier.
- 2. Maintain consistency in the posting frequency and content. Editing videos and creating content is a time consuming process. In order to save time and maximize user engagement, we recommend using portions of the videos to advertise the content.
- 3. Add subtitles to the interview videos. This will make understanding the speakers easier for those audiences whose first language is not English.

# Measuring Success and Analyzing Data

Measuring success is the process of collecting, analyzing and reporting information regarding organizational performance. Mitt Romney, an American businessman and politician, says, "If you don't measure something, you can't change it. The process of leadership is one of painting a vision, then saying how you're going to get there, and then measuring whether you're actually getting there. Otherwise, you risk only talking about great things but not accomplishing them." (Romney, 2002). This quote is very true. Many organizations start with a good mission and vision statements, but they fail to measure success. How will they know if they have achieved their vision if they don't have means of measuring? Measuring success leads to comparing the actual performance with the mission of the organization. This way of determining whether performance matches the mission and vision of the organization entails evaluating the difference and take necessary actions to improve the performance.

Measuring success gives motivation to achieve more. It also tells the organization or individual if they are doing enough to achieve the mission and vision. With that being said though, how can one measure success? In the context of this project, success can be measured in a number of different ways including, but not limited to: post likes, shares, comments, and increased brand awareness through page likes.

Additionally, though, there are more concrete ways that success can be measured here, namely through utilizing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Benchmarking. In short, KPIs are "measurable values used by marketing teams to demonstrate the effectiveness of campaigns across all marketing channels" (Klipfolio, 2018). Whether the organization is looking to track digital marketing performance or social media growth, having KPIs can help an organization reach its targets every month.

According to F. John Reh, benchmarking is "the process of comparing the organization, operation or processes against other organizations in the same industry" (2017). Benchmarking can aid in the process of comparing against previous organizational achievements. In social media marketing, figuring out exactly how to measure success depends on why the organization is using social media platforms.

Co-founder of Union Metrics, Jenn Deering Davis says the five steps to measuring social media success are:

## 1. Determine the goals

Determining goals helps an organization determine why they need social media and how it will best help them. As has been previously mentioned, social media can be used for variety of purposes, from broadcasting news and information to creating awareness about anything, to

discuss anything and recently they are also used to get people's opinion through a distinctive feature called an opinion poll. In the case of the Changemakers' Playground, our group wants to utilize social media to spread awareness of the campaign, be a gateway to the original Changemakers' Playground website, engage the community in conversation about the Changemakers and the Playground, and help raise funds for their causes.

# 2. Create Metrics to measure these goals

To decide the "metric factor", the organization should have basic expectations set, also known as Benchmarks. According to Craig Berman, "benchmarks can be developed based on the self-capabilities, past performance and industry standards" (2017). It is very important to be realistic when setting a benchmark. They should neither be easy to reach nor be discouragingly out of reach. Berman also says that the metrics should be focused on SMART objectives, that is, the goals should be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time-bound. Time bound metrics should include both short-term and long-term goals, so that progress can be determined at each stage (Berman, 2017). In the case of the Changemakers' Playground, one of the key objectives is to spread awareness and in order to do this, measurable metrics like volume, reach, and engagement should be used.

#### 3. Measure the metrics

After deciding which metrics which should be measured, we can then start measuring.

For example, the engagement of people can be measured by number of likes and comments.

There are lot of tools to provide some form of analytics like Buffer to make this process easier.

### 4. Monitor and report

The fourth step is to report what is happening in real time, for example measuring likes and dislikes for any tweets, posts, or pictures. If there is more negative engagement than positive,

the organization can then adjust their marketing strategy and decide whether to post new content to appeal to their audience. For example, if users like Changemakers that are associated with certain causes over others (i.e. mental health), the Playground can then take that information and feature more Changemakers associated with those causes.

# 5. Adjust and report

The final step is to review the obtained results. Data is automatically generated once something is posted on social media, and it is known that whomever has the data also has the power. By analyzing the data, we can get more insights into what works and what does not. For example, by detecting at what time of the day posts tend to get more likes, the organization can concentrate their content to fit those time constraints.

**CHAPTER FOUR: LEARNINGS AND REFLECTION** 

#### Overview

The following section will discuss several challenges faced by the project group throughout the course of the semester. Additionally, it will provide a description of what the group learned from doing this project and how this experience will be helpful to our professional lives moving forward.

## **Project Challenges and Reflection**

We live in the age of "information fragmentation", which means that people are more willing to accept that information that has been "destroyed" into several pieces instead of being presented as a whole story. For example, people would prefer to read a magazine instead of an entire book; and they will definitely choose social media reading if possible. Those pieces of information are more accessible and easier to read because they are shorter. This could be one of the reasons that social media use has increased so dramatically.

Building off of this, we also live in what is known as the "fast food culture era". This means that nobody cares about nutrition, they are instead focused on if they can full for less money. Unfortunately, this trend is also pertinent to how people choose what news, or in this case social media posts, they are going to interact with. Nonprofits organizations frequently struggle getting people invested in their organization because most people would rather consume news regarding popular culture or celebrities. In other words, most people focus on entertainment and gossip, instead of on promotion of nonprofit organizations or other causes that people should care about. Given this trend, we struggled figuring out how we could get people engaged with the Changemakers' Playground instead of focusing on their other interests.

As was briefly touched upon in the beginning of this report, our group's entire project dynamic changed throughout the course of the semester. Although this campaign was supposed to be implemented over the last few months, this did not happen because of several constraints outside of our control. With that being said, there is still no set launch date for the Changemakers' Playground. This was challenging for us because we wanted to carry out our project, however, it taught us the importance of change management and maintaining frequent communication with all members on a project team.

Another major challenge we faced as a group was that we are all graduate students but in different majors with many obligations outside of this project. Some of us had jobs or internships while others had conflicting class schedules. Sometimes it was really hard for us to find time to have a group meeting. We preferred face to face meeting because it meant that we could share our ideas directly; although technology was able to help us through on phone calls or text messages if need be.

Additionally, our group consisted of students from many different countries. We definitely experienced the struggle of language barriers and sometimes we struggled communicating with our clients effectively. Luckily, our advisor gave us many helpful tips and we are all appreciative for that.

Finally, this project also taught us how to deal with people in a project management environment. It was a great opportunity to apply what we have learned in our classes to the real world instead of talking about it in a classroom. We tried to make a "win-win" solution every time we communicated with Sarah. Although we did not know one another prior to the start of the project, we got to know one another throughout the semester and even became friends. It was

a fantastic opportunity to perfect our teamwork skills and, next time we are working in an environment similar to this, we can apply these newly acquired skills.

Ultimately, we faced numerous challenges over the course of this project, however, in the end, we were able to come together and make this project happen. Although we had some disagreements because of our different ages, experiences, backgrounds and even nationalities, we met those challenges and were adaptable when coming up with solutions.

**CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION** 

To conclude, the purpose of this project was to create a social media plan for the Changemakers' Playground, an initiative created by our client, Sarah Lange of New Era for NonProfits, to act as a platform of highlighting ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Originally, the team was supposed to implement the social media plan throughout the semester, however, for reasons out of our control we were unable to do so, which in turn transformed our project into a recommended social media plan to be used when the Playground eventually launches. Our group also was responsible for creating at least thirty hashtags to accompany the posts.

In total, the group produced Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram posts for eight

Changemakers: Maggie Dunne, Dan Holguin, Sarah Jenks, Simon Eber, Hubie Jones, Elizabeth

Sookey Sunde, Julia Saluder, and Dee Wells. The posts for each of these individuals is catered to

fit the information discussed in their respective interviews while also getting the public interested

in the work they are doing. We firmly believe these posts, in addition to the suggested posting

schedule, will get people interested in the Playground and help to spread the word about the

Playground. Additionally, the group highly recommends creating an account on each suggested

platform specifically for the Changemakers' Playground because this will make it significantly

easier for users to find the accounts across the board.

Finally, the group would like to again thank our client for the tremendous opportunity to work with her on this project. It provided all of us with real-world work experience and a chance to develop numerous new skills while also improving those we already possessed. We are excited to see what happens when the Playground launches and are eager to see it flourish.

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