

# How to Start a Podcast, and Why you Should!

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# Outline of the Workshop

- Presentation on podcasting
  - Benefits, Formats, and Gear
- Live demonstration of the process
  Skype and in-person interviews
- Q&A (Remainder)
  - Feel free to ask questions along the way!

# **A Short Introduction**



- Started in October 2016
- Interview Format
  - 30 mins 1 hour
- Released 2-4x per month
- 93 Episodes
- 70,000+ downloads
- 150+ Countries





## I. The Podcast Medium

• Super-flexible

- Theme
- Technology
- Timing
- Target Audience



The number one gymnastics podcast in the world! Every Wednesday: news, interviews, results, expert analysis and of course, comedy.

Gymternet & gymcastic.com
 Joined September 2012

1,310 Following 20.3K Followers

## Theme

- Podcasts can be about anything!
  - Flexibility:
    - Content
    - Strategic Purpose

Branding / PR? **Education?** Mobilization/ **Conversions?** Networking?

Something else?

# Technology

• Flexible cost

• Highly portable

 Video/streaming possibilities









# Timing

- Customizable schedule
  - Helps align with resources
  - Long-form or short-form?

• "On-demand" for creators, too!

- Regular intervals?
- Episodic content?

# Target Audience

- Flexible:
  - -but should connect to theme and strategic purpose

• Can be more specific than "the public"

• Word-of-mouth is key...

...and sharing is tied to perceived value



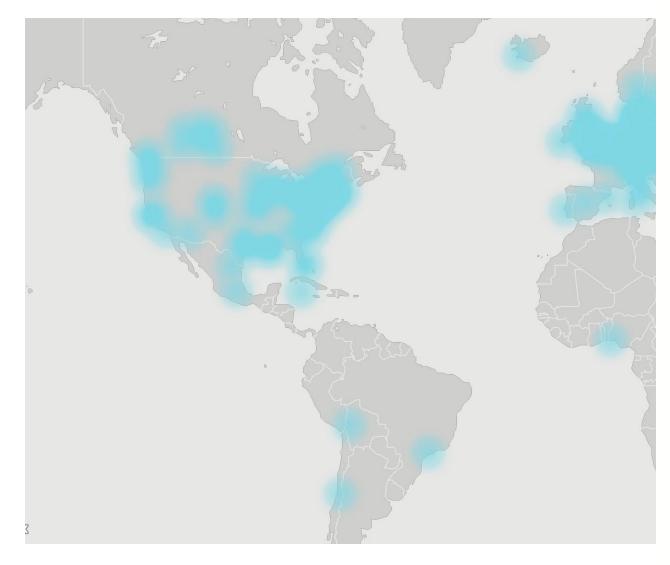
Social Media

Podcast repositories (Apple, Spotify, YouTube)

• Google Search (SEO)

Point of Discovery / Contact

# Global Reach



#### Top Countries

#	COUNTRY	DWNLDS	%
1	United States	14,947	31.34%
2	Kingdom of Denmark	4,691	9.83%
3	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Norther	4,028	8.44%
4	Federal Republic of Germany	3,387	7.1%
5	Canada	2,616	5.48%
6	Kingdom of Sweden	1,550	3.25%
7	Kingdom of Belgium	1,340	2.81%
8	Commonwealth of Australia	1,224	2.57%
9	Kingdom of the Netherlands	1,104	2.31%
10	Repubblica Italiana	874	1.83%

# III. Networking

- Establish new connections
  - Broaden professional network
    - with experts/stakeholders
    - with partner organizations
  - Guests get a concrete output for their time
  - Engage target audience

# IV. Knowledge Acquisition

- Topic Scouting and Exploration
- Episode Preparation
- Expert Conversation
- Material Absorption (through editing and QA)

Networking

# FORMATS

# Super Flexible

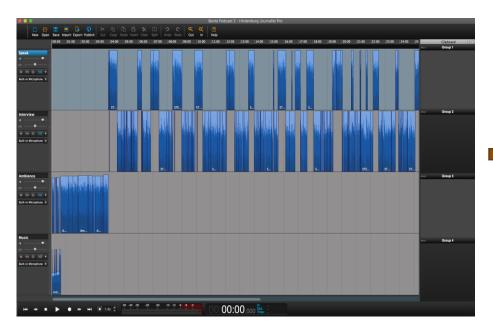
- Hosts:
  - Single Host
  - Co-hosts
  - Rotating hosts?
- Content:
  - Interviews?
  - Documentary?
  - News/Policy Commentary?
  - Persuasion?
  - A mix?

















# My (Skype) Setup:



## On the road:





# Key Takeaways

Podcasting is a flexible medium with space for innovation

- This flexibility can be leveraged for strategic communication
  - Fit purpose to goals of the individual/organization
  - Authenticity is key!

- Costs are low, but so is attention
  - Align purpose with target audience
  - Think outside the box!

## **Social Media and Politics Podcast!**



93 Episodes, including:

- Social Media and Political Campaigns
- Chatbots for Civic Engagement
- World Leaders on Instagram
- Advocacy and Mobile Apps
- Academic Research on Disinformation





