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| **Chapter Name**  | ATD Buffalo Niagara |
| **Chapter Number (ex. CH0000)**  | CH2043 |
| **Chapter Location (City, State)**  | Buffalo, New York |
| **Chapter Membership Size**  | Medium (100 - 299) |
| **Contact Person for this Submission:**  | Kim Stahl |
| **Email Address:**  | communications@atdbuffalo.org |
| **Phone Number:**  | (716) - 866 - 2173 |
| **Chapter Board Position:**  | President |
| **Chapter Website URL:**  | [http://atdbuffalo.org](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/7anuCn5P1EUX4yUPGCsq?domain=enotification.td.org) |
| **Submission Title:**  | Open Mic for Learning Professionals SIG |
| **Submission Description:**  | We have created a Facilitation Special Interest Group that provides an opportunity for members to try out different classroom techniques, activities, ice breakers, lectures, etc., and receive immediate feedback and support from peers and professionals in the talent development field. |
| **Need(s) Addressed? Please be specific.**  | Facilitation, Classroom Design, Public Speaking practice. |
| **What is your chapter's mission?**  | Mission: To foster a community that works better by providing resources, networking, and development for learning and performance professionals through programs, events, and partnerships. |
| **How does this effort align with your chapter's mission (Please provide specific examples)?**  | The Open Mic SIG provides the opportunity to share resources, develop skills, and network with members and talent development professionals. |
| **National ATD's mission is to "empower professionals to develop talent in the workplace". How does this submission align with ATD's mission? Please provide specific examples.**  | The Open Mic Night for Learning Professionals SIG directly aligns with National ATD's mission by helping to develop the skills of Talent Development professionals so they can better develop talent in the workplace.  |
| **Target Audience: (Who will benefit/has benefited from this effort?)**  | Members and Non-Members |
| **Costs/Resources Used: (include any details regarding use of resources including monetary, donations, contributions, volunteer hours, people resources, etc. and how you went about getting these resources)**  | Events are free for members, $10 for non-members; The events are hosted by a member's company - they provide the venue and food for the events. The VP of Chapter Services was the point of contact on the board - she worked with chapter member Artrell Williams to ideate the event, seek out company sponsor, and share details with VP Communications & VP Marketing to advertise and market the event.  |
| **How did you implement: (please give a brief description)**  | The events are sponsored by a member's company, people sign up to present and people sign up to attend. At the event, the presenters are given a 15 minute block of time; once the presentation has concluded, attendees fill out a feedback form AND share thoughts directly with the presenter. The events have been very successful. |
| **What were the Outcomes: (Please include hard data regarding financial gains, membership increases, target audience satisfaction levels, publicity for the chapter or for the profession, etc.)**  | The participants shared they were uplifted by the event - having received valuable feedback from peers; the attendees shared that they greatly enjoyed the events as they learned something in the process of assisting with the work-shopping of an activity, lecture, etc. All involved enjoyed learning more about the host company. The chapter also gained at least one new member from the event (The Nov 2019 SIG was her first event with the chapter - she was so impressed with the event, she joined soon after; she heard about the event through teh chapter's social media marketing on LinkedIn). |
| **Lessons Learned: (hints and tips for other chapters who may be considering a similar effort)**  | These events work best when hosted by a member; we also found better success when networking with members and asking them to present for the event; emails calling for presenters were not as successful as hoped. We will be reviewing our outreach efforts to see what copy to use in email solicitations to garner more responses for presenters. |
| **Please list the specific ATD chapter resources that helped guide you in the process of completing this best practice (e.g. people, documents, policies, by-laws, etc.):**  | A chapter member's suggestion for a forum where facilitation methods could be practiced and shared with each others; creating an event that would provide a safe space to practice the craft, and gain helpful feedback and ideas. |
| **Please attach any documents that help support this submission: (additional documents and documents over 2MB should be sent to** sos@td.org**)**  |  [Open Mic Night Event Graphic edited by Curbell.png](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/3bttCo2P1GUDAocEVp2L?domain=enotification.td.org) |
| **additional supporting documents:**  |  [Open Mic Rectangle Grahpic edited by Curbel.png](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/rRh0CpYP1Js9glH3qjMG?domain=enotification.td.org) |
| **additional supporting documents:**  |  [Open Mic Ad - Nov 2019.png](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/72xeCqx91KU1g4SWzxx-?domain=enotification.td.org) |
| **additional supporting documents:**  |  [Open Mic - Coming Soon.JPG](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/CyzNCrk61LsryNU0PS4V?domain=enotification.td.org) |
| **additional supporting documents:**  |  [Open Mic Event Pic for Website.jpg](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/RAgjCv2k1PUEJBSrqB37?domain=enotification.td.org) |
| **How did you become familiar with the Sharing Our Success (SOS) program?**  | Other |
| **If you selected "other", please explain your response.**  | ALC |
| **Would you be willing to present on this submission at the ATD Chapter Leaders Conference (ALC)? \*Request for Proposals (RFPs) open in May of each year at** [**td.org/alc**](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/9luOCwpl1QHv5OSLHW_x?domain=enotification.td.org)**. Selected session facilitators receive complimentary registration.**  | Yes |