

Australian Youth Advisory Network

Boundless 2016

Post-event report



October 2016

Boundless 2016 Post-Event Report

Introduction

Boundless 2016, held in the Gold Coast on the 17th and 18th September 2016, saw 30 young people come together from across Australia to share their ideas and to be consulted with on key issues within the organisation. In addition, Boundless 2016 saw experts in their field present to young members on pertinent topics to young St John volunteers, both via face-to-face at the Gold Coast in addition to the live-streaming of these sessions to the broader St John community.

This report details feedback and recommendations of a post-event survey from those who attended Boundless 2016 in person.

Feedback

Speakers

4.5 out of 5 event participants were extremely satisfied with the speakers that presented at Boundless 2016. The results indicate that participants found the speakers highly knowledgeable in their field, with an average rating of 9.56 out of 10. Many comments from the post-event survey mentioned how participants took away 'real world' advice from the speakers that they would implement in their divisions on their return.

Venue & Food

The venue was generally well received, with an average rating of 8.78/10. Comments were made that the QT's 'vibrant and chic vibe' well suited Boundless 2016 as it was youthful and fun. The food was rated 3.56/5, with comments made to the effect of the food should be more 'youth friendly'.

Program

While 56% of participants said there was good balance between presentations/workshops, consultation and fun activities, it was a reoccurring theme for the remaining 44% that there should be more interactive activities, especially consultations. It was suggested that instead of 1 hour presentations, 45 minute presentations followed by an interactive activity to break the day up would be more stimulating for participants.

While the Three Worlds Drumming Workshop was very much enjoyed (4.22 out of 5 average rating), it was mentioned that this activity didn't really facilitate getting to know other participants and that another ice breaker activity would work better.

The networking event on the Saturday evening at Stingrays (at the QT Hotel) was not as well received as other aspects of Boundless (3.11 out of 5 average rating) and it was recommended that a cocktail type of setup would better facilitate networking and talking. Unfortunately, the venue provided by the QT was not the venue initially indicated as having being booked by the hotel.

Live-streaming

A total of 769 views of the live-streamed presentations were recorded. Live-streaming of the presentations provided those members who were unable to attend in person with an opportunity to take part in Boundless 2016.

The video footage of the presentations at Boundless have been added to the AYAN Facebook page, and for those videos that have been released, the reach is steadily growing. As at 10 October 2016, for the two videos released (being the presentation by Matt Cannon and Headspace), a total reach of 13,242 and total views of 3,568 has been recorded.

Location and Timing

The Gold Coast catered for the needs of Boundless 2016 and provided an adequate place to host the first youth summit. However, it was recommended by 20% of participants that a more central location or hub be chosen for the next Boundless (e.g. Melbourne or Sydney). The location of Boundless 2016 was identified as a potential barrier to event attendance.

All participants who completed the post-event survey agreed that September was an ideal time of year to hold Boundless.

When asked whether Boundless should be held annually or bi-annually, 56% of respondents indicated that the event should be held annually.

General feedback

100% of participants who completed the post-event survey said they would recommend Boundless to a friend.

Recommendations

- For future Boundless events, AYAN engage in more interactive methods for all activities.
- When allocating time for the presentations/workshops, time slots should be allocated for a 45 minute duration rather than hour-long sessions.
- AYAN will review the best way to host an evening networking event.
- All future Boundless events should be live-streamed.
- Future Boundless events be held in September.
- AYAN will review the locations of future events to a hub location.
- That AYAN facilitate Boundless annually.

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