

Audience Interaction Resources and Links

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From Boring to Bravo

This book by [Kristen Arnold](#), MBA, CMC, CPF, CSP, and past President of NSA, provides “proven presentation techniques to engage, involve, and inspire your audience to action.” Highly recommended. Check out Kristin’s awesome online resources here: <http://www.extraordinaryteam.com/resources/>

Velvet Chainsaw

[Sarah Michel](#), CSP, Wonder Woman of Networking, and her team at Velvet Chainsaw provide resources and know how for interactive annual meetings and conferences. So many great resources for audience interaction, and evidence that it is so important and effective! Highly recommended. Check them out here: <http://velvetchainsaw.com>

Conference Connexity

A free e-book by Sarah Michel and her team at Velvet Chainsaw. This book is all about how to build networking into conferences. Get it at: <http://velvetchainsaw.com/pdf/VelvetChainsawConsulting-ConferenceConnexityeBook.pdf>

NCDD

The National Dialogue for Discussion and Deliberation serves as a resource for all kinds of group wanting to, well, dialogue and deliberate. [Sandy Heierbacher](#) and her crew provide a terrific website with over 3,000 resources: participatory practices, discussion guides, handouts, assessments, etc. Check them out here: <http://ncdd.org>

Brain Interrupters

[David Brobeck](#), Speaker, Educator, and NSA member, has a lot to say about the physiology of interrupting brain function with physical activity and audience interaction. Check out this video of David explaining some of his techniques: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEmlz2Cd8V0&spfreload=10>

Clickers

A leading provider of clickers (key pad voting) and related software is Turning Technologies. They sell and rent the equipment. Check them out here: <http://turningtechnologies.com>

Cell Phone Voting

A leading provider of technology for live audience participation and voting is Poll Everywhere. Check them out at <https://www.polleverywhere.com>. And there's a new book out by [David Campt](#) called Read The Room For Real: How a Simple Technology Creates Better Meetings

Cell Phone Questions and Comments

A very simple online way for audiences to ask questions, make comments, and "like" each other's questions and comments. Check out <https://www.sli.do/home>

Clickers, Flags and Phones

[Brian Walter](#), CSP, CPAE, does a very nice job of explaining these three audience interaction techniques in the June 2015 edition of Voices of Experience (VOE). Not familiar with VOE? It's the audio supplement to NSA's Speaker magazine and it's really great! Get the app online or get the disk from NSA. In the 12-minute segment, Brian discusses these and related audience interaction techniques. He even tells you where to buy the flags! It's really great.

Bob Pike – Participant Centered Training

A "father of audience interaction," check out Bob's website here: <http://www.bobpikegroup.com>

Games

I believe that if you play a game with a group or do any sort of "team building activity" it should have a clear purpose and the lessons should be directly relevant to the group's challenges. So one of my favorite books is called Activities that Teach because it has an index of challenges. Another favorite is The Big Book of Meeting Games. Google these titles for retail outlets and reviews. For supplies my go-to resource is Training Wheels. Check them out here:

<http://www.trainingwheelsgear.com>. The gal who runs the place, Michelle Cummings, is really great and has a useful newsletter.

Virtual Games

Recommended: The Big Book of Virtual Teambuilding Games by [Mary Scannel](#)

Table Discussions

How-To Video by [Craig Freshley](#), filmed on site at the 2013 Annual Convention. 2 minutes. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1cOk-XpR8Q>

Idea Rating Sheets

[Jason Diceman](#) has developed a very simple and useful system for getting effective feedback from huge groups and building consensus. Check it out here:

<http://www.ideaatingsheets.org>

Microphone in a Nerf Ball

For throwing around to facilitate people using the microphone:

<http://us.getcatchbox.com>

Presentation Software

Check out <https://www.haikudeck.com> and coming soon by the same company: Zuru.

How to Interview Audience Members

Check out [Brad Montgomery](#) videos. He's really good at interviewing audience members. <https://www.youtube.com/user/BradMontgomery1>

Give Your Speech, Change the World

This is the title of a book on "how to move your audience to action." By Nick Morgan. Recommended by [Kristin Arnold](#).

Good Group Tips

One-page Tips and Handouts on over 200 topics related to group dynamics, communications, leadership, and facilitation. By [Craig Freshley](#). Check them out at <http://www.GoodGroupTips.com>

Several Video Tips at Craig's YouTube Channel on topics such as How to Facilitate Meetings, How to Prevent Conflict, How to Handle the Person Who Talks Too Much, and many others:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uct3TeIYHqBHOH6NXfR6c58A?spfreload=10>