# Lambda Alpha International

Chris Behrens President and CEO Ya





- My CEO Story
- YA's Story
- YA's Business Promotional Offerings
- YA's Client Work
- Why the move to Minneapolis?
- Q&A

2

# NY CEO STORY

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- Official Airline Guides (advertising and publishing) •
  - First sales territory was Africa (1984)
  - Promoted to the Middle East
  - Moved to London (27 years old), traveled extensively to over 50 different countries
    - Company went into bankruptcy
  - Four years later, moved back to the U.S. and opened offices in Tokyo, Singapore, Hong Kong and Melbourne
  - Critical Points: growth (as a person) mentorship, sales, operations, accounting & finance, listened and learned a lot
- GE Capital (financial technology) •
  - Hired as first sales person to sell fee income services
  - Acquired first business Amoco Motor Club, owner Montgomery Wards went into bankruptcy
  - In six years grew from \$350M to \$1.2B ٠
  - Critical Points: Growth sales, operations (Six Sigma and Services BPO), accounting & finance



- E-Trac (SaaS based technology, emergency 911 tow management software) •
  - First CEO role (38 years old)
  - Acquired and integrated three different software, database and customer service platforms
  - Sold business in 18 months
  - Critical Points: Transformation and growth Six Sigma, BPO, leveraged previous experience
- SourceLink (direct mail and continuous print company) •
  - Hired as CEO to acquire and integrate 13 different businesses to a common business platform and structure.
  - Sold five businesses and integrated eight
  - Moved business from traditional print to print and email marketing
  - Grew to fourth largest privately held direct marketing company in the country
  - Critical Points: Transformation, innovation and growth operations (Six Sigma and Manufacturing BPO), sales, accounting & finance



- RW Baird (growth private equity firm) •
  - Raised \$280M fund to partially invest in a digital/technology services, strategic build-up
  - Chairman of first acquired business, then President and CEO once second business acquired
  - Reviewed 60+ companies, made bids on 15, delivered LOI's on 8, closed 0!
  - Critical Points: Growth....I learned a lot....lead me to YA
- YA
  - Hired as Chairman, became President and CEO six months later ٠
  - Transformed a traditional marketing services business to execute digital promotional lacksquaresolutions...invested \$16.5M into the business over four years from cash generated
  - Moved the business from NYA to downtown Minneapolis in June 2015
  - 60+ million consumer interactions, 7 million rewards issued, \$1.2 billion in reward value
  - Critical Points: Transformed, innovated and grew brought the entire kitchen!



# YA's STORY

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# **COMPANY HISTORY**



ya

Named by CIOReview

# **TRUSTED MARKETING PARTNER**

We are the leading provider of digital consumer engagement programs that help clients acquire, retain, and win-back customers.

Our promotional solutions help marketers turn first-time consumers into loyal brand advocates while delivering a proven return on marketing investment.



Comprehensive suite of tailored digital engagement solutions

Proven results and returns on clients' marketing investment

Digital expertise in actionable insights and repeatable, scalable programs

Cultivating long-term brand relationships



## **INDUSTRY LEADER IN PROMOTIONAL MARKETING**

### 60 MILLION + CONSUMER INTERACTIONS

7 MILLION + REWARDS ISSUED **\$1 BILLION** REWARD DOLLARS ISSUED

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### 2,000 + PROMOTIONS EXECUTED ANNUALLY

\*2018 YA Program Data

YA'S BUSINESS -PROMOTIONAL OFFERINGS

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### **Promotional Marketing Engagement Solutions Industry Trends**

- Promotional solutions have evolved to create more value for marketers and end customers
- YA's double-digit growth is the result of successfully applying its promotional marketing solutions to meet clients' acquisition, engagement, retention, and win-back marketing requirements while delivering a proven return on their marketing investment

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Rebates	<ul> <li>Paper-based Submission</li> <li>Long Validation</li> <li>Paper Rewards</li> <li>Desire for breakage/slippage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Digital submissions</li> <li>Instant validation, API integration</li> <li>Pre-paid card, Mobile, Virtual</li> <li>Entry point for ongoing consumer engagement</li> </ul>
Enter to Win	<ul> <li>Paper entries and submissions</li> <li>Lack of continuity with end consumer</li> <li>One and done campaigns</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Online, custom sites with greater scale and composition of the second state o</li></ul>
Bonus Savings Card	<ul><li>Mailed fulfilment of physical goods</li><li>Vouchers tied to specific products</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Targeted revenue-generating sales of samples</li> <li>Flexible digital redemption, driving traffic for reta showrooming")</li> </ul>
Referral & Engagement	<ul><li>Points based</li><li>Standard tiers of rewards</li><li>Card-based accrual of points</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Reward specific behaviors, e.g. amplifying const through referrals to drive ongoing engagement</li> <li>Gamification and "surprise and delight"</li> <li>Mobile apps and SMS/MMS that tie to the const communication channel to enhance the brand ext</li> </ul>
Channel Incentives	<ul> <li>Limited redemption options</li> <li>Minimal integration of personal and business rewards</li> <li>Lack of continuous messaging</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Custom platforms for automated validation, rede communication</li> <li>Gamification to encourage competition</li> <li>Integrated incentives with training</li> </ul>
	Enter to Win Bonus Savings Card Referral & Engagement Channel	<ul> <li>Paper-based Submission</li> <li>Long Validation</li> <li>Paper Rewards</li> <li>Desire for breakage/slippage</li> </ul> Enter to Vin <ul> <li>Paper entries and submissions</li> <li>Lack of continuity with end consumer</li> <li>One and done campaigns</li> </ul> Bonus Savings Card <ul> <li>Mailed fulfilment of physical goods</li> <li>Vouchers tied to specific products</li> <li>Standard tiers of rewards</li> <li>Card-based accrual of points</li> </ul> Channel Incentives <ul> <li>Limited redemption options</li> <li>Minimal integration of personal and business rewards</li> </ul>

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# **CUSTOMER LIFECYCLE**

Our portfolio of promotional offerings serve the entire customer journey.

From attracting first time customers to incenting brand advocacy, YA has a solution.



## **GO-TO-MARKET EXECUTION**

We are strategically positioned to operate in a rapidly evolving marketplace. Our clients seek a one-stop, integrated and skilled platform to execute large scale, complex marketing programs.





# YA's CLIENT CLIENT WORK

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### T-MOBILE CARRIER FREEDOM SITE LIVE- <u>HTTPS://WWW.SWITCH2T-MOBILE.COM/</u>

### Market Program Description:

• Program incents consumers for switching their mobile carrier plan to T-Mobile as their provider. Customers are offered three fulfillment methods- check, virtual payment and physical card.

### Site Functionality includes:

- Integration with T-Mobile's ERP System via API for validation of consumer accounts after hold periods
- Digital bill upload capabilities for reward calculation
- Mobile responsive site

### Main YA services:

• Website development & hosting, management of program design per offer, payment fulfillment, and consumer relations support



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# LOWE'S DRIVE TIME PROMOTION: Increase store traffic and conversion

Lowe's was looking for a promotion to increase store traffic and incent purchases during Black Friday. YA developed an in-store SMS campaign: signage at store entrance instructed customers to text a keyword to a short code and in turn, customers were immediately awarded a virtual gift card to their phone. Cards were randomly assigned a value up to \$500 and each customer received a minimum reward. The promotion ran for the first two hours of the store opening and the gift card could be used both in-store and online.

### **CLIENT OBJECTIVES:**

- Create excitement and a "buzz"
- Increase store traffic and drive sales
- Differentiate from competitors
- Engage a customer in a new way







### Your Lowe's gift card reward is here!

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# BUBLY WORKPLACE MATCH GAME SWEEPSTAKES:

Trial driven by an interactive game

PepsiCo wanted to introduce workplace consumers to the newest bubly flavors using a dynamic promotional experience. YA delivered an interactive online game where consumers could match bubly cans with their trademark smiles. Participants got three plays and, regardless of their matches, were entered into a weekly drawing to win exclusive bubly prizes.

### **CLIENT OBJECTIVES**

- Build brand equity for new bubly flavors
- Introduce gamification in an away-from-home promotion
- Drive incremental product sales in workplace locations





### are you checking me out?

can you help me find my smile?



drag and drop the smiles onto the can.





## **CONSUMER BUZZ**









# Why the Move to Minneapolis? TALENT!

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## YA Offices: 10 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis – The Lumber Exchange





## YA'S DECISION MAKING PROCESS TO MOVE DOWNTOWN

- Ur three-year Strategic Plan and Go-To-Market Strategy drove our decision to move downtown
- Similar Client-Centric approach
- Solution Organization design and structure is in support of the Strategic Plan

# Getting and Putting "THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE RIGHT BOX!"

## THE PRIMACY OF ATTRACTING AND RETAINING TALENT AS PART OF THE BUSINESS STRATEGY

☆ YA is a digital technology company....what's important?

- Culture and Values
- Workplace atmosphere
- Enhance existing and learn new skills

## **HOW YA RETAINS AND ATTRACTS TALENT?**

- **Retain Existing Talent** 
  - Financial incentives
  - Flexible work schedule
- Mattract New Talent
  - Marquee Clients
  - Rewarding work that has an impact and provides value in the market
  - Enhance existing and learn new skills
  - Surrounded by really smart people

## NEW GENERATION OF WORKERS – HOW DO THEIR INTERESTS AND VALUES INFORM LOCATION CHOICE?

- Social circle locations
- Environmentally conscious
- Service Values

- The Mather Group (wealth management firm) •
  - The nation's fastest growing RIA, top 100 independent advisors
  - Six offices across the U.S. and more than \$8 billion in assets under advisement
  - Hired as CEO, start January 2, 2020
  - Staying on at YA as Non-Executive Chairman and Board member
  - Critical Points: Scaling businesses through technology, innovation, and organization design and structure





# Q&A

# THANK YOU

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