

# 2024 Department Highlights





## By the Numbers

- Advertising:
  - 3.3 billion media impressions across all platforms (including significant bonus/added value negotiated)
- Social media: 5.7 million engagements
- Earned Media:
  - Nearly \$66 million in earned media value across the globe
  - Nearly 700 stories carried across the globe
  - Hosted 40 journalists and content creators from key markets:
    - NYC, Miami, Washington DC, Germany, Canada, Texas, Boston, Toronto, Philadelphia, London, Ireland, Scotland, Mexico City, Bradenton, Los Angeles; and LGBTQ focused
  - Met with more than 150 journalists at various media events throughout the year in key markets (NYC, London, Munich, Berlin, Amsterdam, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Toronto)

## WWE Royal Rumble

Largest ever event at Tropicana Field



Conducted Press Conference to Preview Event at TradeWinds with accompanying content shoot with Superstars Natalia and Omos







1.6 MILLION CROSS-PLATFORM SOCIAL IMPRESSIONS

1.1 MILLION SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS REACHED

OVER 100k CROSS-PLATFORM SOCIAL ENGAGEMENTS





#### Solar Eclipse Activation

- Over 104,062,292 impressions spanning activations, social, PR and out of home media.
- 50,000+ attendees at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Total Solar Eclipse event
- 856,958 social media impressions
- 2,411,999 OOH digital paid media impressions
- 2,500 swag dispersed at the Sugar Sands Festival
- 7 earned media placements highlighting Sugar Sands, yielding 100,740,727 impressions and \$369,180.68 in ad value.





#### **Before**



#### During



#### After





#### **How We Shine** Advertorials

- Custom-designed content advertorials:
  - Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine
  - Atlanta Magazine
  - Chicago Magazine
- Publication interviewed locals for authentic content
- Content spanned beaches, events, dining, performing arts, glass art, boating, fishing, and more.





**CHICAGO** 









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#### A Destination for World Class Dining and Drinks

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#### Fresh and Local

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#### Beaches and Breweries

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#### Welcomed by Locals

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# **Custom Content Episodes**

- 18 Holes, hosted by LPGA star Natalie Gulbis and PGA player Jimmy Hanlin
  - The Bayou Club and The Pelican
  - Each episode airs 500+ times across Bally Sports RSNs
- Let's Take it Outside, with Misty Wells
  - Season 5, Two episodes: "High Adrenaline" & "Boatcation"
  - Airs on Discovery Channel, Discovery GO, Waypoint TV, Wild TV (Canada) and more
  - Won Telly Award
- Outdoor Eats, a Heliconia Production
  - Nationwide distribution on PBS in 2025
  - To date, this episode has aired 65 times reaching 2.56 million people leading to a media value of \$255,760.







#### Significant Earned **Media Placements**

• Stories in:

Garden & Gun **Southern Living** Travel + Leisure Globe and Mail (TOR) The Sun (London)

**Toronto Sun Scottish Sun** Scottish Herald

- Generated a bachelorette party trend for the destination with a feature on **The Knot** that was then written about in additional publications
- Received mention on Good Morning America









#### GARDEN

**ARTS & CULTURE** 

#### **Shuffleboard Is Cool Again**



15 Best White-sand Beaches Around the World Clearwater Beach, Florida



**Spring fever: Discovering the pleasures** of early Blue Jays baseball in Florida

# July 27 - 727 Day

"From Visitors With Love"

- 100+ deals throughout county
- 193,645 social media accounts reached
- Cross-County Activation
  - From Tarpon Springs to St Pete
  - 2,000 t-shirts and 3,393 collateral items distributed

#### Rays vs Reds

- 1,679 Rays Tickets Distributed
- 23,464 Rays Game Attendees (second highest attendance this season behind home opener)

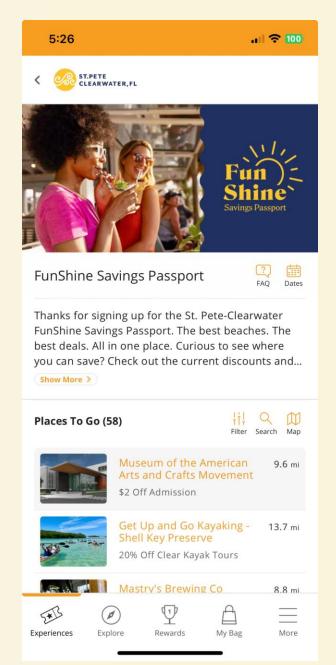
#### Local Media Coverage

- More than 18.7M Impressions Local Earned Media Coverage
  - WFTS, WTSP, WFTS TV, WFLA AM Radio, WFLA (News Channel 8), BayNews9, Tampa Bay Times, Axios, I Love The Burg



## FunShine Savings Passport

- Web App offering visitors discounts throughout the county.
  - Built on the Bandwango platform (same as Gulp Coast passport)
  - Free to users and free to participating businesses
  - 58 discounts currently available
  - Launched Labor Day, and to date 1,682 passes have been requested (60% instate, 40% out of state), with 112 redemptions





#### **Fall Colors**

- Launched mid-July in key drive & fly markets, including NYC
- Media: Digital, Television, Radio,
   Billboards, NYC OOH (Trains, Subway)
- Specific creative to influence fall/winter visitation
  - Contrast St. Pete-Clearwater to the more typical Fall destinations.
  - In St. Pete-Clearwater, enjoy incredible colors AND warm weather along America's Best Beaches
  - Showcase the different parts of the destination and change the perception of what going in search of fall colors means





## Greater Tampa Bay

- Launched first week of August
- Dedicated creative and landing page (BeachesOfTampaBay.com)
- Television/Radio, Gas Station TV
- Digital Billboards, Tampa Premium Outlets
- Online Native Articles







## Still Shining

- Multi-faceted approach to share the message.
- Reworked TV spot for national and in Canada.
- Used remaining 2024 advertising inventory in the Greater Tampa Bay area to put the focus on partners - hotels, attractions, restaurants and local businesses.
- Highlighting special hotel rates and deals at **StillShiningDeals.com**.
- Still Shining Stories featuring local businesses for social platform.
- Developed as a community-wide message it has been embraced across the destination.















## **Awards Recognition**

#### Flagler Awards

- "Like a Local" Influencer Marketing Campaign
  - Bronze Social Media Marketing
- Gulf to Bay Destination Magazine (2023-24, Issue No. 11)
  - Silver, Resource/Promotional Material-Consumer

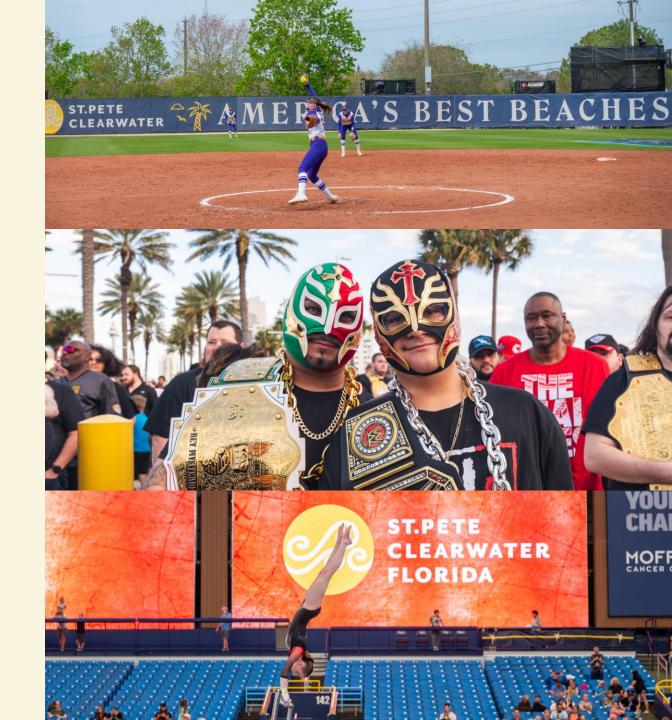
#### **HSMAI Adrian Awards**

- Celebrating 100 Years of Shuffleboard
  - Silver Best of Category, Media Event
- Gulf to Bay Destination Magazine
  - Bronze Best of Category, Print Collateral
- From Visitors With Love/727 Day
  - Bronze Best of Category, Integrated Campaign
- Search Marketing Strategy
  - Bronze Digital

## Sports Recap FY24

#### Hosted **132** events:

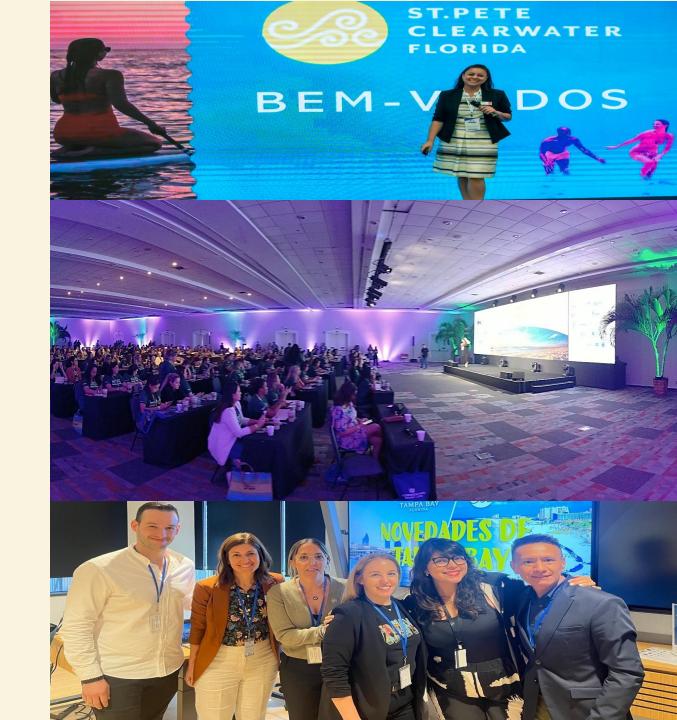
- **181,680** overnight visitors
- **\$111,349,903** in direct economic impact
- **177,098** room nights





# LATAM Recap FY24

- 35 trainings for 3,164 professionals
- **22** FAMs for 77 professionals
- **16** Co-op Programs
- **6,349** direct room nights
- Aeromexico Sales Mission
- 2024 Digital Brochure





#### VAMOS SER NÓS MESMOS.







ST.PETE CLEARWATER, FL VisitSPC.com/br

A MAIOR CELEBRAÇÃO DO ORGULHO DA FLÓRIDA.





# Leisure Travel Recap FY24

- 39 Sales Opportunities
- 5862 Direct
   Engagements with
   Travel Trade/Tour
   Operators
- 7 FAM Visits 36
   Participants
- 10,312 Room Nights from Canadian Co-ops





# Meetings and Conferences Recap FY24

Hosted **350** Meetings:

**42,365** attendees **149,594** total room nights **\$84,189,931** economic impact





# Film Recap FY24

#### 144 Permitted Projects:

- **389** shoot days
- **1,874** local hires
- **4,224** room nights
- **\$8,046,000** local spend





## Activations Recap FY24

- 82 Events Executed
  - 41 Local Events
  - 33 Support
  - 8 Out-of-Market
- Over 900k Consumers Engaged
- Over 10k Database Entries
- 11 Partners joined VisitSPC at 19 Events
- New Asset: Concert Stage













## Activations Recap FY24

- 8 Out-of-Market Events
  - Indianapolis
  - Miami
  - Philadelphia
  - Toronto
  - New York City
  - Cincinnati
  - Orlando (x2)













## Activations Recap FY24

- Internship Program
  - Fall, Spring, Summer
  - 12 weeks, 20-30 hours / week
  - Focus: Activations, Film & Sports
  - Exposure to all Departments
- Brand Ambassador Program
  - 64 Active Ambassadors
  - 712 Volunteer Hours valued at \$23,844
- Recruitment: USFSP, St. Pete College, Eckerd College, UT









## Looking Ahead 25

- College Course being developed with St. Pete College
- Sustainable Tourism Plan develop in coordination with community leaders.
- Measurement Technology and new tracking to be installed in our destination visitor centers.
- AI and Drone Measurement to assist our Event Program.
- **\$3M** for Events in Pinellas County
- And so much more to come......















## Community Recap FY24

- All New Partner Workshops and Trainings
- Brand New Transparent Chamber Funding Formula Developed distributing \$600k to our 13 chambers.
- From Visitors with
   Love Campaign and Still Shining
   Campaign brought to both
   residents and our tourism
   community!











