



Transcript

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The Gala Follow-up: Mini-sode

Co-Hosts: Brittany Wilson (B) and Nia Wassink (N)

B: I'm Brittany Wilson.

N: And I'm Nia Wassink. And you're listening to,

Both: The Nonprofit Reframe

N: The Minisode!

N: I'm going to start the welcome back this week, because I am just so thrilled that you're up right and in the studio today!

B: It is a small miracle.

N: So this is being recorded live two days after Brittany's gala.

B: Less than 48 hours, post gala.

N: And you're here.

B: I'm here! I'm alive!

N: Okay, first question for you.

B: Well even before you get to the questions, we should say welcome to our first Minisode, right?

N: Yeah, this is our Minisode!

B: This is a Minisode!

N: This is this is our gala follow up just for Brittany!

B: Yay!

N: Because our listeners have been sending in questions. How did it go? What did she wear? Did she use software? All of the really important things, so first questions first Brittany.

B: Yes

N: Did you have a dress?

B: I did! Not only did I have a dress, I had seven of them.

N: Please say more.

B: So your prompting to get dressed early worked and so.

N: So subtle, Nia.

B: I so I ordered a couple online, but because it's online you don't know what size and so you have to get a couple. And then, no lie, let's see it was Wednesday, so three days before the actual event, I was in a meeting with my boss and she was asking everybody what we were all wearing and we were describing our dresses, and oddly, we described our dresses the exact same way. Because we had the exact same dress.

N: You didn't want to show up twinning?

B: No, especially because we're both going to be on stage, and I thought that that would be just a little too much.

N: It's a little confusing really.

B: A little who wore it best. I didn't want to, I didn't want to get into that, so that then prompted me to just go on name ordering rampage on Amazon.

N: Which your husband, I'm sure, loved.

B: Yeah, he told me not to over think it and we were way past that. So hence I ended up with seven dresses, took two with me to the venue and I decided which one with fifteen minutes before the event started.

N: Well you looked fabulous.

B: Thank you.

N: Anybody who hasn't seen it can check out our socials. We've got a beautiful photo of you up there.

B: You're so sweet.

N: Obviously I was there, so I got to see the amazing, amazing work you did to create a wonderful night, but let's pull back the curtain a bit. Let's tell our listeners a bit about what were the 48-hours leading up to it like?

B: Sure, sure. So a couple of things. One, after my event last year I told myself I was not going to spread myself that thin again. It just took me a couple weeks to recover, both mentally and physically last year. So this year I tried to go into it a lot more mindful, planning ahead, organizing, had a great team in place helping, and then I got sick. So I got sick last week and couldn't really take the time to rest and so everything that I tried to avoid ended up happening anyways. That seems to be a theme, including the dress. You know everything I try to avoid ended up happening anyways. So the last or the forty eight hours leading up to the event were, well one of them was with you going to My Favorite Murder.

N: My Dad Wrote a Porno.

B: That's right. See I'm still tired.

N: I mean those are two favorite non-Nonprofit Reframe podcasts.

B: That's true, that's true. I'm just trying to give them a quick plug. Okay, My Dad Wrote a Porno Thursday night. The night before that, so that would have been Wednesday, was at work probably until eight or nine, then on Friday, with was at work until 12:30 in the morning.

N: Oh my gosh.

B: So I got home at one. Yeah it was just crazy, my goal was to get everything loaded in my car on Friday so I would have to go back to the office on Saturday. And that didn't work. We just felt like at 12:30 at night, it probably wasn't the best time to be loading seven cases of wine and twelve cases of beer into my car.

N: Yeah, yeah, wise decision.

B: Do you think that's fair?

N: I also know because our text messages, that you had some technology issues.

B: Yeah, so that led to some of it. It's always beautiful when your printer decides to jam, but there is no jam to be found. We looked all through it, we had the manual for the printer out, trying to read how to override a paper jam and it wouldn't print because it claimed that there was some ghost paper jam that we could never find, and so then we had to print everything from the first floor printer.

N: Uh-huh

B: Thankfully we had that printer as an option, but we don't have laptops, we have desktop computers so I would have to print and then run downstairs. I got so many steps in and then I would have to, "Oh my gosh it printed wrong". Run back upstairs.

N: Oh my gosh.

B: It was a little chaotic. We figured it out. Resourceful, right?

N: Always resourceful. Oh my gosh, that's amazing. Okay, so then the event was great, we don't need to go into details because I feel like it's probably a little too close for you right now.

B: Yeah, I need some time to process.

N: Yeah. But how was the day after?

B: Exhausting, but you know not as exhausted as I feel right now.

N: Yeah, that day lag.

B: I mean it's the next day. You know was tired, but I think I still had this buzz from the event happening.

N: Adrenaline probably.

B: Yeah, I laid low, took my kids to see a movie, which was fantastic. And then, but today, particularly because we've had the time change.

N: Yeah. Today is rough.

B: It's interesting how one hour can make such a difference.

N: I feel like this is the worst day of the year, every year.

B: I know.

N: The Monday after we spring forward.

B: Yeah. My kids were over an hour late to school today because of me, because I couldn't get out of bed.

N: I woke up earlier yesterday, having been to your gala.

B: Right.

N: Getting home super late. I woke up earlier yesterday, than I did today.

B: Exactly.

N: I just couldn't do it.

B: I know, I can't either. So a little tired, it's going to take some time, but feeling pretty good about the event. Very excited, got a lot of great feedback, people had a wonderful time, we hit our budget goal.

N: Yay!

B: Yay! Still working on numbers to see just how far over that goal we got, but a lot of frickin' work.

N: And I think it really showed.

B: Oh I can cuss!

N: Yeah!

B: A lot of fucking work.

N: So that's the other thing we should say, earlier this morning, we were actually interviewed for another podcast that we will share wide and far as soon as it comes available online. But we censored ourselves, and both of us got done and we were like, God it's fucking exhausting not to swear!

B: It's so hard having to monitor what comes out of my mouth. Now I don't have to.

N: Back in your safe space at the Nonprofit Reframe.

B: Exactly, exactly.

N: So after today, after you get maybe a little bit of rest, and have you already started planning for the next year?

B: Funny you should ask, the venue already emailed me last week for next year's date.

N: So before this gala even happened?

B: Yep, yep. They said, hey we can touch base after the event, but just wanted to give you a heads up, we're already starting to fill up next year's dates. Want to know if you want to go ahead and reserve yours.

N: That actually is great to know because it was a conversation at our table as to why it was that date when there were some other events going on in the community. And I said, my guess is that the organization had to reserve this date at this venue, long before those other things were ever planned.

B: Oh absolutely, yeah. So I mean we planned, you have to, you have to get it early and you just have to commit.

N: Yeah

B: You know, Oprah was coming to town on Saturday.

N: Did She?

B: Yeah, she was at the Pepsi Center. So there was a hot second where I questioned that. You know is that going to impact our attendance? Luckily that was during the day anyways and I don't think we had that much crossover. I mean I know there was a few people that came to event that had gone to see her, which I heard was fantastic.

N: I'm sure.

B: Wish I could have gone. But yeah you just never know what's going to happen, for example coronavirus.

N: I know I was just thinking, if you all were a week later, I think it really would've impacted things.

B: 100%! I mean, we are so grateful that we got it in when we did because we started to get a few emails, I had at least one guest cancel and said that they couldn't come because they weren't doing things in large crowds, which I get that's fine. I just have a feeling that this week it's going to become even more prevalent and more and more events are going to have to cancel because of it. And that's going to be a big issue for the sector.

N: Yeah, actually, I've been seeing it in a lot of my groups and a number of us consultants have been talking too about what the impact of both you know canceling events and some that you can't do virtually. I know a lot of people are talking about that, so you've got that happening at the same time that the markets are crashing so hard and what do that mean for the sector and fundraising as a whole. So I feel like we might need another minisode just on that.

B: I mean thank goodness we got our paddle raiser in, hours before the DOW plummeted.

N: Again, Yeah

B: Again, Yeah. So Yeah feeling very grateful that we got it in and we got it behind us. And my heart goes out to those that are you know in the last stages and trying to decide what to do because because it's know, they've already put so much work in.

N. Oh yeah, and money!

B: And money. Yeah they have deposits I'm sure they can't get back.

N: Well and I know, for organizations like yours, then I think the real grace in this is that now you can shift to how you are responding to COVID-19, should it impact your families and clients because there needs to be a real response coordination at this point.

B: Yeah, so we'll definitely do another episode about that.

N: Love it! Well I just want to say it was fantastic. I'm so glad I got to see you there sending all my love from across the room, I'm just so freaking proud.

B: Thank you for your support Nia!

N: Of course my pleasure! And with that y'all we will be back next Monday with a full-length, full-episode. Thanks for joining us for our first Minisode.