

Advertising Specialty Institute®

What's Your Story?

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There are 4 key reasons why working on Repositioning your business story, and brand narrative is worth your time and you should practice!

- 1. Consumer buying behavior has dramatically changed
- 2. It's a Competitive Advantage
- 3. Memorable and Shareable
- 4. Emotional Connections lead to TRUST; and trust leads to SALES!



It's NOT Too Late!

It's time for Clarity!

It's time for Alignment!

It's time for a memorable STORY!

To thrive in the current market, businesses need to prioritize customer-centric marketing over traditional company-centric approaches

REPOSITION!



Here are some facts about buying behaviors:

- 1. Most people research you online before they buy from you.
- 2. 87% of consumers used Google to evaluate local businesses in 2022, up from 81% in 2021.*
- 3. 98% of consumers used the internet to find information about local businesses in 2022, up from 90% in 2019.*



*According to BrightLocal; Local Consumer Review Survey 2023. www.brightlocal.com/research/local-consumer-review-survey/

TOP 9 STORY ARCHETYPES



- 1. **Hero's Journey:** A protagonist embarks on an adventure, faces challenges, undergoes transformation, and returns home with newfound wisdom or a valuable treasure.
- 2. **Overcoming the Monster:** A protagonist confronts and defeats a powerful antagonist or formidable obstacle, often symbolizing a personal or external threat.
- 3. **Rags to Riches:** A character starts in a lowly position, overcomes obstacles, and achieves success or a higher status.
- 4. **Voyage and Return:** A protagonist ventures into a strange or unfamiliar world, faces trials, and ultimately returns home transformed.
- 5. **Comedy:** A lighthearted narrative where characters find themselves in amusing and often absurd situations, leading to a resolution that typically involves reconciliation and happiness.
- 6. **Tragedy:** A story that depicts the downfall of a protagonist due to a character flaw or an unavoidable fate, resulting in a somber or catastrophic ending.
- 7. **Rebirth:** A character undergoes a significant personal change or redemption, often as a result of a transformative event or realization.
- 8. **Quest:** A protagonist embarks on a journey or mission to find a person, object, or knowledge, encountering challenges and ultimately achieving the goal.
- 9. **The Fall:** A story that explores the moral or psychological decline of a character or society, often portraying the consequences of their actions.



Small businesses trying to describe their story may find the "Rags to Riches" narrative works exceptionally well. WHY?

- 1. Relatability
- 2. Underdog Appeal
- 3. Empathy & Authenticity
- 4. Inspirational



Repositioning your pitch, your business story, your brand narrative, should be done strategically.

Consider your audience, the market trends, and the core <u>values</u> of your business.

Crafting a compelling brand story and effectively communicating it, creates confidence. It will positively impact your sales and create customer loyalty.



The 5 steps to Reposition your Business Story

- 1. Conduct a Brand Audit
- 2. What are you known for, your reputations, your SPF factor
- 3. Understand what your buyers really want
- 4. Outline a compelling story common narratives (Rags to Riches)
- 5. Consistently Communicate and Reinforce your Brand Story
- 6. Review Jay's exclusive Promo-mercial pattern



#ditchthepitch



4 Building Blocks to help you craft your narrative

- 1. Who is hiring you? Mention a top 10 client
- 2. Include your BIGGEST value and describe how you're different
- 3. Mention 2-3 PAIN points existing customers struggle with
- 4. Describe the resolution, include 2-3 benefits. This is YOUR prescription and the ultimate outcome. Describe the feelings of emotions your clients felt (or will feel).



Jay's PROMO-mercial:

Branded Merch companies hire me to help them reposition their story and align their business branding, because most lack a memorable narrative*, say the same thing* (aka, boring!) or they don't know where to start*. I have 25+ years experience in promo & apparel and I will tell you if "your story sucks!" SO... I help promo peeps and apparel geeks find their true why, feel confident sharing memorable stories that create meaningful relationships.

It's time to dosomething worth remembering!