



2024 Attendee Survey

October 5, 2024

Highest Response Rate Since 2022

58.1%

Response Rate
(373 out of 641
adult attendees)

Highest Satisfaction Score Since 2022

92.5%

Satisfaction Rate
(For 4 and 5 responses)

You asked in the 2019 survey, the Events Team description was created with all that in mind, and delivered:

- A location other than Arizona, USA in the summer
- A “destination” location that can be enjoyed with family/significant other/spouse/cast and where one can stay longer than a week to extend the experience
- More options for families to spend time with one other during the event
- Ability to have spouse/significant other/kids experience what my travel year was like
- More cultural learning activities
- More community involvement/impact activities
- Ability to go in deep about a topic and discuss it (ex. as a study group)
- A diverse AAW Team – 2024’s volunteers spanned all eras and were from 13 different countries



It was perfect. I spent a lot of time with my castmates, that was the most important thing to me.

Fantastic!

Fun & functional for large group.

I had a fantastic time and am so thankful to everyone who worked so hard to bring us together.

Thank you so much for your hard work, commitment, and dedication!

Enjoyed the warm bath of UWP love and friendship. Meeting new people and sharing experiences.

It really hit the mark to have a week together.

Wonderful time together, well organized, wide range of opportunities.

Loved the week-long format, allowed lots of time for visiting and extra activities or meet-ups. All the tours offered were so great.

I greatly appreciate the hard work the committee put into organizing the reunion! I liked this format, especially the day trips because it allowed us to interact and meet people from other casts, which we typically didn't do sitting by the pool.

I would bring my nieces/nephews for Xp K & T. THAT WAS AWESOME!!

To me it was perfect.

Wish I could do ALL the tours and ALL the sessions!!!!

Excellent and well-organized.

We were able to reconnect with cast that don't usually attend reunion due to location

This was my first visit to Ireland, and I was thoroughly impressed by the kindness of the Irish people I met.

"The Language of Peace" panel discussion led by Global Impact gave me insight on the current situation. I didn't expect what I learned.

Meeting old and new friends in great surroundings/settings.

The best feeling.... and knowing you probably have time to chat with friends, old and new in the following next couple of days.





The whole week, the program, the organization was just awesome! Thank you!! :)

All the work and effort that went into each event: THANK YOU SO MUCH UWPIAA and VOLUNTEERS!! I'm in awe of all the time you spent in prep and execution. I was worried about a full week and overload, but it was ALL lovely!

It was quite brilliant.

Xperience T- loved it for my daughter!

Magical week!

The best part was being able to give big hugs to friends I hadn't seen in a long time.

Organization has been totally excellent. Every moment was well spent, and all was taken care of! Also appreciated the great mixture of space & freedom for individual initiatives, combined with truly worthwhile events/activities, that were breathing the UWP values, spirit, energy we all share.

Such a wonderful trip - thank all of you for all your incredible efforts

Staying on campus with my castmates was super.

Thank you! It was amazing! Your work is most appreciated!

So impressed with the effort of the volunteers, and thankful for their incredible work!!

The opportunity to meet my castmates and other Uppies for SEVEN days - we had the best time, and we had ENOUGH time to talk, to laugh, to share memories! It was so much fun!

It was probably my week of the year. I had never expected to have such a wonderful week. I enjoyed not being in a resort, so we had an easy access to downtown and the possible of staying in small appartements was great.

Reliving the UWP spirit & the Era shows.

Making it last a week was perfect! The connection and reconnecting we were able to do with longer amounts of time was ideal.

And I'm very grateful to all those involved in making this happen!!!

Being surrounded by 750 amazing positive-minded people. Feeling the spirit of UWP again.

Getting to see my cast and meet new people.

Overall outstanding event. You all did a FANTASTIC job!! Many thanks for all of your hard work and extremely long hours to make the event a great success! See you next year.



It was great to reconnect with some European castmates that have never attended a USA-based reunion.

It was great to be in a location outside of the US.

AAW was amazing and best reunion I've attended, other than the 50th Anniversary.

It was a wonderful reunion. I enjoyed the show and rehearsals. They were very well run. And professional.

Ireland was a wonderful location. We enjoyed the opportunity to travel around and learn more about the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

I liked the fact that UWPIAA reunion was held outside US and involved cultural aspects such as historical sites etc.

On the tours and on the campus, I got to meet many alumni of different eras. Having a whole week was wonderful. At former reunions we just spend time with our cast. This year it felt like a big UWP family. Great to talk to alumni of different generations.

I loved everything! An outstanding job of preparation! Beyond expectations! ❤️

Huge thank you for the organization!

I loved the fact the Alumni Week was in Europe! Ireland was an excellent choice.

I truly enjoyed that the AAW was a week! A huge win. I really enjoyed having more time to spend my people.

I was great having tours to see more of Ireland than just Limerick .

I felt this reunion was so thorough and well done! There were so many additional opportunities-like the excursions for those interested. Ample, quality time was provided for cast bonding as well as opportunities to mingle with those from other years. The dorm was also a great option and allowed our cast to be near each other.

On campus, my cast cooked meals together and shared memories and talked about our lives. That was wonderful.

Having the opportunity to take optional activities and see some of the surrounding areas of Ireland near Limerick.

Having sufficient time to reconnect —over several days—with my long-lost friends.

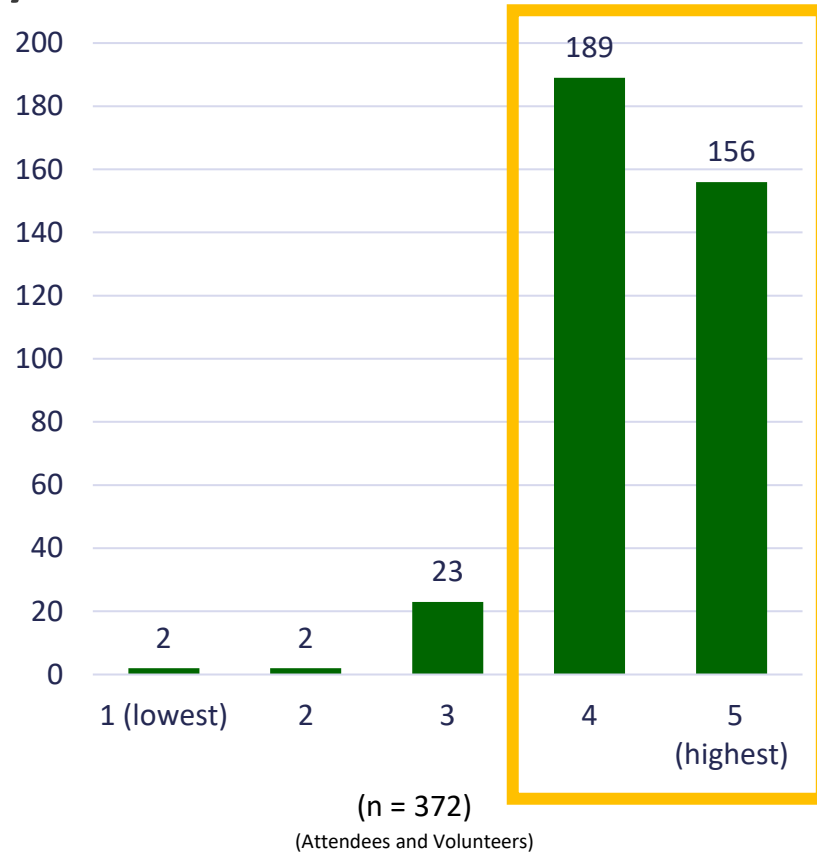
Having both kids in Xp K & T they were able to have a mini-UWP-experience. They were super-happy with the week and would love to do it again. To see my kids having that experience, made me so happy & thankful—that was very, very important to me! Travelling in Ireland and to see that fantastic nature was another highlight for our family !!! The event was SUPER-WELL organized! We loved it and thank you so much for all your work!!! This trip will stay in our memories forever. :)

92.5%

Satisfaction Rate
(For 4 and 5 responses)

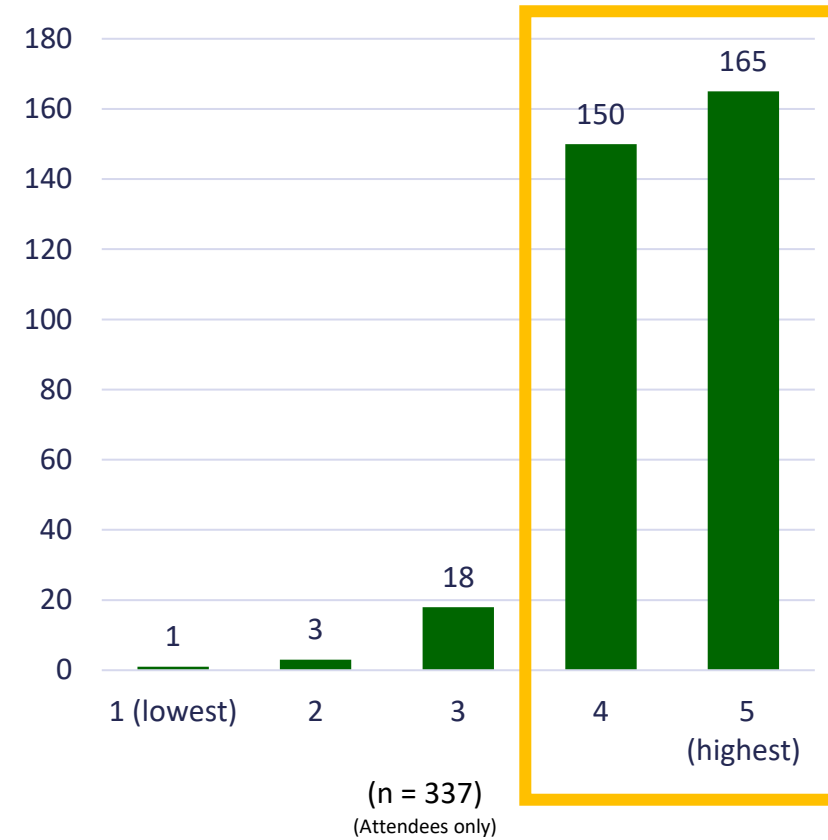
(Reaction at beginning of survey)

On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate this year's UWPIAA Reunion event?



(Reaction at end of survey)

If you gave the overall reunion experience a rating from 1-5, what would it be?



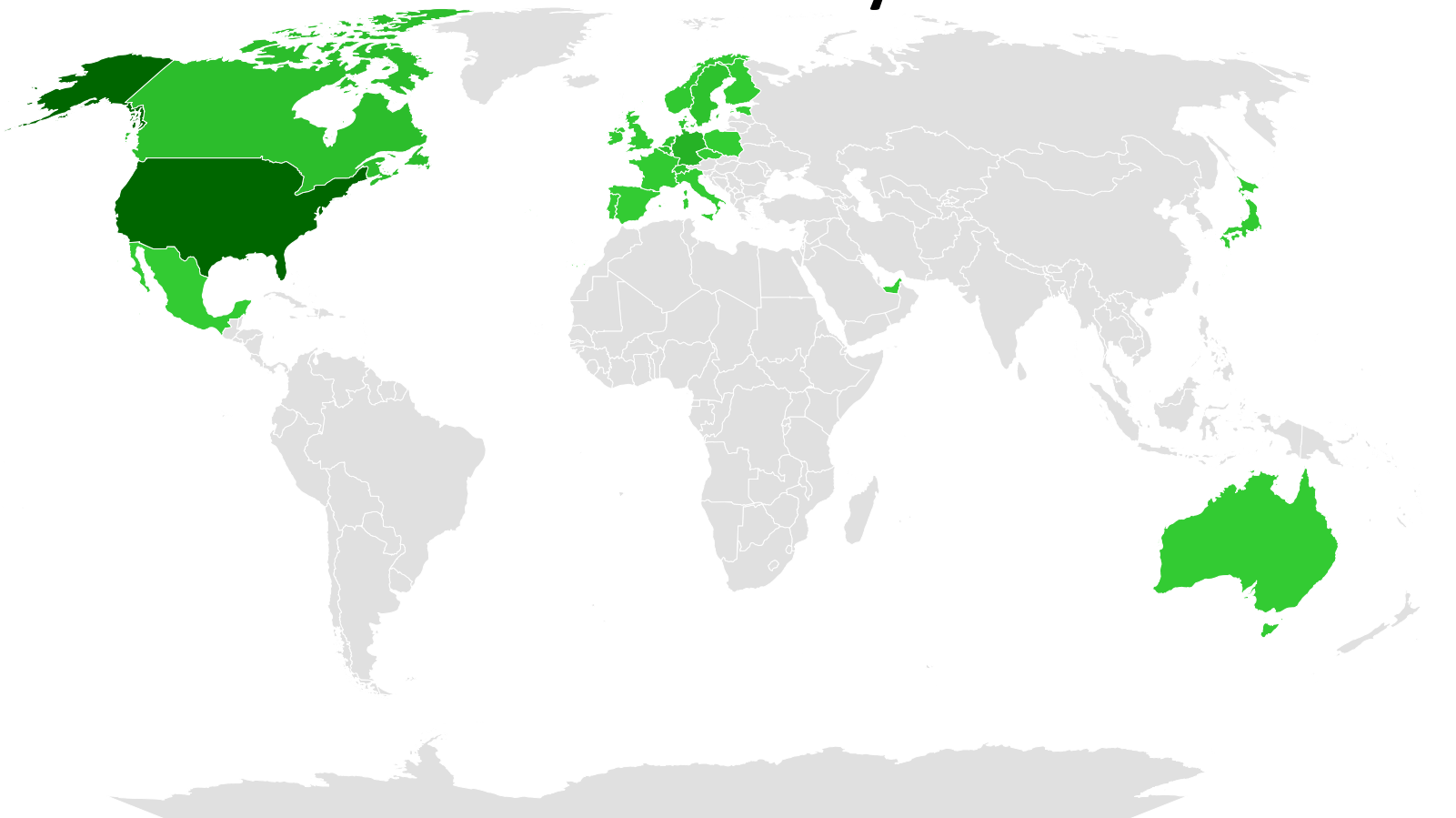
25

Countries
Represented

Attendees
323



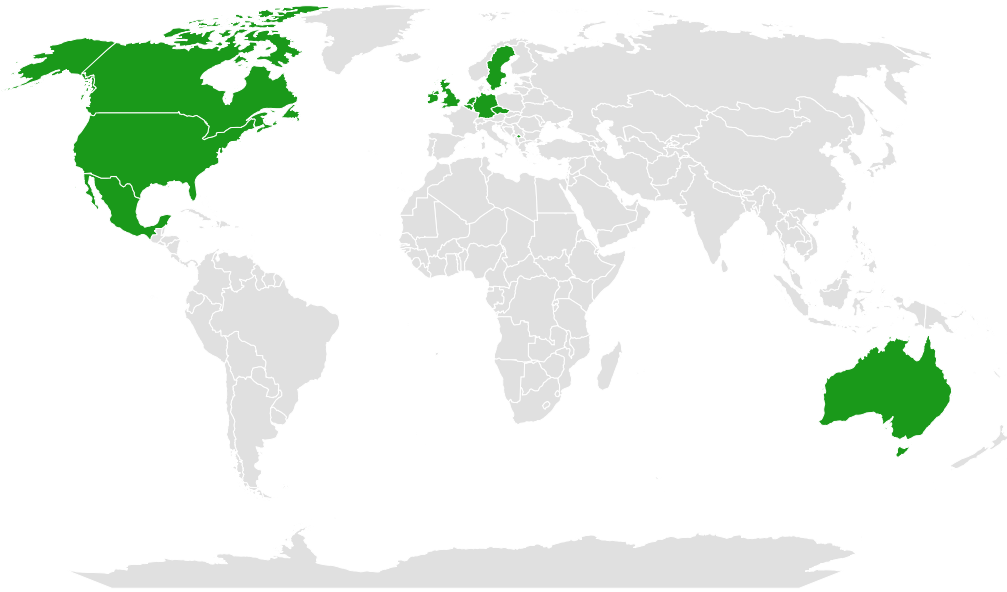
Who attended and how far did they travel?



1

Austria	1
Australia	3
Belgium	43
Canada	47
Czechia	2
Denmark	16
Estonia	2
Finland	8
France	6
Germany	82
Ireland	13
Italy	5
Japan	7
Liechtenstein	1
Mexico	3
Netherlands	25
Norway	15
Poland	1
Portugal	2
Spain	4
Sweden	34
Switzerland	33
UAE	1
United Kingdom	9
United States	323

Our 63-person AAW Volunteer Team



Australia
Belgium
Canada
Czech Republic
Germany
Ireland
Kosovo
Mexico
Northern Ireland
Sweden
The Netherlands
UK
USA

2601+
Volunteer
Hours

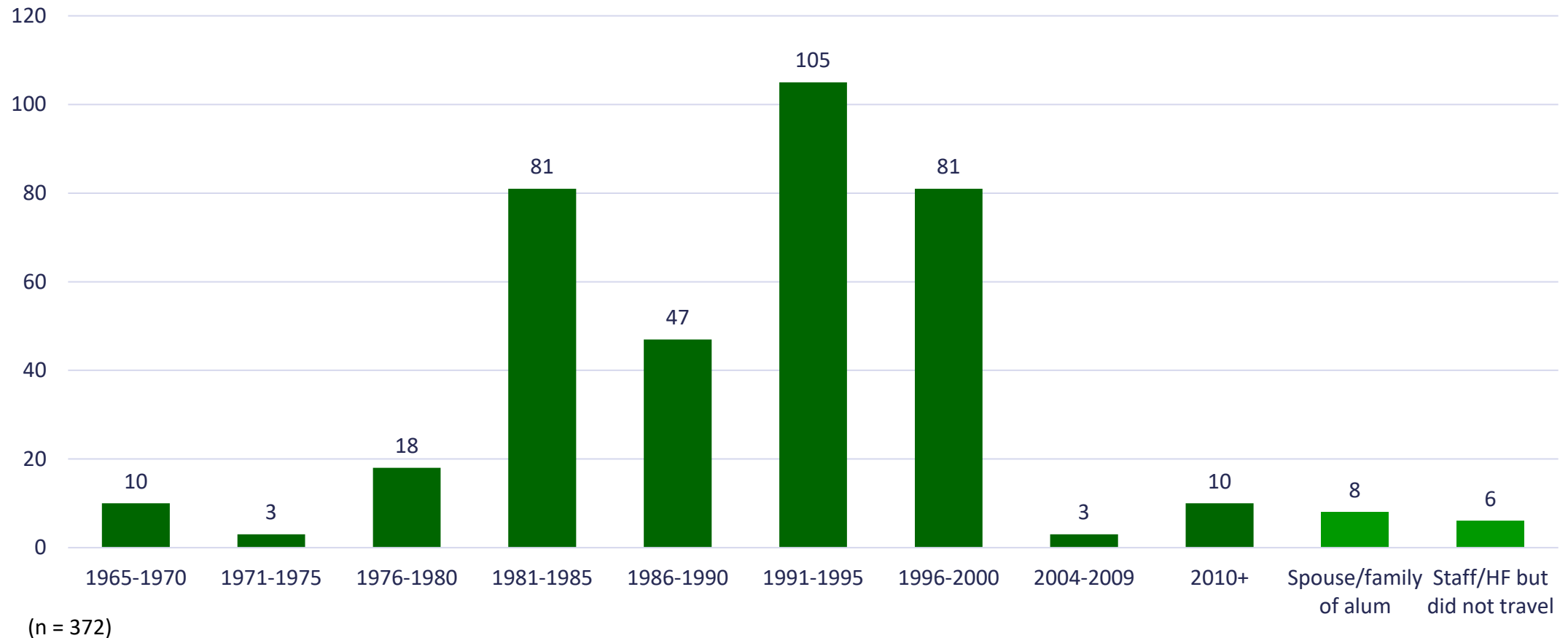
733
Scheduled Shifts
Saturday-Saturday

Volunteer Leaders

355+
Volunteer
Hours

116
Scheduled Shifts
Saturday-Saturday

I attended primarily as part of the following group:

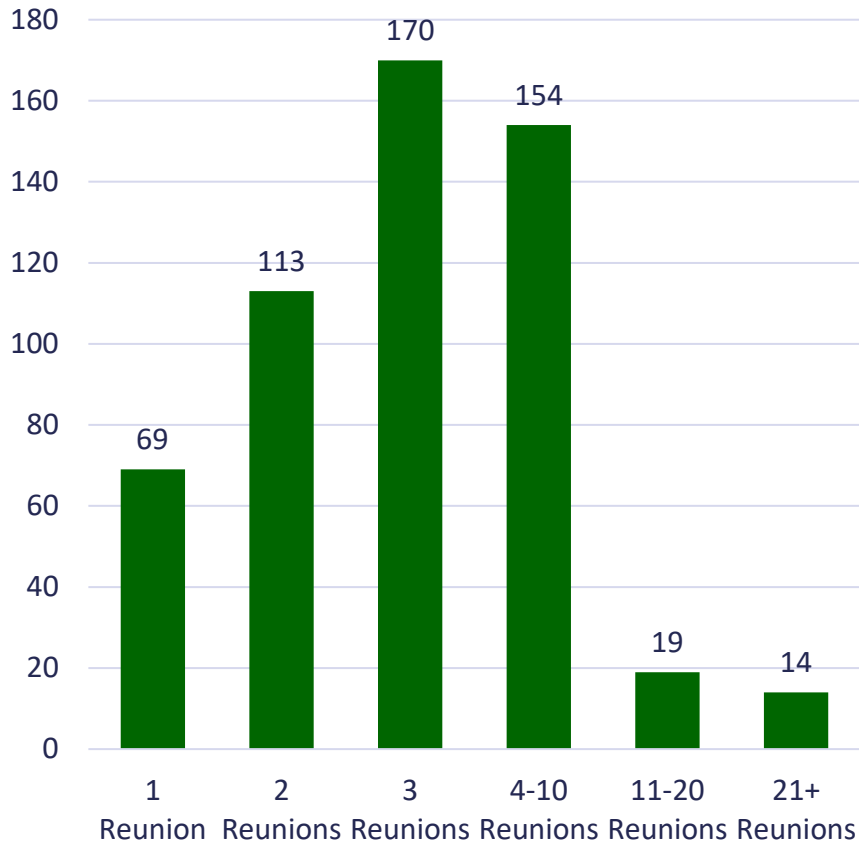




69

**First-time
Attendees**

**Including this year's event,
how many UWPIAA Reunions have you attended?**

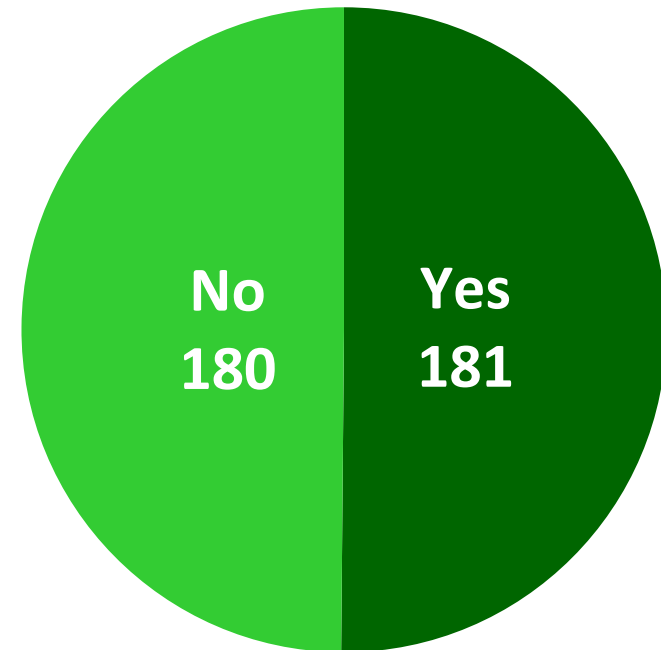


(n = 372)

181

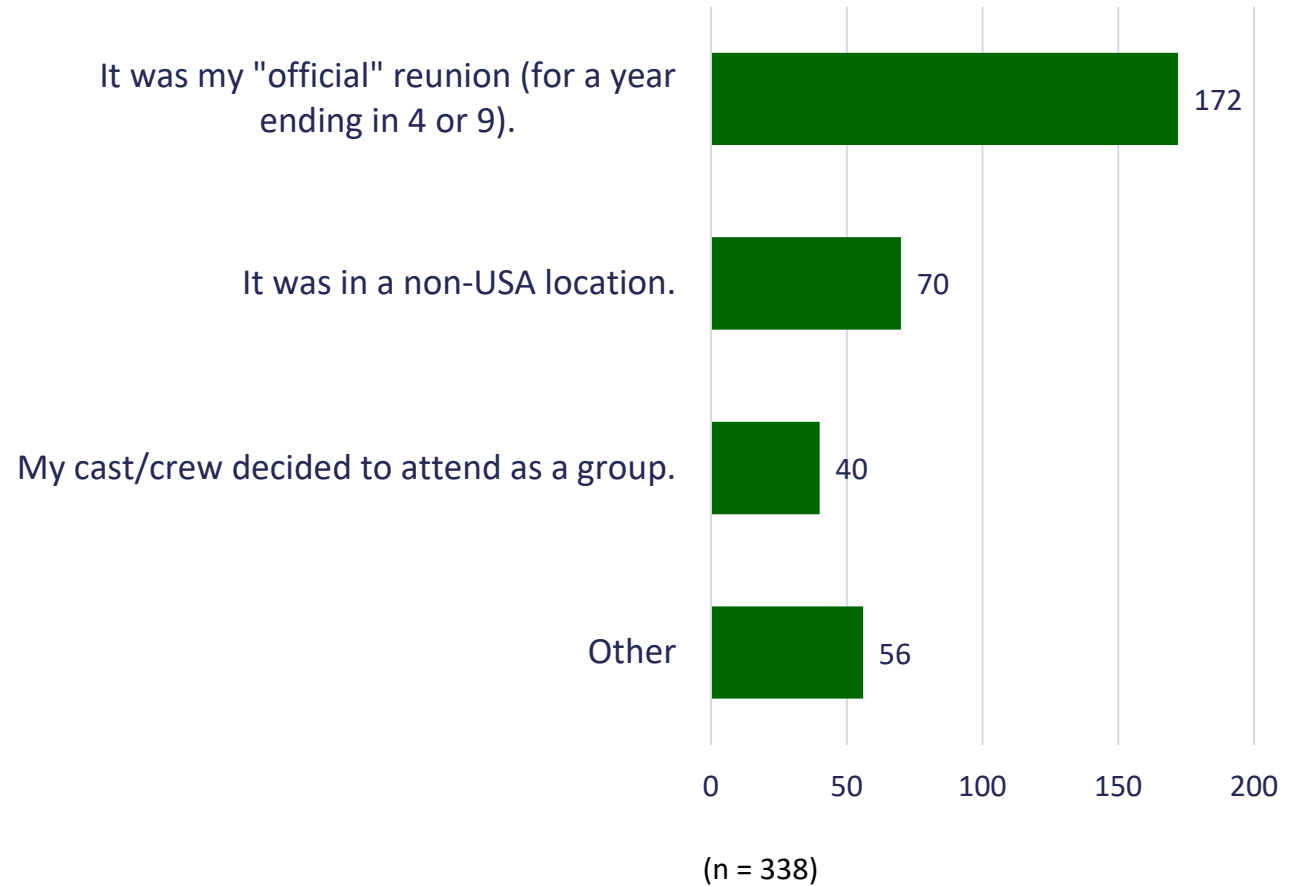
**First visit
to Ireland**

Was this your first visit to Ireland?



(n = 361)

What was the largest motivator in your attendance?



Other:

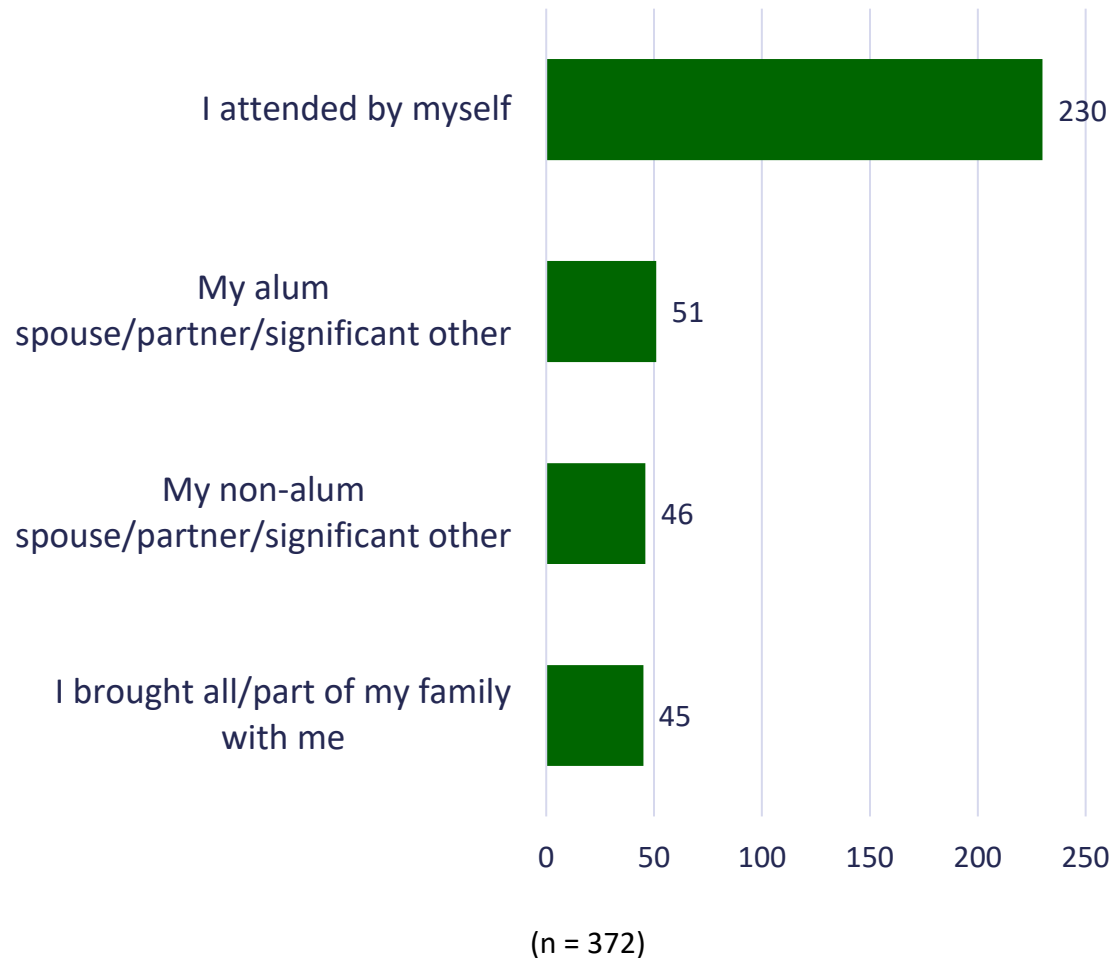
- **Location-Based Motivations:** Around 25-30% of respondents specifically mentioned Ireland or Europe as the primary motivator for attending.
- **Social and Alumni Connections:** Over 40% of attendees indicated that they were attending to reconnect with friends, castmates, or alumni, or because of their spouse's attendance.
- **Organizational or Official Roles:** Approximately 10-15% mentioned their roles in the alumni organization, such as being a Board Member, staff, or other official positions.
- **Personal Milestones and Events:** Close to 10% mentioned personal reasons, such as anniversaries or recognition by the alumni association.

(n = 56)

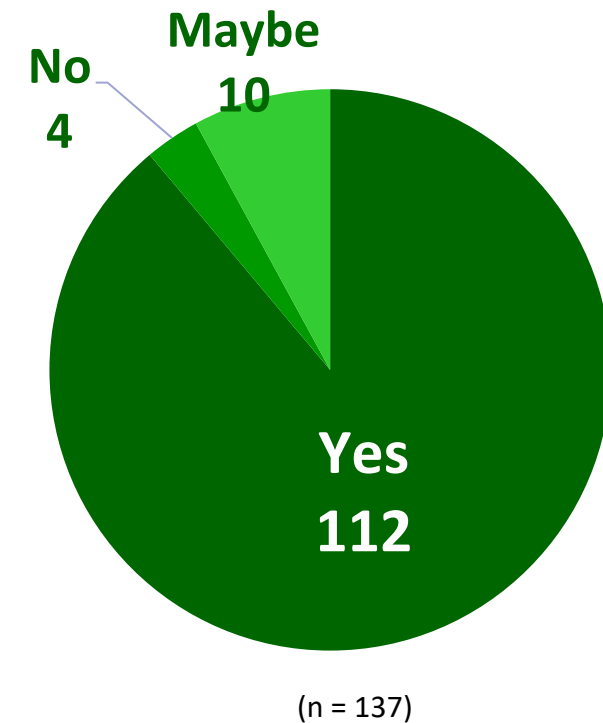
112

Would bring
someone again

Who attended reunion with you?



Would you bring your significant other and/or family again?

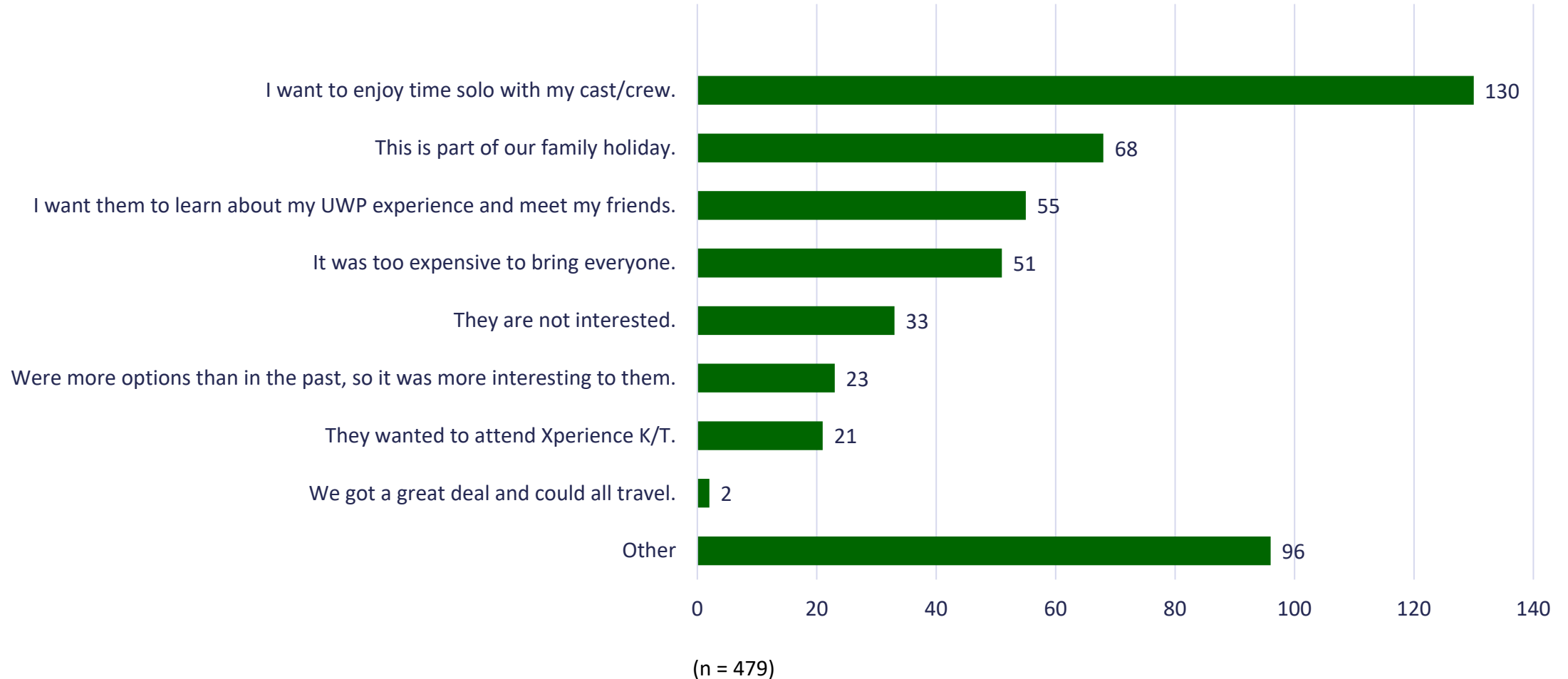


68

Made it part of
their holiday



What drove the decision to attend alone or bring family?



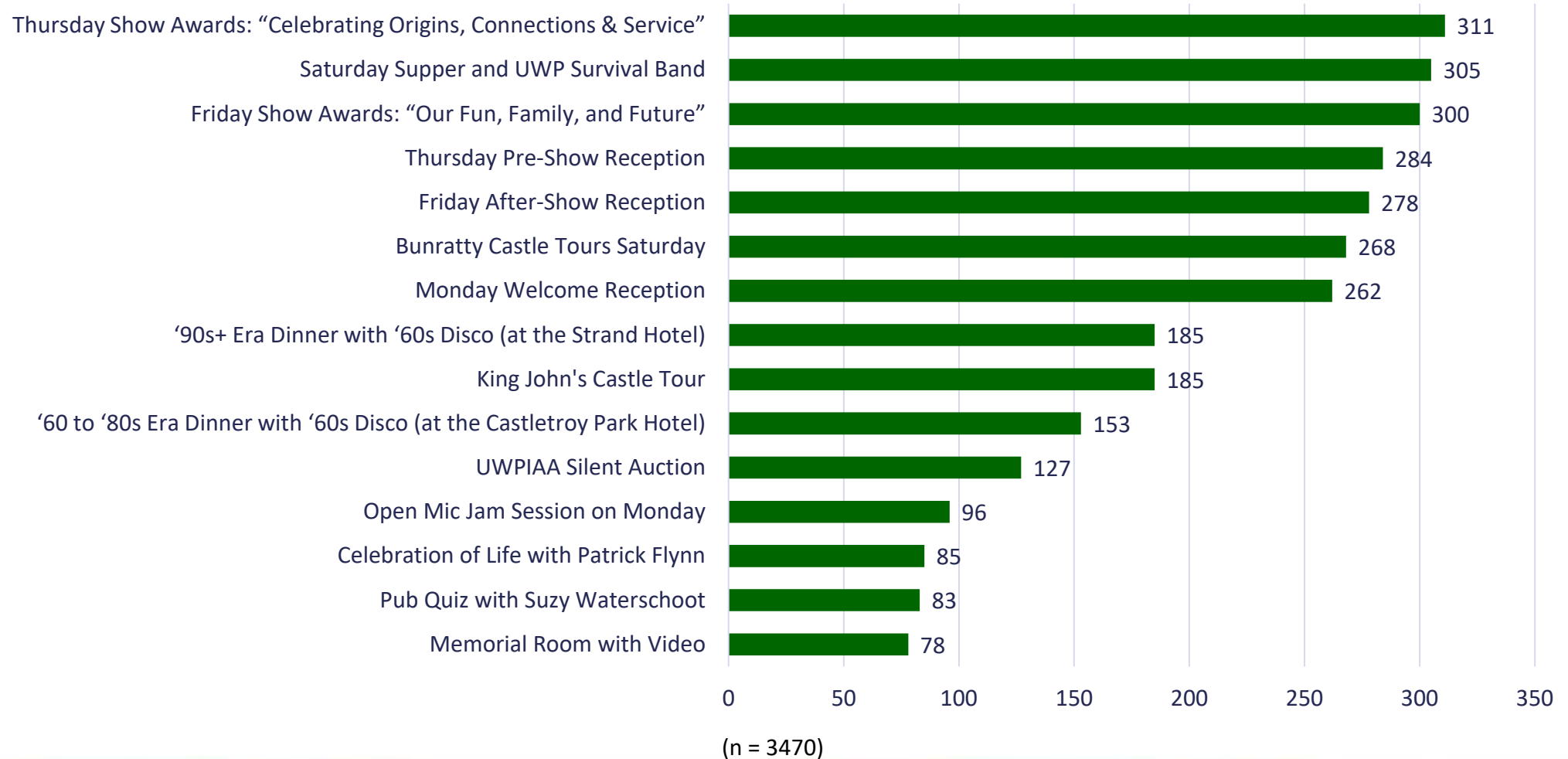
What drove the decision to attend alone or bring family?

- **Single Attendees:** About 30-35% of respondents indicated they attended alone because they were single or without a family.
 - Some attendees felt it was easier or preferable to attend solo in order to have more freedom to catch up with alumni friends.
- **Attending with Spouse/Family:** Approximately 25-30% mentioned bringing their spouse or family, with reasons including shared alumni experiences, vacation plans, or celebrating milestones like anniversaries.
 - Several attendees mentioned that their spouse or partner couldn't attend due to work, school, or health reasons.

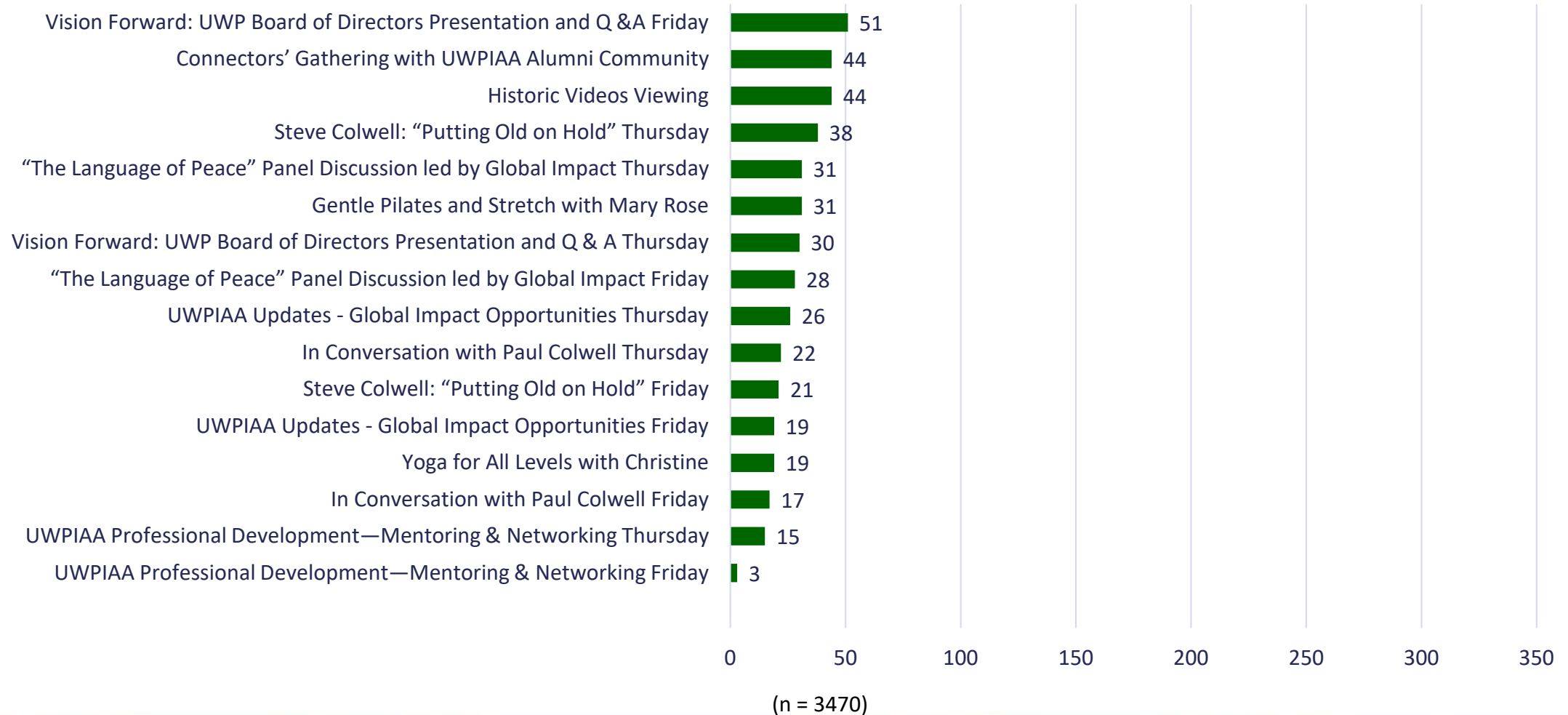
Additional answers provided:

- **Logistical or Financial Challenges:** Around 20-25% of respondents cited logistical reasons such as work schedules, school, or financial constraints for attending alone.
- **Health and Personal Issues:** A smaller subset (~5-10%) mentioned personal or health-related issues that prevented family members from attending, such as a spouse's injury or medical condition.
- **Desire for Independence:** A few attendees preferred to attend alone to focus on reuniting with friends without feeling the obligation to accommodate family during the event. This sense of independence was particularly important to those who regularly attend reunions.
- **Special Occasions and Milestones:** Several attendees mentioned celebrating significant events, such as their wedding anniversary or their service to the UWPIAA Board of Governors, as a reason for bringing their spouse or family.

Which events and sessions did you attend?

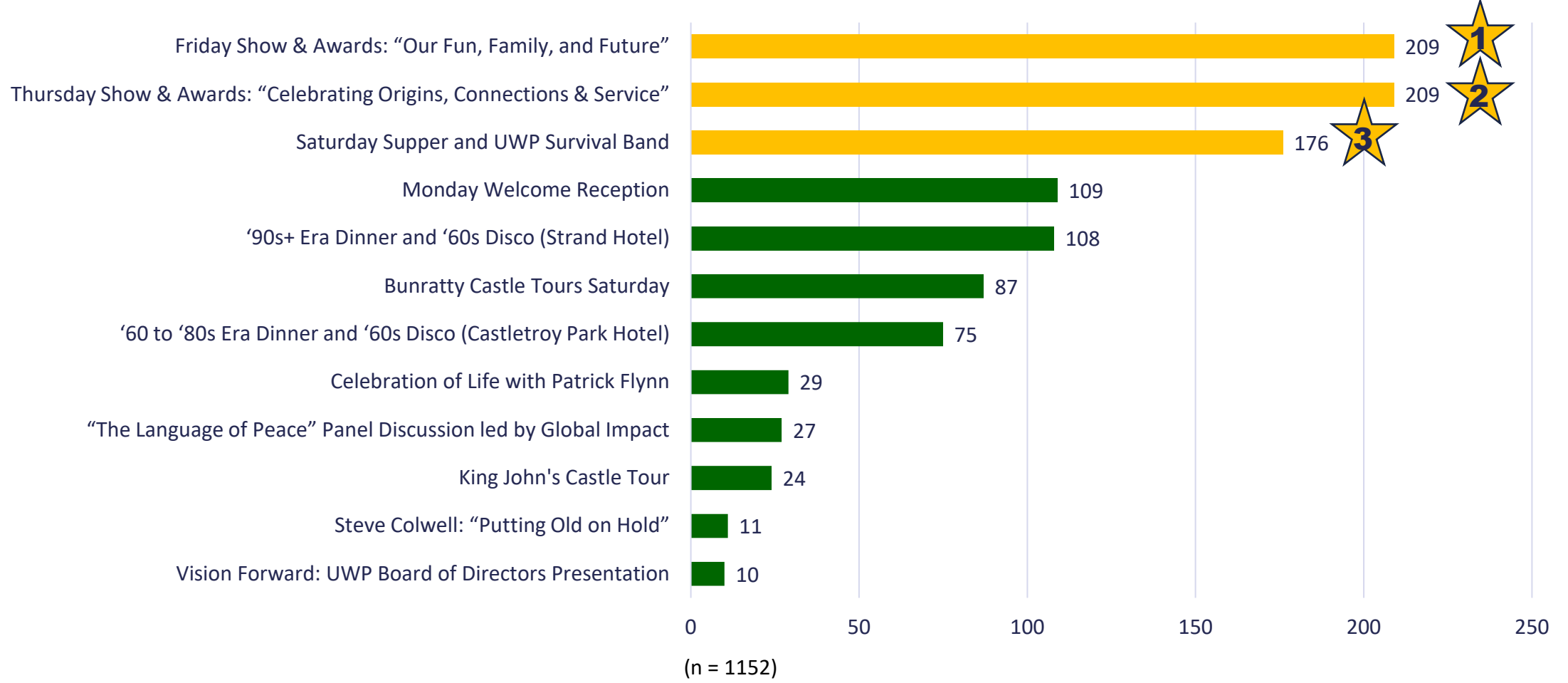


Which events and sessions did you attend? (continued)





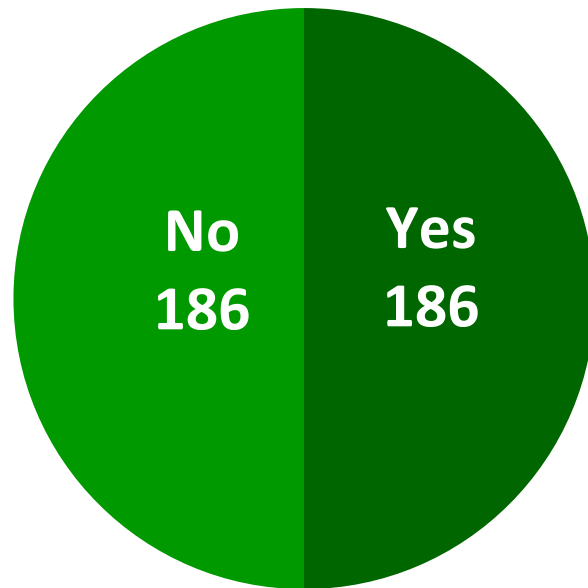
Please check off your top 3 events/activities from AAW 2024



Of the three sessions you checked above, which one was the most significant or meaningful to you and why?

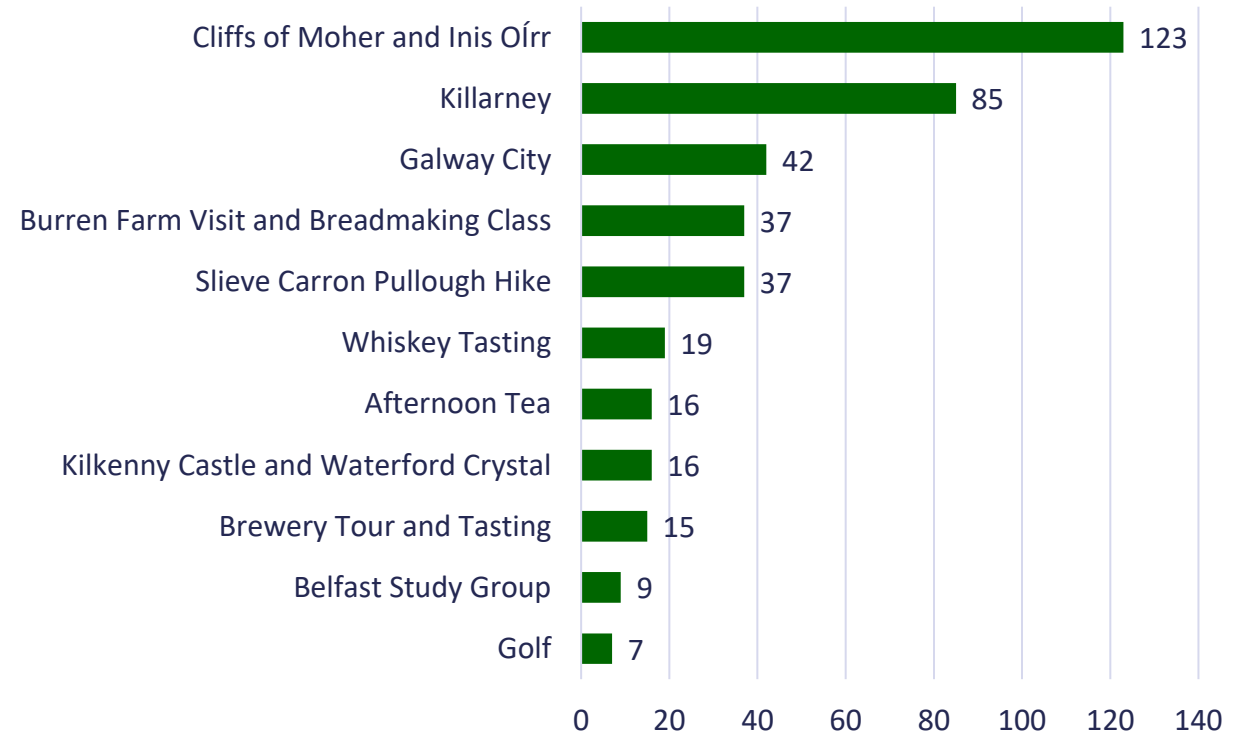
- **Era Shows and Performances:** Across all responses, approximately 40-45% of attendees found the era shows to be the most significant sessions. These performances evoked deep emotional connections and provided a powerful way for alumni to reunite and celebrate their shared history.
- **UWP Survival Band:** About 25-30% of attendees highlighted the UWP Survival Band as a major highlight, praising its energy and the communal spirit it fostered through music and dancing.
 - The band's performance was described as joyful and nostalgic, encapsulating the essence of UWP's mission of unity and celebration.
- **Social Reconnection:** Around 20-30% of respondents valued the Welcome Reception and other social gatherings, highlighting the importance of reconnecting with friends and the joy of shared experiences.
 - The Welcome Reception and the Saturday Supper provided important opportunities for attendees to reconnect with old friends and meet new people.
- **Meaningful Sessions:** Roughly 10-15% of attendees cited reflective sessions like the Celebration of Life and Language of Peace as the most meaningful, emphasizing the emotional depth and intellectual engagement these sessions provided.
 - The Celebration of Life were deeply emotional for attendees, offering a space to remember lost castmates and reflect on personal losses. This session was seen as a powerful and respectful way to honor those who had passed away, bringing a sense of closure and community.
 - The Language of Peace panel also had a strong impact, providing attendees with insights into the peace process in Northern Ireland and sparking meaningful discussions on global issues. This session aligned with UWP's mission of fostering understanding and dialogue on important global topics.

Did you participate in one or more of the optional tours, the Belfast study group, special activities (tea or tastings), or golf?



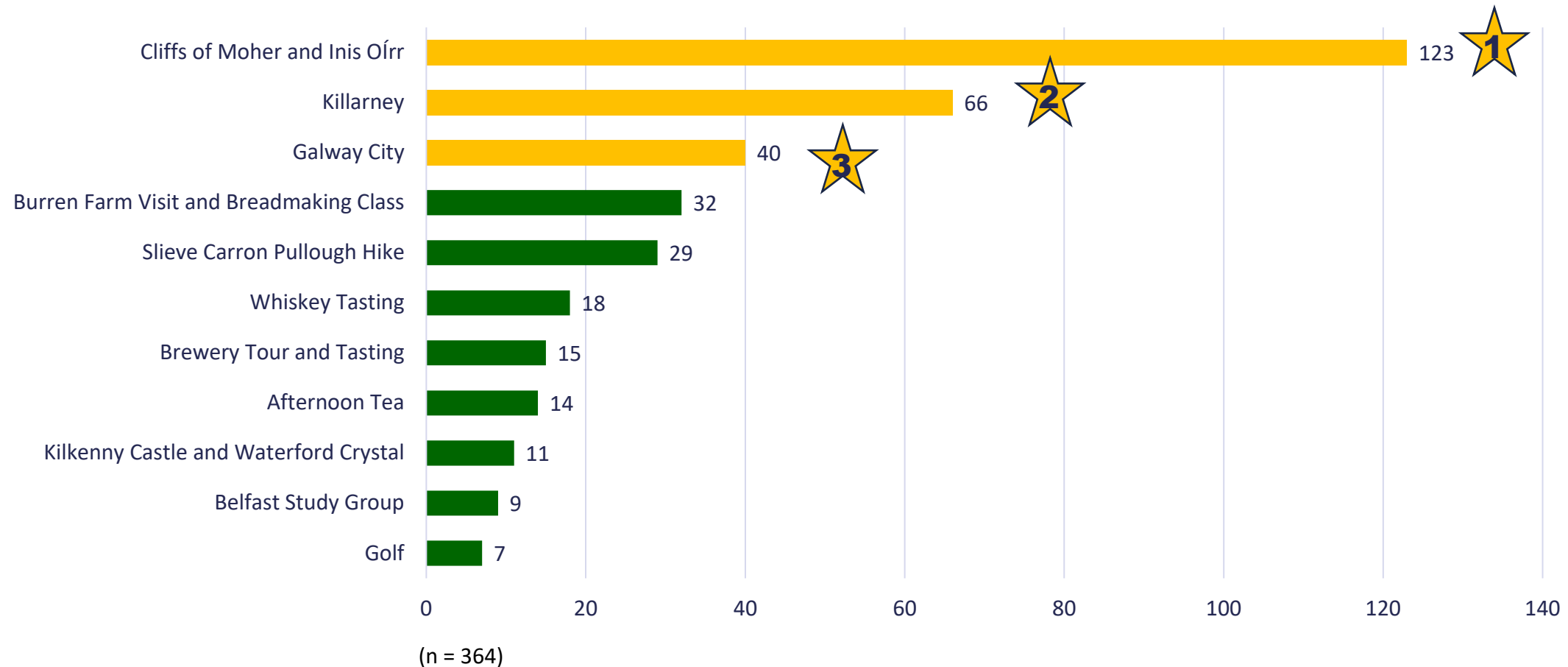
(n = 372)

Which of the following did you add to your registration?



(n = 406)

Which of the following were your top 3 optional activities?



Which optional activity was the most significant or meaningful to you and why?

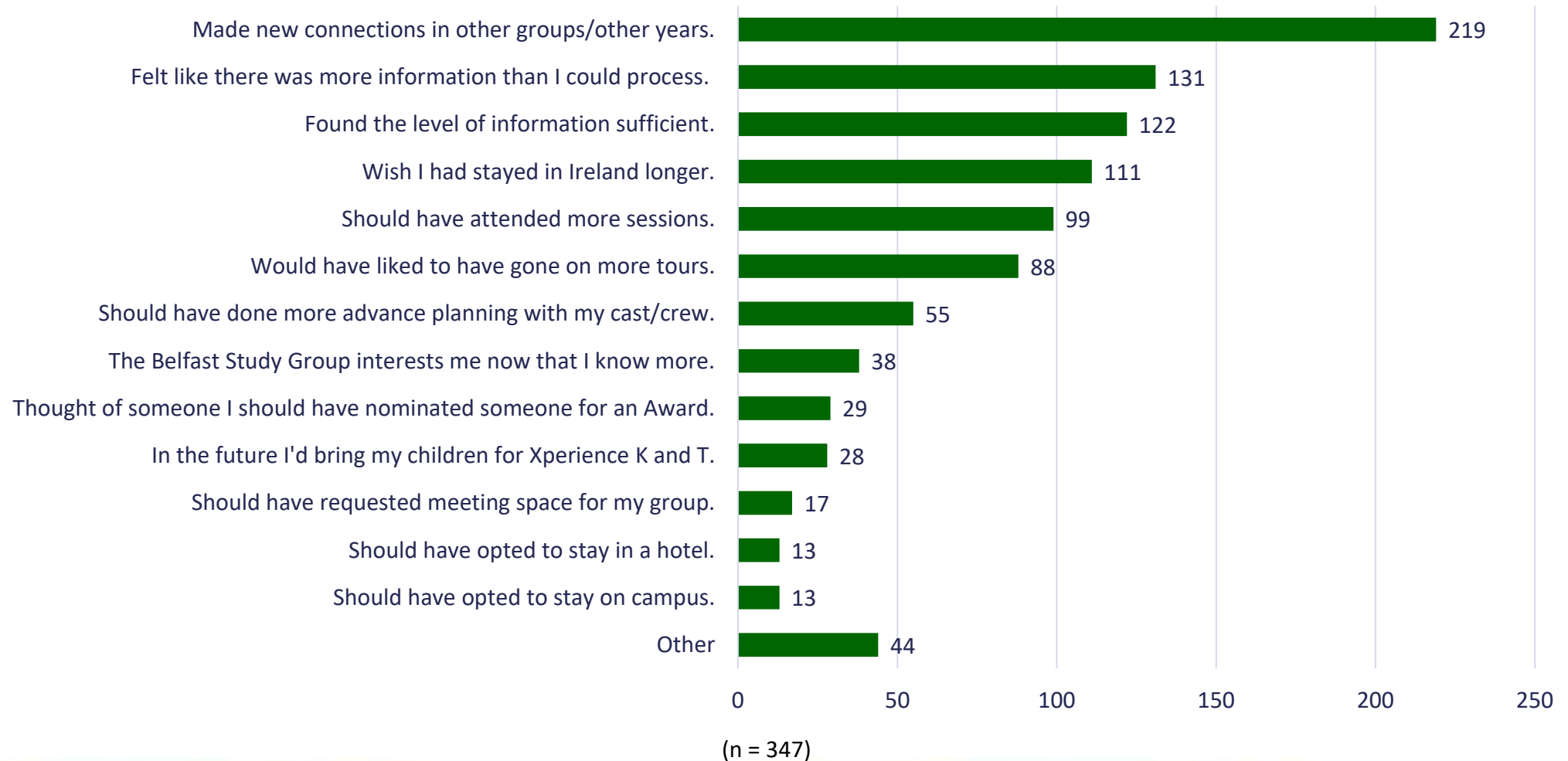
- **Cliffs of Moher and Inis Oírr: 51 mentions** - Frequently cited as a highlight, participants appreciated its breathtaking views and the opportunity to share the experience with others.
- **Burren Farm Visit/ /Bread Making: 23 mentions** - Celebrated for its personal connection with local families, engaging experiences, and cultural immersion, especially during the bread-making class.
- **Slieve Carron Pullough Hike: 20 mentions** - The hike was generally appreciated for its beauty, knowledgeable hosts, and unique cultural insights. However, some attendees found the terrain challenging or risky, and there were logistical concerns about bus delays and limited bathroom breaks.
- **Killarney (18 mentions) and Galway City (11 mentions) Tours:** Enjoyed for their beautiful landscapes, local history, and fun activities like horse and buggy rides.
- **Belfast Study Group: 8 mentions** - Valued for its educational impact and intimate setting, allowing for deeper discussions about history and personal experiences related to the Troubles in Northern Ireland.
- **Brewery Tour: 7 mentions** - Complimented tour for speaker/guide, balance of technical information, local history/tips, personal anecdotes, and humor.
- **Afternoon Tea: 6 mentions** - The Tea was widely enjoyed for its delicious offerings and quiet setting, and as a unique and memorable experience.
- **Kilkenny Castle and Waterford Crystal: 4 mentions** – Tour was excellent, and they would do it again.
- **Whiskey Tasting: 3 mentions** – It was great to spend time with a smaller group of people. The knowledge of the host and the bar was fun.
- **Golf: 2 mentions** - Ballyneety was a gorgeous course to play. Enjoyed the experience of playing golf on nice course in Ireland.
- **Other general mentions:** 4 mentions – Beautiful scenery/landscapes; 4 mentions – compliments to team on tours; 3 mentions – good to get off campus with cast/alumni; 2 mentions – fun meeting new alumni/other groups; 2 mentions – bus tours/tour guides excellent;
- **Constructive Criticism:** 2 mentions – rainy/bad weather; 2 mentions – tour costs high; 1 mention – wish had done Belfast study group; 1 mention – tours conflicted with cast day; 1 mention – need to get tour schedule earlier

219

Made friends
in other groups



Which of the following are true for you? (Select all that apply.)



Which was also true for you?

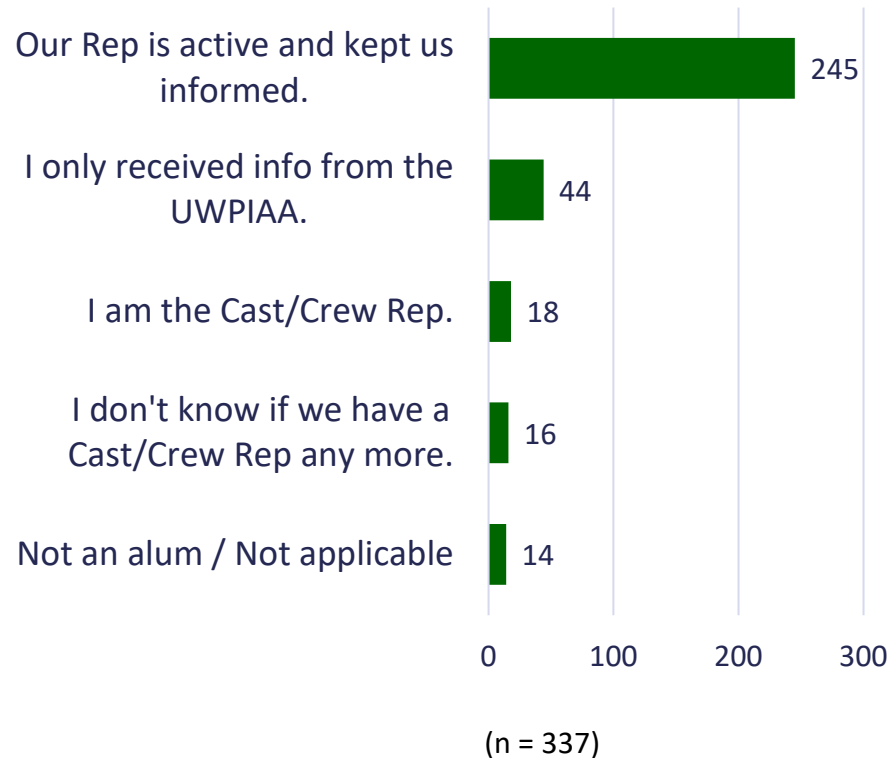
- 4 - Missed sessions because they had scheduled tours
- 3 - Wished schedule was provided sooner to plan better
- 3 - Felt there was too much info
- 3 - Felt not enough info
- 2 - Wanted less tours, more time with their cast

Constructive Criticism:

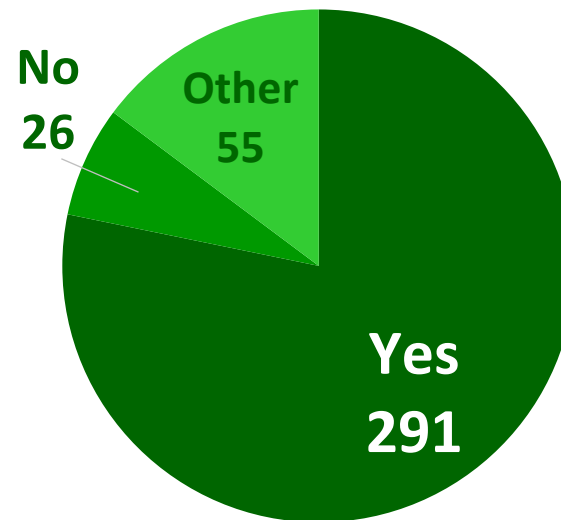
- I wish I had asked to be closer to the rest of my cast on campus. Three of us were in an apartment 3 buildings down from all the rest of our group.
- It would have been helpful to know who from the cast had signed up for events as I attended as a single person. I didn't know who would be there.
- Some tours had too many stops.
- The excursions were too expensive for me and our apartment was very far to walk. With my health problems I should have been closer to campus.
- The whole experience felt too busy. I felt we were rushing to get places a lot.
- There was lack of a central gathering place or funnel for gathering where everyone hangs out (like the hotel lobby or swimming pool at other reunions) too many disperse activities. It was Better in Tucson in ONE RESORT, also dividing the dinner it is bad supposedly you are trying to connect with more people.
- Would have liked more personal time for our cast to meet and talk in a quiet place or to have a party room like we did at other reunions.
- Information came in too many "waves," which made it feel like a full-time job just to figure out what to expect and plan for...

(n = 44 – Other responses)

Do you know your Cast/Crew Rep and are they active?



Did you find the mobile-friendly schedule for Annual Alumni Week helpful and useful?



Other:

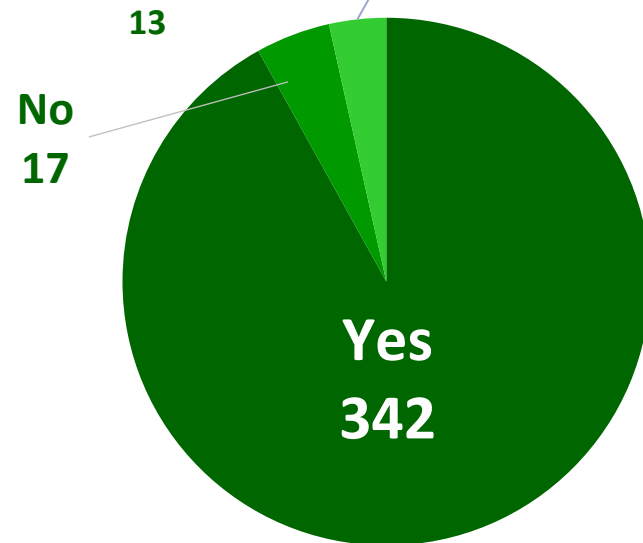
- 21- Didn't use
- 13 - Didn't know it was available
- 3 - Hardly used
- 1 - Very helpful

Constructive Criticism (1 mention each):

- Difficult to read
 - Confused how to access
 - Idea good, execution lacking
 - Kept losing the link
 - Didn't apply to K & T
 - Not sufficient info/info missing
 - Phone connection issues/no wi-fi
 - Just have only one method for info
 - Cast Rep did all communication for us
- (n = 55)

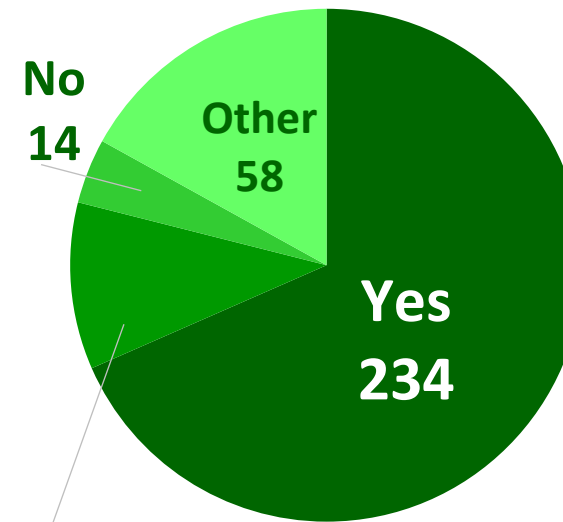
Did you/someone in your group join the WhatsApp group for Annual Alumni Week?

There was a What's App group?



(n = 372)

Did you find the Broadcast WhatsApp group for Annual Alumni Week helpful and useful?



Yes, and please add an interactive group for Cast/Crew Reps/those coordinating a group onsite.
36

(n = 342)

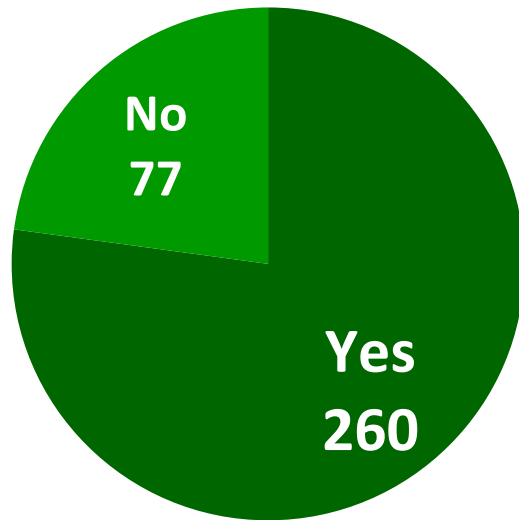
Other:

- 21 - Too much info/overwhelming
- 19 - Helpful, but too much info
- 5 - Didn't know it was available
- 4 - Didn't use
- 4 - Created their own with cast
- 3 - Helpful and useful

Constructive Criticism (1 mention each):

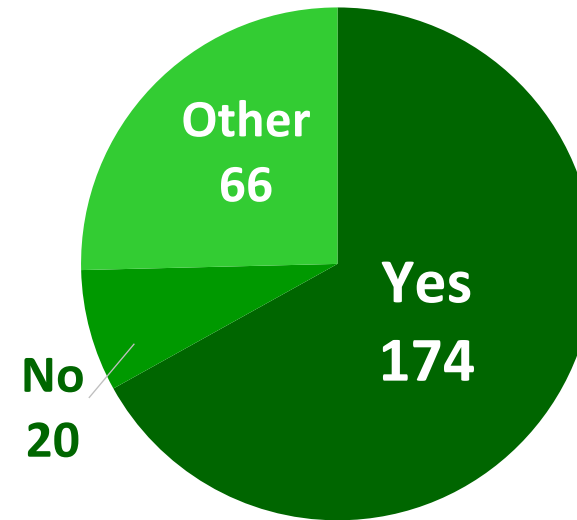
- Should allow attendees to post
- It was difficult to find out the really important and new information.
- Choose 3 or 4 set times during a day for updates... Use bullet points.
- It should be used to prompt people to go to the website for updated/new information and the website should be clear (different text color) indicated new info.
- A website with clear information would have been preferred
- I'd rather have too much info than too little.

Did you/someone in your group attend the monthly Info Sessions?



(n = 337)

Did you find the monthly Info Sessions for Annual Alumni Week helpful and useful?



(n = 260)

Other:

- 3 - Attended 2+ meetings
- 4 - Attended only 1 meeting
- 18 - Cast rep/cast mate attended
- 14 - Did not attend
- 7 - Difficult to follow/questions took long time
- 6 - Maybe/ok/partly helpful
- 4 - Didn't know about meeting
- 3 - Repetitive information of what was on website/in email
- 2 - Too many meetings

Constructive Criticism (1 mention each):

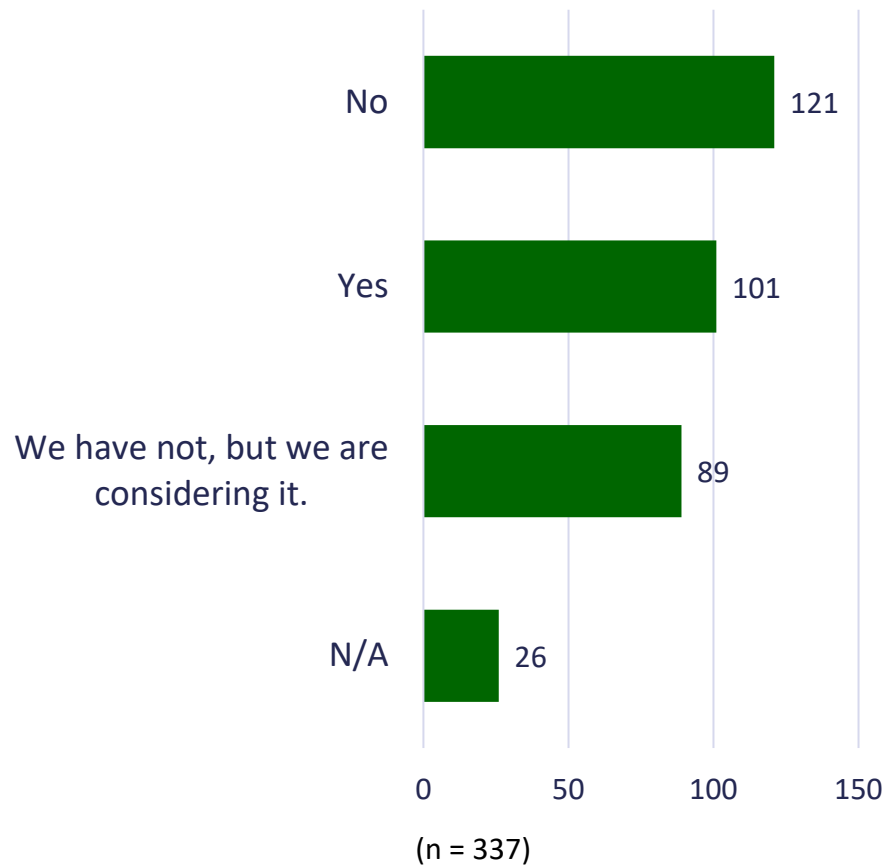
- Sometimes difficult to follow, long but I heard some interesting details about the schedule.
- not enough concrete information available early
- Time consuming/not always worth the time needed to watch them.
- Mostly covered information found on the website or in email.
- In the future please record. It is not always possible to make it,

52

Would attend
again in 2025



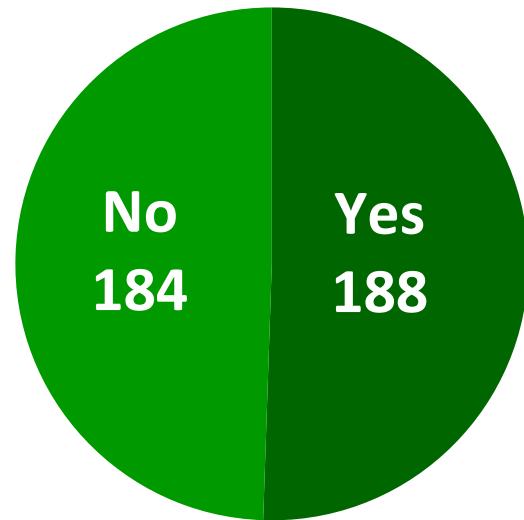
Does your cast/crew meet at other times/years for reunions?



Would you attend Annual Alumni Week in Ireland next year?

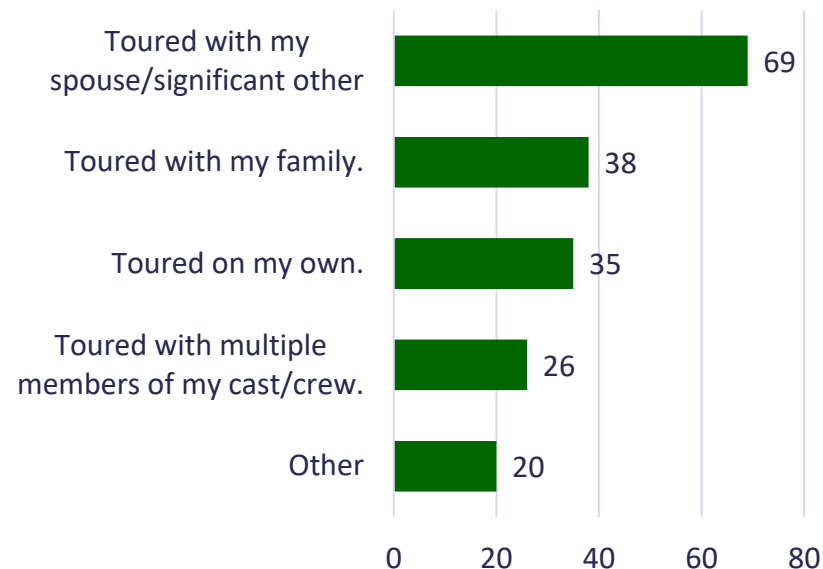


Did you incorporate Annual Alumni Week 2024 in a larger trip?



(n = 372)

Where did you go and what else did you do?



(n = 188)

Other:

- 25 of my cast went on and did 4 days in Dublin, and 3 days in Northern Ireland.
- Belfast
- Family visit
- On my own and with friends
- I visited family in the States both before and after reunion.
- Stayed with a castmate
- Toured with family for a week in London, then 4 days with the pre-alumni week BOG 25th anniversary reunion in Bunratty
- Toured with my partner and afterwards also another alumni
- Toured with one other castmate
- Toured with other past BOG members
- Toured with sister
- Visited friends in London
- Visited friends not related to UWP
- Visited Irish friends
- Went to London with a castmate prior to reunion
- Went to London with my partner who met up with me in Dublin after reunion

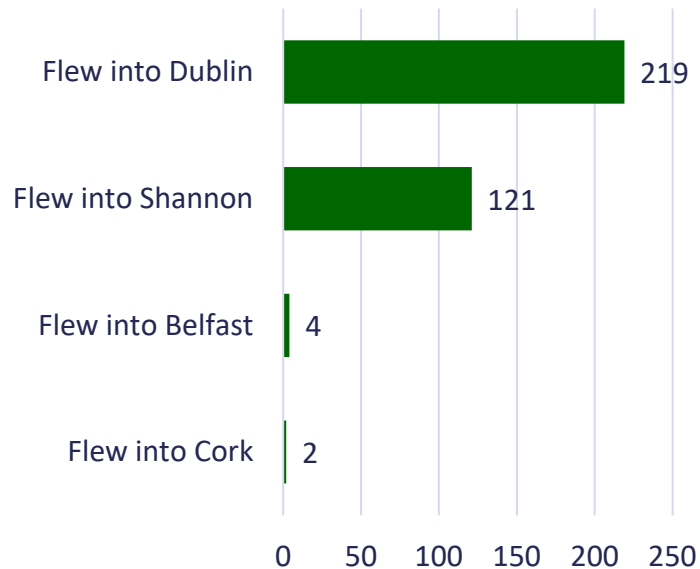
(n = 20)

169

Attendees toured
Ireland before/after
AAW



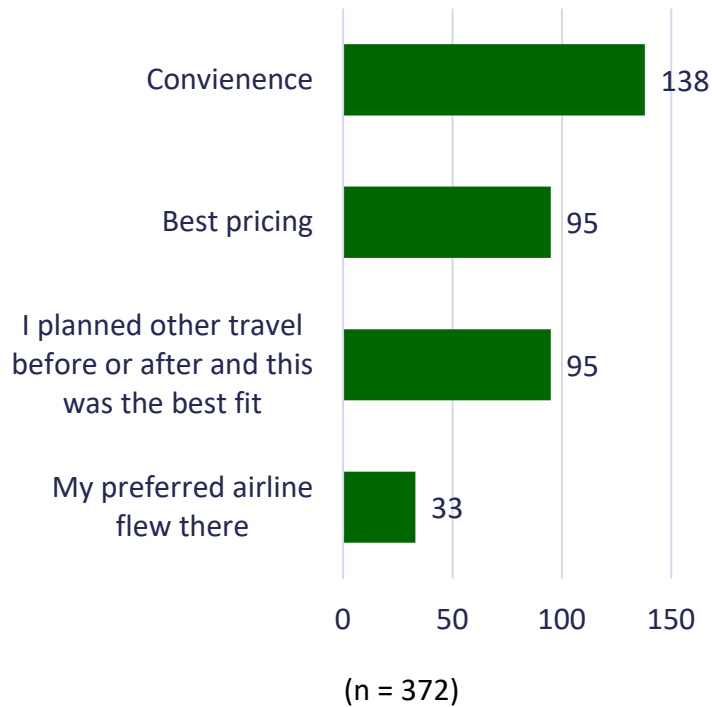
How did you arrive to Ireland?



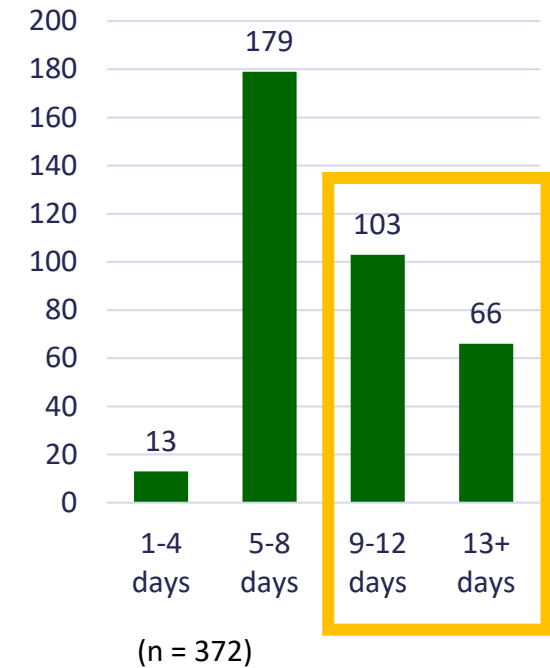
Other: 2-Ferry from UK, 1-Cruised on the Queen Mary 2, then flew from London to Shannon, 1-Ferry to Dublin from Wales, 1-Flew from London to Cork, 1-Drove, 1-my Bike, 1-Trains (and ferry) from Sweden to Limerick

(n = 372)

Why did you choose this method?



How many total days were you in Ireland?



What did you do, where did you go, who planned it, and was there an agreed upon budget?

What did you do?

- **Sightseeing:** The most commonly mentioned activities were **historical and cultural tours**, including visits to landmarks such as **Blarney Castle, Cobh, and Birr Castle**, as well as general sightseeing in cities like Dublin and Galway.
- **Cultural Experiences:** Several respondents enjoyed **guided tours, traditional Irish music sessions, and pub visits**. Popular cultural activities included **Hop-On-Hop-Off bus tours** in Dublin and visits to major landmarks like the **Book of Kells**.
- **Outdoor Activities:** Some attendees participated in outdoor activities like **hiking, horseback riding, and boat tours** in Ireland. Others mentioned exploring the natural beauty of places like the **Cliffs of Moher** and the **Dingle Peninsula**.

Where did you go?

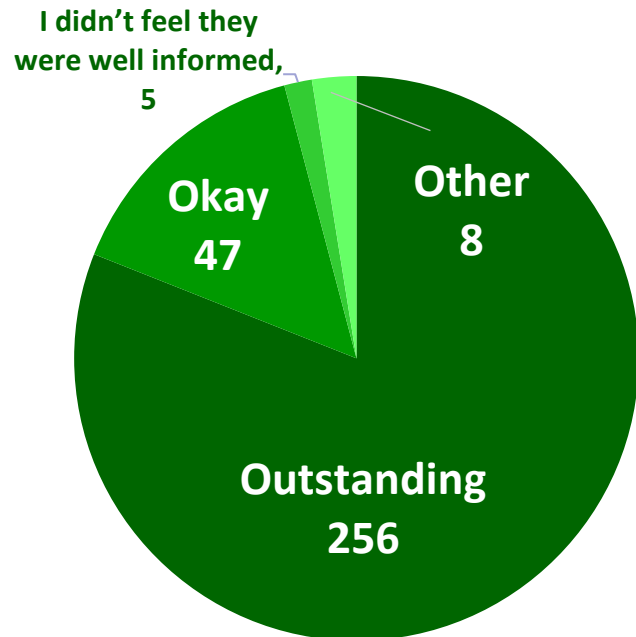
- **Ireland Travel (including Dublin, Galway, and the Cliffs of Moher):** Mentioned by **60+ respondents**, these were the most frequently visited destinations.
- **UK Travel (including London and Scotland):** **20+ respondents** extended their trips to include the **UK**.

Planning and Budget?

- **Self-Planned Trips:** **50+ respondents** planned their own travel itineraries, with minimal budget constraints.
- **No Agreed-Upon Budget:** **40+ respondents** mentioned that no specific budget was set, and travel was planned around individual or group preferences.
- **Cultural and Historical Tours:** **40+ respondents** highlighted activities such as **museum visits, castle tours, and traditional Irish experiences**.

(n = 159)

The interactions I had with volunteers were:



Other:

- Overall, everyone was great.
- The volunteers were outstanding. Having someone from registration on site would be essential with all the last-minute changes that were made in switching tours.
- Mixed, some great, others not so great.
- They were really good.
- Volunteers needed to treat guests better, how they spoke to them.

(n = 316)

Bus Transportation:



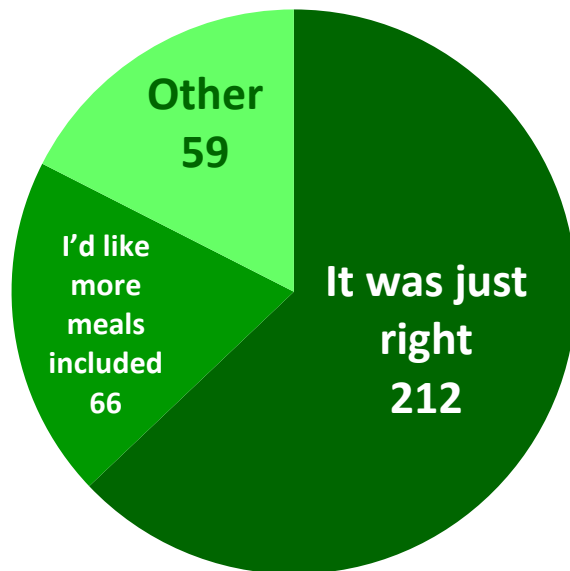
- 10 - Compliments/excellent and well-organized
- 3 - Had their own car
- 2 - Didn't take bus
- 2 - Got motion sick
- 2 - Only took bus once

Constructive Criticism:

- Everything was sold out by the time I registered, so all sightseeing was on my dime, and I used taxis.
- It would have been nice to have a bus option to drop off closer to the dorms, especially after evening events.
- Our bus was delayed by traffic so several of us did not get to the photo session or rehearsal. However, it was great to be back on the bus again!
- The bus transportation itself was fine. The schedule for the Strand hotel could have been planned in advance so there weren't last minute changes.
- IF there are bus transport busses should of course stop at the hotels. It is ridiculous to ask people to walk back and forth just to return on the bus the same way! We are paying customers, not college kids or cast/crew members.
- Was a relief not to have to know where we had to go. Was nice that it was already planned for us (and included in the cost)
- Was not convenient.

(n = 316)

Was the food included sufficient?



(n = 337)

Other: General

- 4 - My dietary restrictions were not addressed sufficiently
- 3 - Many meals were included that were not in pre-information
- 2 - It wasn't enough food and not very good
- 2 - It was really good/bad
- 1 - addressed my diet concerns

Breakfast

- 6 - Wanted better early breakfast to go
- 6 - Breakfast needs a protein an egg option
- 3 - Breakfast scanty/needed more nutrition for full day of activities
- 3 - Breakfast at Pavilion repetitive
- 1 - Didn't make breakfast
- The breakfast options were disappointing. We went out and bought our own food.
- I'd gladly pay a bit more to ensure a hearty nutritious meal with protein.
- They often ran out of food unless you got there very early.

(n = 59)

Other (cont'd): Sat Night

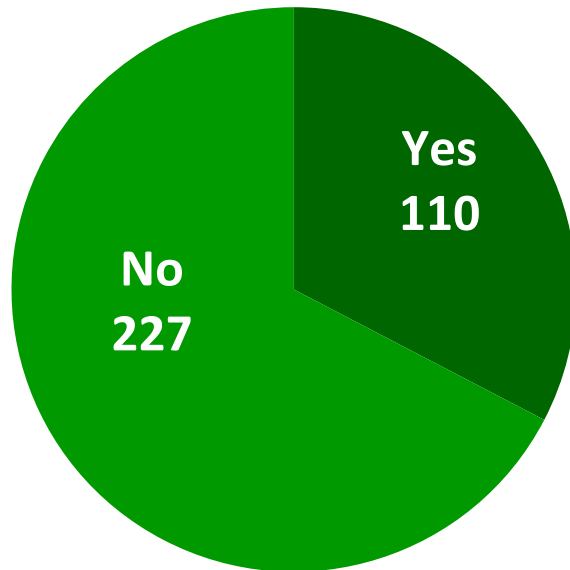
- An outdoor BBQ would have been better.
- Final dinner was very chaotic...it did not need to in a formal place...a hall with a buffet and with chairs would have been great.
- Dinner at the last evening was a rush.
- Quality and quantity for last group on Saturday dinner was very poor.
- Saturday supper OK but first group had to eat very early and wait very long!
- Saturday supper should be gala dinner if a venue to host such high numbers was feasible.
- The Saturday night dinner at hotel was awful-not worth whatever you paid. Too many people.
- Saturday "supper" was a waste of time! No time for sitting and enjoying the meal, no time for talking with the cast - and A LOT OF EXTRA TIME for STANDING!
- The last night meal was confusion and not very tasty.

Other (cont'd):

Other scheduled meals/comments

- Would rather have supper offered on Thursday or Friday when most of us are still in town.
- The Thursday and Friday receptions could be dropped or changed.
- The dinner logistics felt so confusing and frenzied. I'd suggest including dinners, even if just box pick up for everyone. It helps the mental load of figuring everything out.
- It was complicated to plan meals with kids in K and T.
- It wasn't exactly clear when a meal was available or not. Sometimes the schedule said 'no' but there was a possibility.
- The meals included should be better quality, variety, and better organized.
- The food options at the Thursday and Friday receptions were mostly "fried" and always cold.
- Monday food was described as finger food - it was an actual meal.
- I thought more meals would be included for the price.
- First Era dinner at Castletroy. I believe we were served an hour late, expecting 7:30 p.m., which is late by US standards,
- It was pricey to pay full price and then only stay a few days.

Did you skip an included meal?



(n = 337)

Which one and why?

General

- 21 - Breakfast
- 20 - Monday reception
- 20 - Saturday supper
- 13 - Friday reception
- 9 - Thursday reception
- 8 - Wednesday Era dinner
- 6 - Both Thursday and Friday receptions

Reasons

- 11 - Arrived Tuesday
- 5 - Arrived Thursday
- 1 - Left Thursday
- 3 - Left Friday
- 10 - Left Saturday
- 5 - Felt unwell
- 3 - Had dinner before show
- 3 - Didn't know about the food
- 3 - Out touring/in another city nearby
- 2 - Wanted to do their own thing
- 1 - Flight delay
- 1 - Got COVID

(n =110)

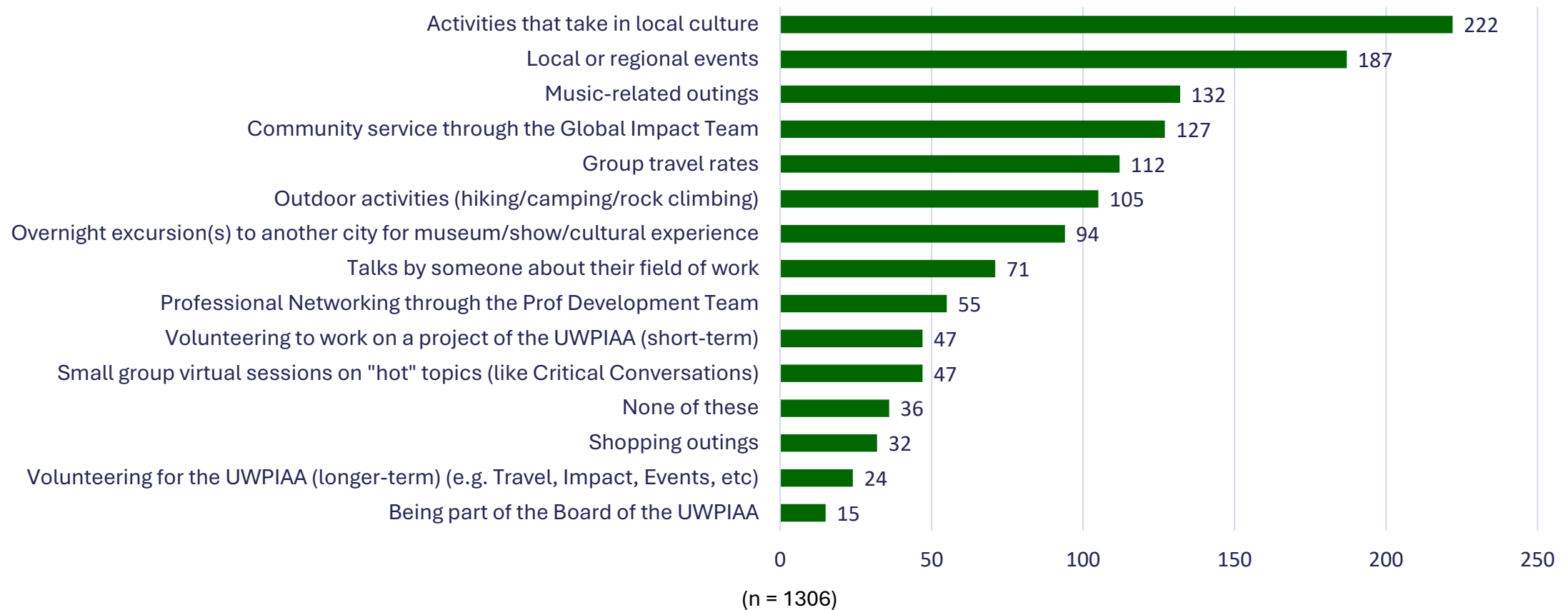
Which one and why? 1 mention

- Breakfast almost every day, too heavy and gluten/dairy filled.
- Breakfast. Each day was the same. Croissant, bread roll, cereal. No protein or eggs.
- Breakfasts were a long walk & not right next to early bus departures.
- We had breakfast 2x in our apartment.
- Info about Monday evening did not indicate the meal would be as extensive as it was.
- Thursday Reception because we were happy in the hotel bar
- Thursday because I had kid-duty.
- I had to leave on Thursday but paid for the whole thing.
- Receptions on Thu and Fri - I did not know those were meals.
- We skipped the Thursday and Friday receptions (we were worn out) and departed Ireland Sat afternoon.
- Friday because few of us wanted to go to an Irish Pub with live music before leaving Ireland.
- Friday reception, we had a cast meal in a pub in Limerick.

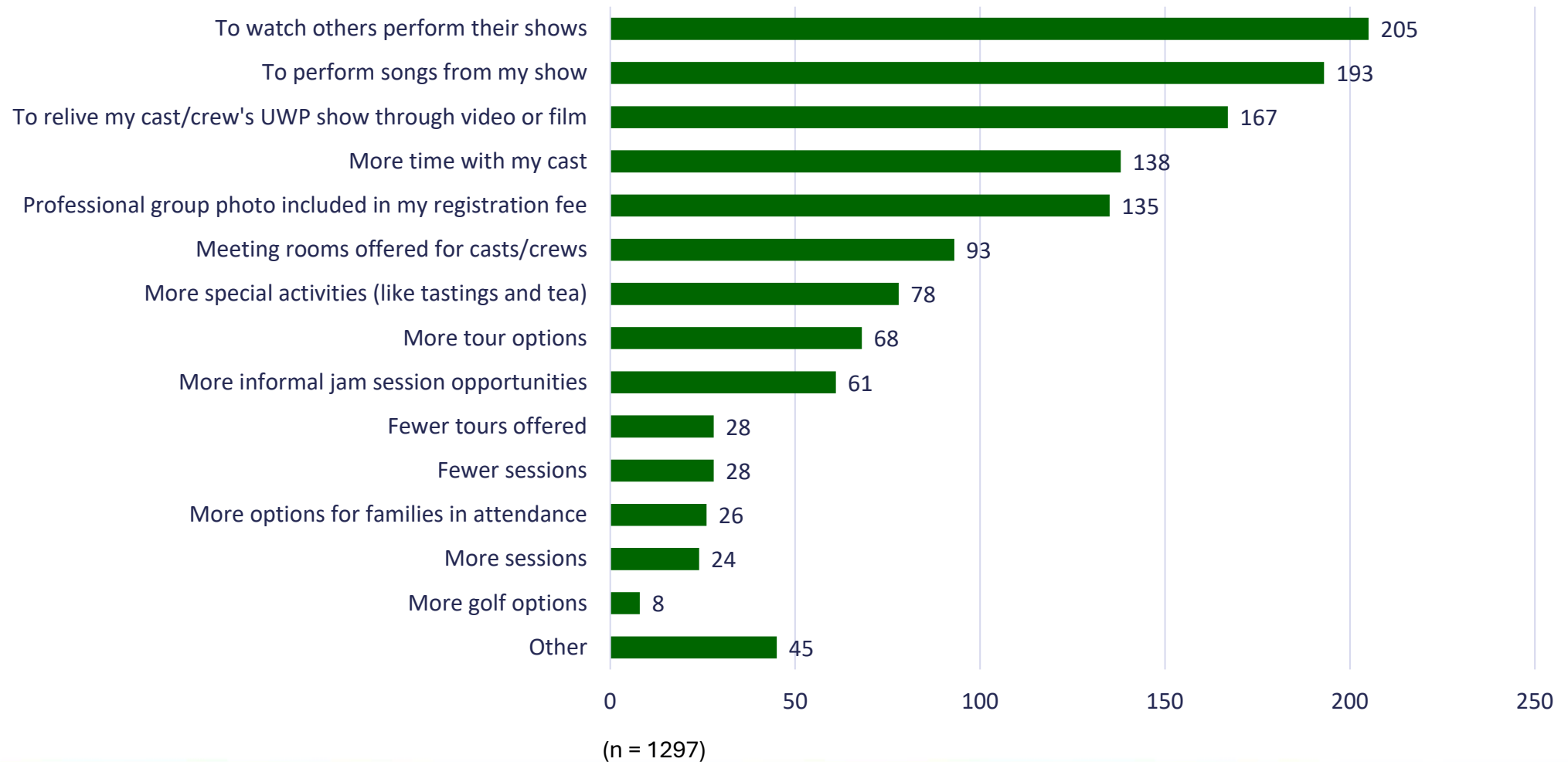
Which one and why? 1 mention (cont'd)

- We left Saturday morning and had made our plans before we know exactly what the Saturday events were.
- We didn't know a bus was coming to the Strand Hotel for pick-up and we missed the bus and didn't know where the meal was being held.
- Saturday, we needed some family time.
- Had enough of the large group by Sat. Needed a more intimate experience. Also needed to do laundry!
- I opted to eat in the dorm with groceries. Too far to walk for my knee issues and I need that quiet time.
- I preferred to purchase healthier meal.
- I was too busy with other stuff.
- More drinks would have been nice. 😊
- My kids missed most of the dinners because they were exhausted from Xp T.
- Reception meals had little for vegetarians that were good options.
- Wasn't hungry.
- It was more cost efficient for me to purchase the full registration.
- The food choices were ones that I could not eat. I went back to the hotel for dinner.
- Receptions were crowded and a bit difficult to get food and drink at times. Tours also conflicted a bit. Still great, though.

Which of the following would you like to see the UWPIAA offer during the year and/or at Annual Alumni Week?



At future Annual Alumni Weeks, I'd like: (Select all that apply)



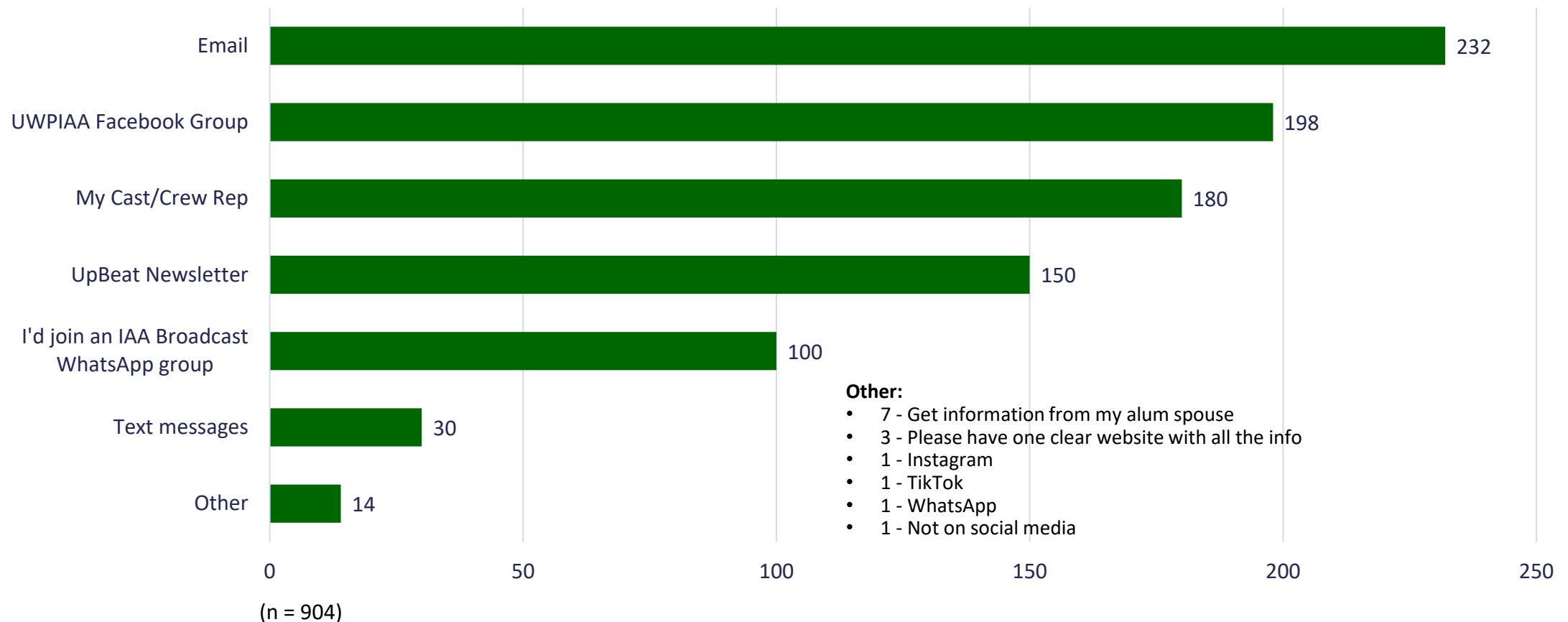
At future Annual Alumni Weeks, I'd like:

Other:

- **Tours and Activities** (12 mentions) - Attendees enjoyed the tour options but requested more affordable or shorter excursions. Some felt tours were overpacked and too fast-paced. Others wanted additional social activities, such as dancing, community service, or mixed group icebreakers to get to know other alumni.
- **Event Scheduling and Structure** (8 mentions) - Attendees appreciated the diversity of scheduled activities, but some felt there could be more downtime or flexibility to choose additional events. Suggestions included fewer total days to reduce costs, and others highlighted the importance of buffer time between activities.
 - **Centralized Venues:** Attendees want more centralized venues for accommodations and events, as well as places to gather informally during downtime.
 - **Flexible Schedules:** While attendees appreciated the range of activities, there were calls for more buffer time and additional flexibility in the schedule.
- **Positive Feedback and Satisfaction** (9 mentions) - Many attendees expressed overall satisfaction with the planning, activities, and execution of the event. Some felt that the event was well-balanced with plenty of opportunities for engagement.
- **Logistics and Venue** (7 mentions) - Several attendees emphasized the importance of a centralized venue that could accommodate everyone for events, including accommodations, meals, and downtime. Others requested more buffer time between activities and more transparency regarding fees and included options.
- **Cast and Alumni Interaction** (6 mentions) - There was strong interest in dedicated time for cast reunions, including sharing memorabilia and facilitating tours as a group. More time dedicated to reconnecting with castmates was a priority, with some suggesting more cast-centric tours or private time. Additionally, some participants emphasized the desire to connect with alumni from other years through icebreakers or mixed activities.

(n = 45)

How do you prefer to hear about opportunities with the UWPIAA?



Please share your top highlight of the event:

- **Event Organization and Volunteer Efforts**
 - The organization of the event was widely praised, with attendees commending the efforts of the volunteers, especially Mary McCullough and her team. Many noted the smooth running of tours, activities, and performances, despite the complexity of the event.
 - Some respondents pointed out small issues, such as unclear communication regarding registration and scheduling logistics, but overall, there was very high satisfaction with the new event's structure.
- **Cast Reconnection/Social Connections** -100 respondents
 - A significant portion of respondents mentioned the joy of reconnecting with castmates and friends they hadn't seen in decades as a central part of their reunion experience. Informal gatherings at pubs, cast dinners, and the welcome reception were notable for fostering these connections.
 - Many respondents appreciated the format, which allowed sufficient time for socializing and connecting with both old and new friends.
- **Era Shows and Performances** - 80 respondents
 - Many attendees identified the Era shows and UWP Survival Band performances as the highlight of the event. These performances were emotional and nostalgic, allowing alumni to relive their UWP experiences with friends and family.
 - The Colwell brothers' sessions and interactions with Xp K & T also stood out, offering emotional moments and connections to UWP's legacy.

(n = 337 - answers split between event and Ireland responses)

Please share your top highlight of Ireland:

- **Cliffs of Moher:** Cited as a highlight by 60+ respondents, this was the most mentioned natural attraction, with attendees appreciating its stunning views and the bonding experiences during the tour.
- **Irish Culture (Music, Dance, People):** Highlighted by 50+ respondents, the warmth of the Irish people and cultural immersion were integral to the experience for many attendees. The friendliness of the Irish people and the cultural experiences, such as Irish music, dance, and pub visits, were repeatedly noted as adding a special element to the reunion.
- **Bunratty Castle:** Mentioned by 30+ respondents as a highlight, this tour combined historical exploration with social interaction, making it a popular event.
- **Landscapes and Scenery:** The natural beauty of Ireland was a top highlight for attendees, with frequent mentions of the Cliffs of Moher, Burren Hike, Inis Oírr, and Killarney. These excursions provided opportunities to explore Ireland's landscapes while bonding with fellow alumni.

Constructive Criticism:

- A few respondents noted that some tour activities were too rushed, and they would have preferred more time to explore destinations like the Cliffs of Moher or Aran Islands.
- Others mentioned that the split between on-campus and hotel accommodations made it difficult to connect with some alumni. There was also feedback about needing clearer group activity options to keep cast members together during tours.

Feedback on a topic we didn't cover:

Constructive Criticism:

Communication

- Over 50 respondents found the WhatsApp group overwhelming, with too many messages making it hard to filter relevant information. Suggestions included consolidating communication to a single platform or providing clearer, more concise updates via email or a dedicated website.
- Some respondents mentioned that schedules were shared too late, making it difficult to plan personal and cast activities effectively.

Logistics and Transportation

- Approximately 30-35 respondents mentioned transportation logistics, especially between the Strand Hotel and the university campus, were frequently cited as problematic. Attendees noted the need for shuttle services and found the reliance on Uber/taxis inconvenient and costly.
- Several respondents mentioned that walking distances on campus were too long, particularly for those staying in Cappavilla Village. Many suggested better transportation options for those with mobility issues.

Food and Accommodations

- About 40-45 respondents raised concerns about the food quality, especially at breakfasts and certain evening events, was a common point of dissatisfaction. Attendees felt that meals were subpar and that there should have been healthier options, such as more protein or vegetables at breakfast.
- The Saturday supper was often mentioned as chaotic and rushed, with attendees calling for better organization and improved food quality.
- Around 20 respondents commented about on-campus accommodations. While some praised the proximity to activities, others pointed out that some dorms were not clean upon arrival, and the lack of fresh towels or basic necessities like toilet paper was an issue.

Event Structure and Activities

- About 30 respondents suggested structural improvements to the event, such as better timing for tours, more centralized gathering spots, and improving the flow of events.
- There were also suggestions for more hands-on activities (e.g., making bread, community service), and some expressed a desire for more cultural experiences like Irish music and dance.
- The final Saturday dinner and party received criticism for feeling rushed and disorganized. Attendees suggested having a more relaxed and enjoyable closing event.
- Some respondents felt that the event was too spread out, both in terms of activities and physical location, which made it harder to connect with their castmates.
- Some noted that the tours were too packed with activities, leaving little time for proper exploration or relaxation. Several suggested shorter tours with more time to enjoy individual stops.



Final thoughts for Annual Alumni Week:

Praise and Gratitude

- The majority of responses (30+ mentions) expressed gratitude and heartfelt thanks to the organizers and volunteers for their dedication. Many described the event as "fantastic," "wonderful," and "memorable," with attendees acknowledging the complexity involved in planning a reunion of this scale. There were several mentions of specific individuals and teams, recognizing their efforts in supporting attendees and managing special needs.

Additional Suggestions for Future Events

- **Volunteer Involvement:** At least 5 respondents expressed interest in volunteering for the next reunion and future events, with some asking for more information about volunteer roles, benefits (e.g., accommodations), and how to get involved.
- **Event Timing:** Around 5 respondents suggested moving the event to July instead of August, as it would make attending easier for those with work or other commitments.
- **Transportation and Logistics:** 3 respondents mentioned transportation challenges, specifically the bus service not showing up at times.
- **Survey/Form Feedback:** At least 2 respondents mentioned that the feedback form was difficult to complete due to text limits and usability. A respondent suggested a post-event Zoom meeting for cast representatives to provide more detailed feedback and share ideas for improving future reunions.
- **Younger Generations:** A few attendees suggested ways to make the event more attractive to younger alumni, offering to provide input for future reunions.
- **Cultural Integration:** There was a suggestion to incorporate more local culture by providing hangout spots in the city where alumni could experience local Irish culture.
- **Safety Concerns:** One attendee voiced concerns about potential future reunion locations, specifically mentioning Mexico as a poor choice due to perceived safety issues and travel costs.

(n = 83- rest of respondents only left their email)



Everything was amazing. Thank you for this great week!

All the outings were great!! Meeting Uppies from different years was one of my highlights.

I think the country-specific tours are the biggest highlight of the new reunion format. Met lots of new people. Had lots of fun.

**New made new friends all over the world
We enjoyed beautiful Ireland! Thank you to you all! You made this possible!**

I liked being able to give my child the little opportunity to get to know the Up with People spirit for changing this world with more kindness.

I find it interesting how the body remembers the songs and moves immediately when the music from our show starts.

Hearing firsthand about the peace process and meeting such dedicated people as Paul Smyth (Politics in Action) and his crew certainly left an impact on me.

The tour leaders who took us on the tours were amazing.... The tours were well thought out ... buses were relaxing...everything I did was memorable ❤️

Performing on stage with my cast was the best feeling.

The UWP Survival Band was fantastic! I wasn't expecting them to play UWP music. What a treat that was!

Friday show gave our cast the chance to relive memories of our show.

For the insight into global affairs, and in particular about Northern Ireland, the Belfast "Language of Peace" discussion panel was moving, informative, and inspiring.

Getting to reconnect with castmates and friends from other casts was my highlight. I hope to keep in touch now that we're connected! I really enjoyed the excursions. It was a busy week and I was tired but I wouldn't change it.

I enjoyed meeting new people at the evening events.

It was a chance to meet people who traveled in different eras.

I love getting the chance to watch other eras perform and to perform w folks from my era.

I enjoyed the memories of the past with the cast. And I could make new memories through sightseeing with the cast.



Thanks to ALL the volunteers for all your incredible hard work!!!

You all did fabulous. Volunteers are the unsung heroes...

Thank you thank you for an incredible experience - the team did an amazing job - it ran so smoothly - like a bunch of PR reps were in charge!?!?

We stayed on campus!!! Loved, loved, loved that whole experience!

All in all, it was a great reunion. Thanks a lot for your time and engagement to make this happen. It was great to be in Europe.

Congratulations to the committee for a job well done!!

I just loved it. Thank you soooo much.

Thank you, volunteers! Unbelievable job bringing it all together.

Thank you so much for a fantastic week and all the work you all put into it!

Thank you for a great reunion!

You guys ROCK. Thank you for everything you did to make this happen. It was truly lovely and memorable. ❤️

A huge thank you to all of you! Well done!!

Thank you for making our trip to Ireland so great.

Thank you for all of your wonderful work! It was amazing to connect again with all! Fantastic!!!

I'd like to thank everyone of you who made this fantastic experience for me and my kids possible!!! I appreciate a lot your long hours and hard work!

I completely enjoyed the week and applaud everyone's effort for a successful reunion.

Era shows are always are emotional for me as the songs from all eras have significant impact in my life, as well as great memories that have changed my journey in life. UWP helped me become the person I am today.

Enjoyed meeting my spouse's castmates and learning the importance of UWP in his life. Tours of course were a bonus and enjoyed learning more about Ireland and providing non-talented members something to enjoy.



The whole week was great for me.

The whole week was great. It was enough time to talk to castmates, get to know new UWP friends and see a little bit of the country.

The variety of the tour experiences was excellent!

I really feel like I got to do it all and it was such a good balance!

The week was outstanding with a ton of opportunities to explore and see parts of the country.

The Era shows are always my favorite. The energy is electric, and watching others relive moments from their show... well, there really aren't words to explain that rush.

I loved having the opportunity to see Ireland with friends and make new friends. It was beautiful!

The planning team did a totally BANG-UP job!

Being with castmates, some of whom we hadn't seen in 30 years as it was their first reunion.

The dorm option was FANTASTIC! It was so nice to have the option to just sit in the common area and have coffee and quiet discussion.

The fact that AAW was held in Ireland alone was THE highlight (going to Arizona in the middle of the summer is miserable!).

The volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure that everybody had a great event was awe-inspiring. The entire organizational team absolutely rocked, and I am extremely thankful that you all gave so much so that we could enjoy a wonderful week in Ireland!