



2025 Attendee Survey

November 11, 2025



Survey Response Rate

47.4%

Response Rate
(197 out of 416
adult attendees)

Highest Satisfaction Score Since 2022

98%

Satisfaction Rate
(For 4 and 5 responses)
Last year 92.5%



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

(n = 479)



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.

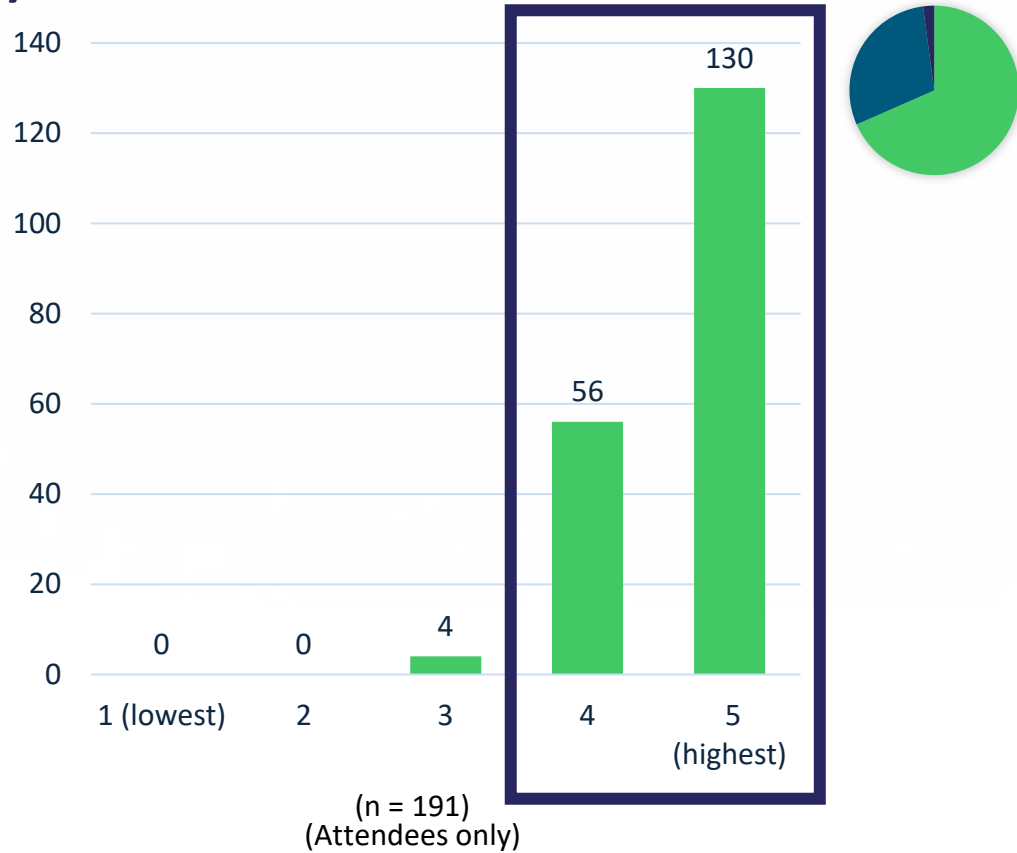
Having both kids in Xp K & T they were able to have a mini-UWP-experience. They were super-happy with the week and would love to do it again. To see my kids having that experience, made me so happy & thankful—that was very, very important to me! Travelling in Ireland and to see that fantastic nature 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. :)

98%
Satisfaction Rate
 (For 4 and 5 responses)
 Last year 92.5%



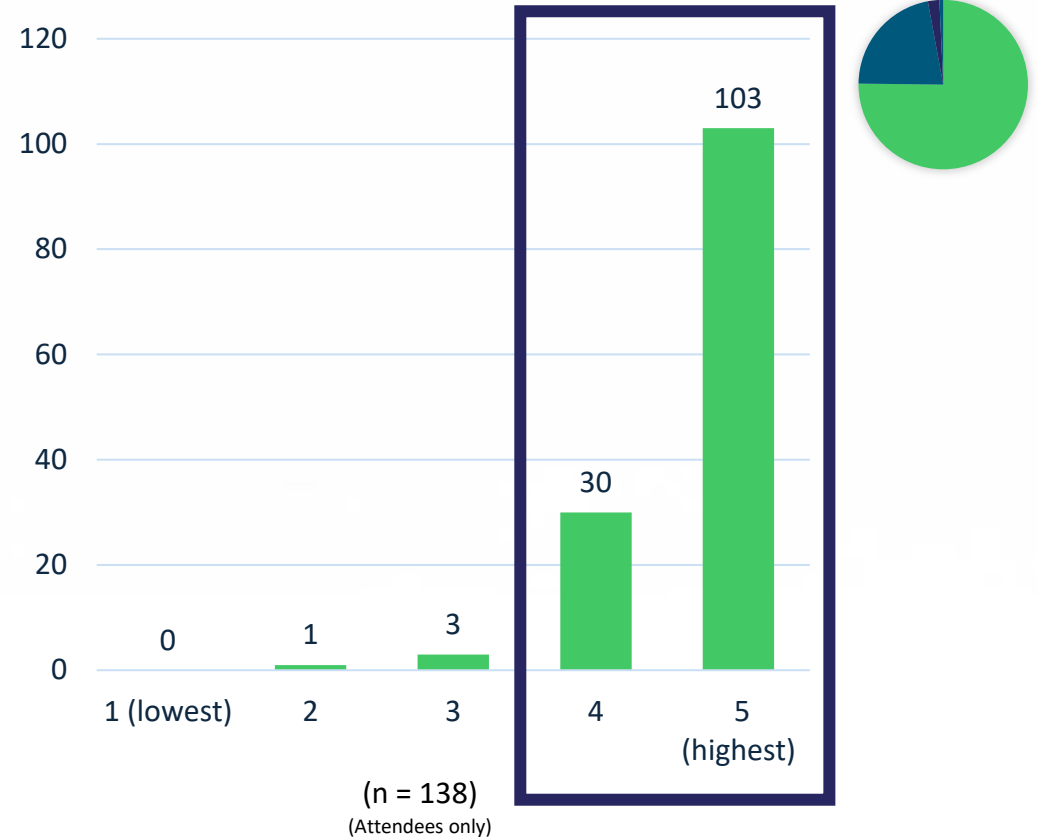
(Reaction at beginning of survey)

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?

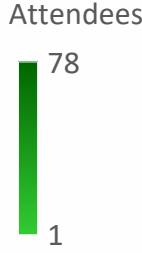
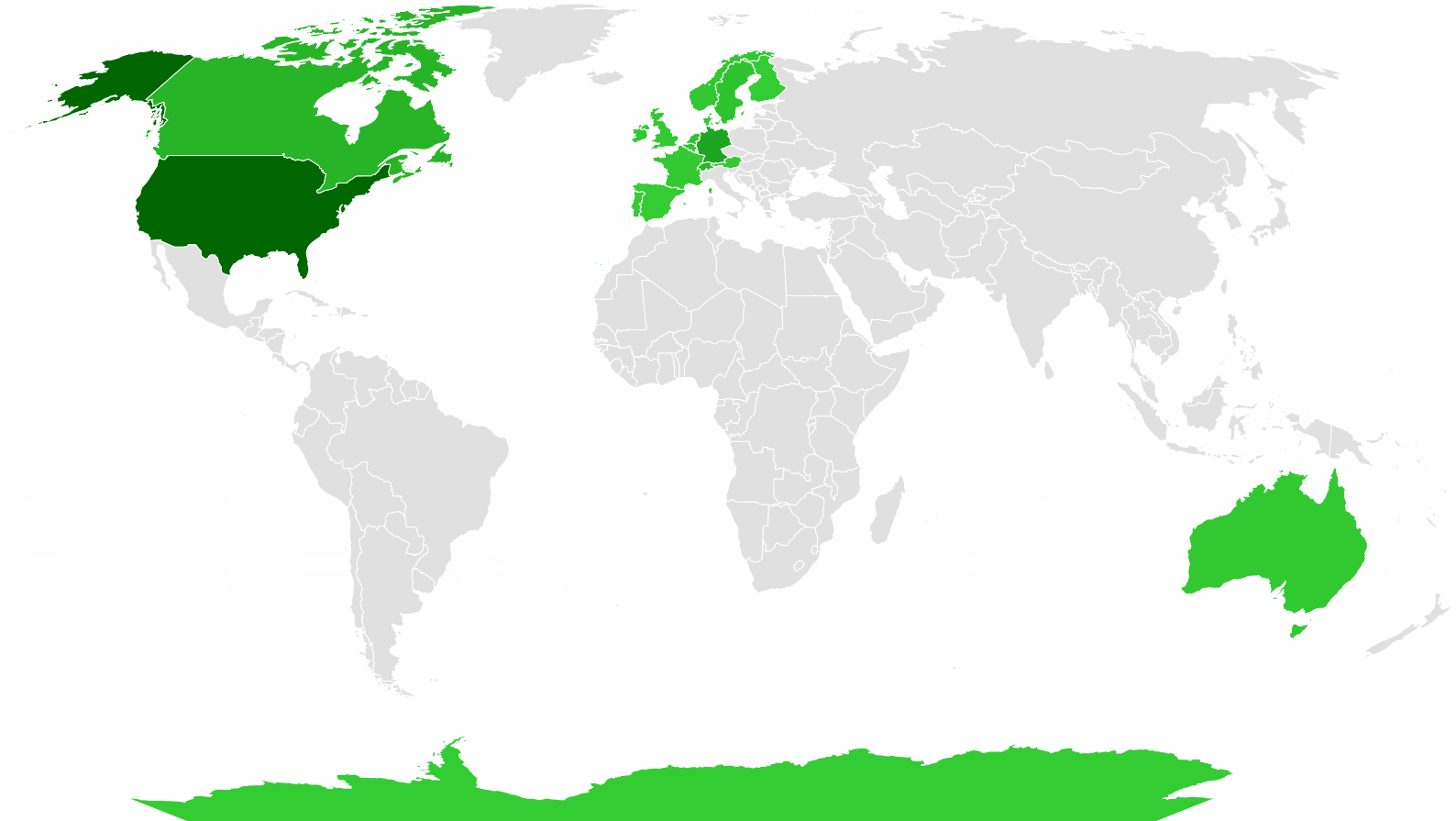


19

Countries Represented



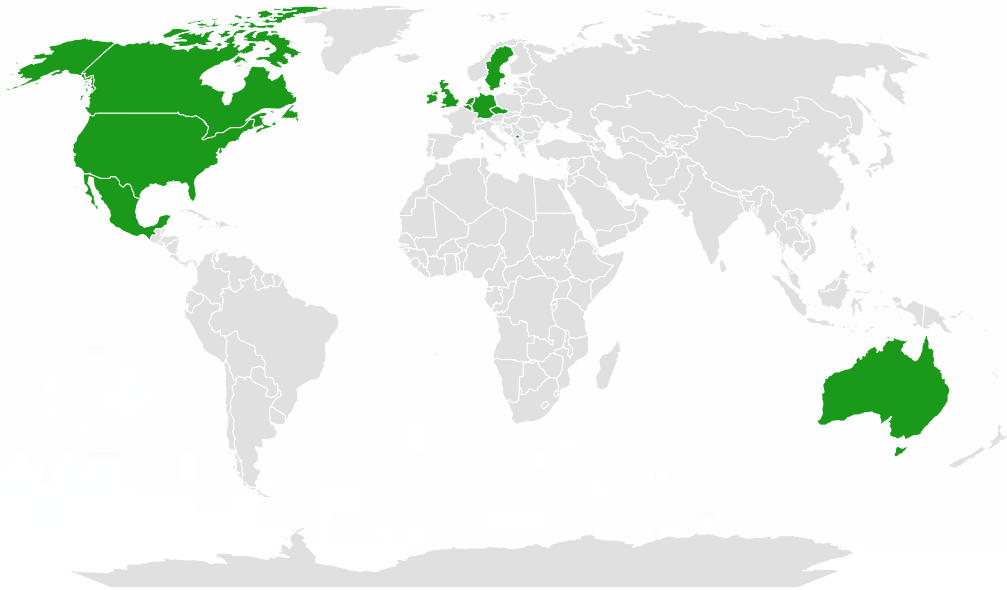
From what country did you travel to reach Ireland?



Antarctica	1
Australia	4
Austria	3
Belgium	6
Bermuda	1
Canada	19
Denmark	3
Finland	1
France	3
Germany	31
Ireland	5
Netherlands	7
Norway	5
Portugal	1
Spain	1
Sweden	8
Switzerland	16
United Kingdom	3
United States	78



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

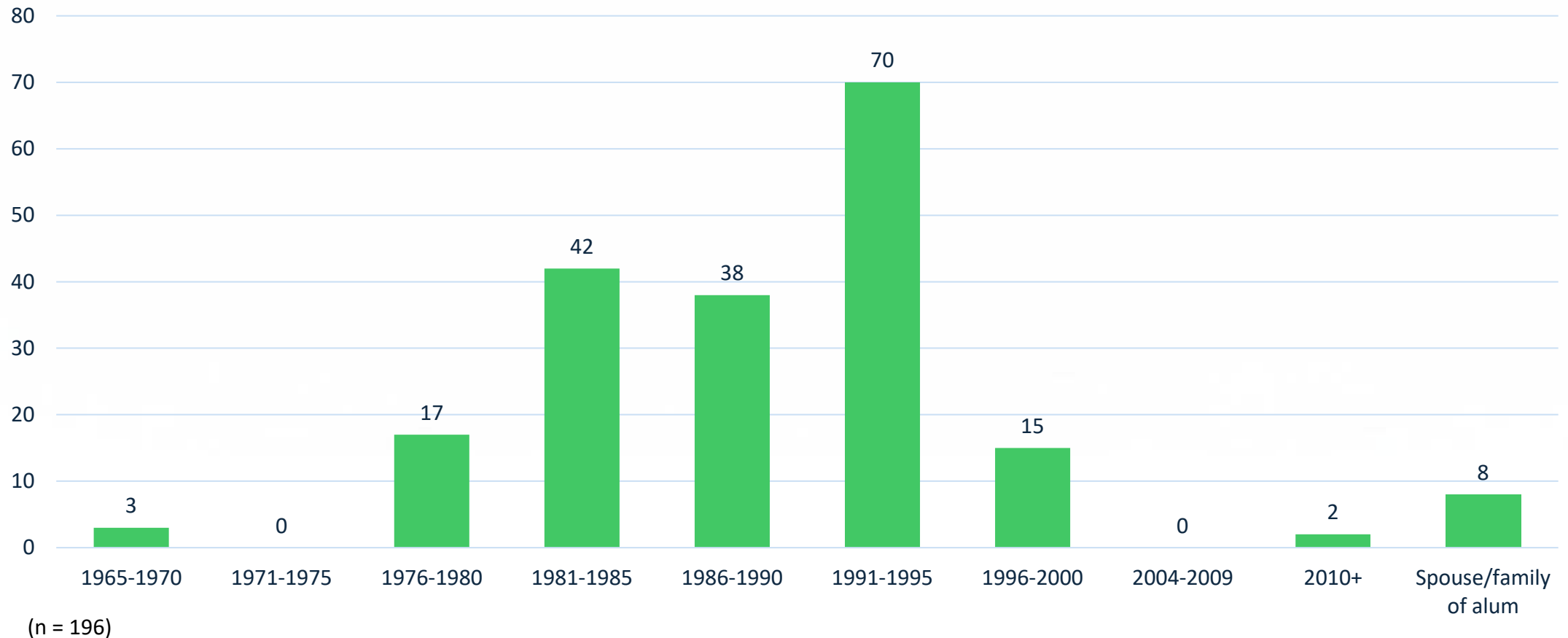
355
Volunteer
Hours

116
Scheduled Shifts
Saturday-Saturday

Note: This only covers the hours onsite, not the time leading up to the event. 9



I attended primarily as part of the following group:



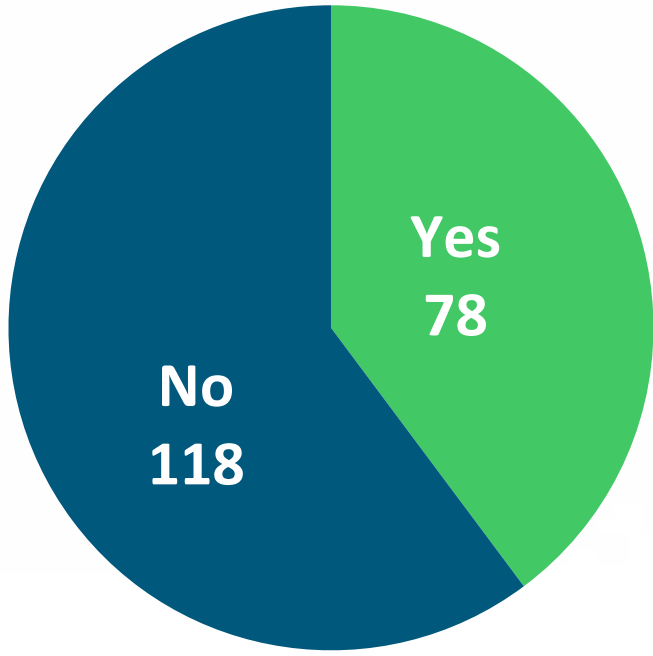
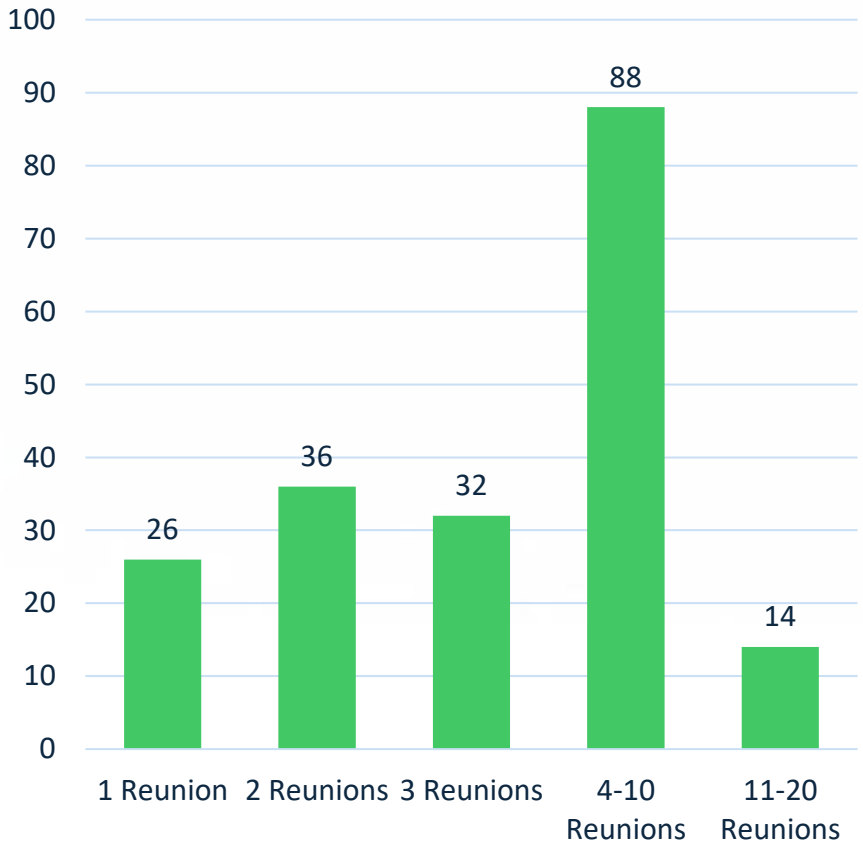
26
First-time Attendees

78
First visit to Ireland



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

Was this your first visit to Ireland?

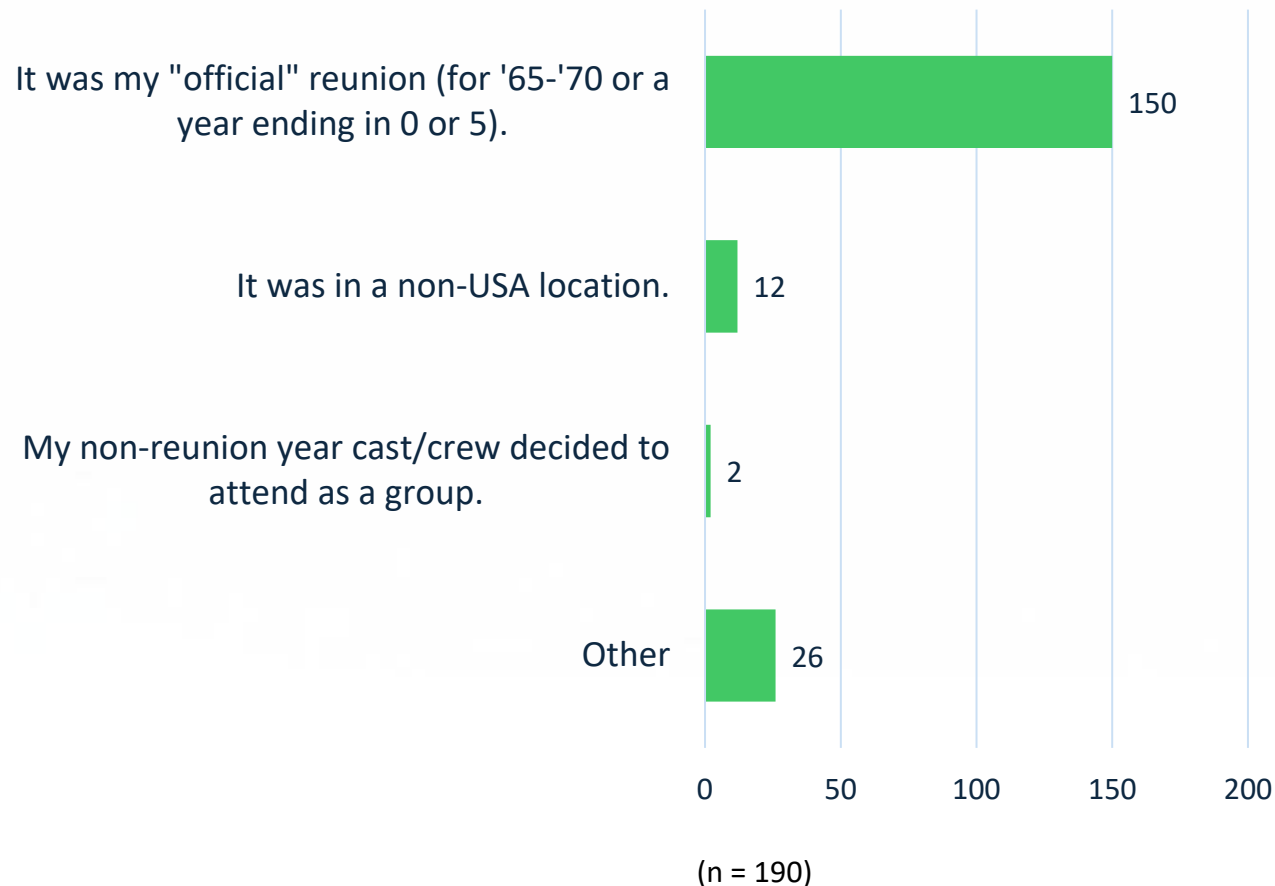


(n = 196)

(n = 196)



What was the largest motivator in your attendance?



Other:

- **Social and Alumni Connections:** 8 attendees indicated that they were attending to reconnect with friends, castmates, or alumni, or because of their spouse's attendance.
- **Organizational or Official Roles:** 7 mentioned their roles in the alumni organization, such as being a Board Member, volunteer, or band member.
- **Session or Event:** 6 said their largest motivator was to bring their kids to participate in the Legacy program.
- **Location-Based Motivations:** 2 respondents specifically mentioned Ireland or Europe as the primary motivator for attending.

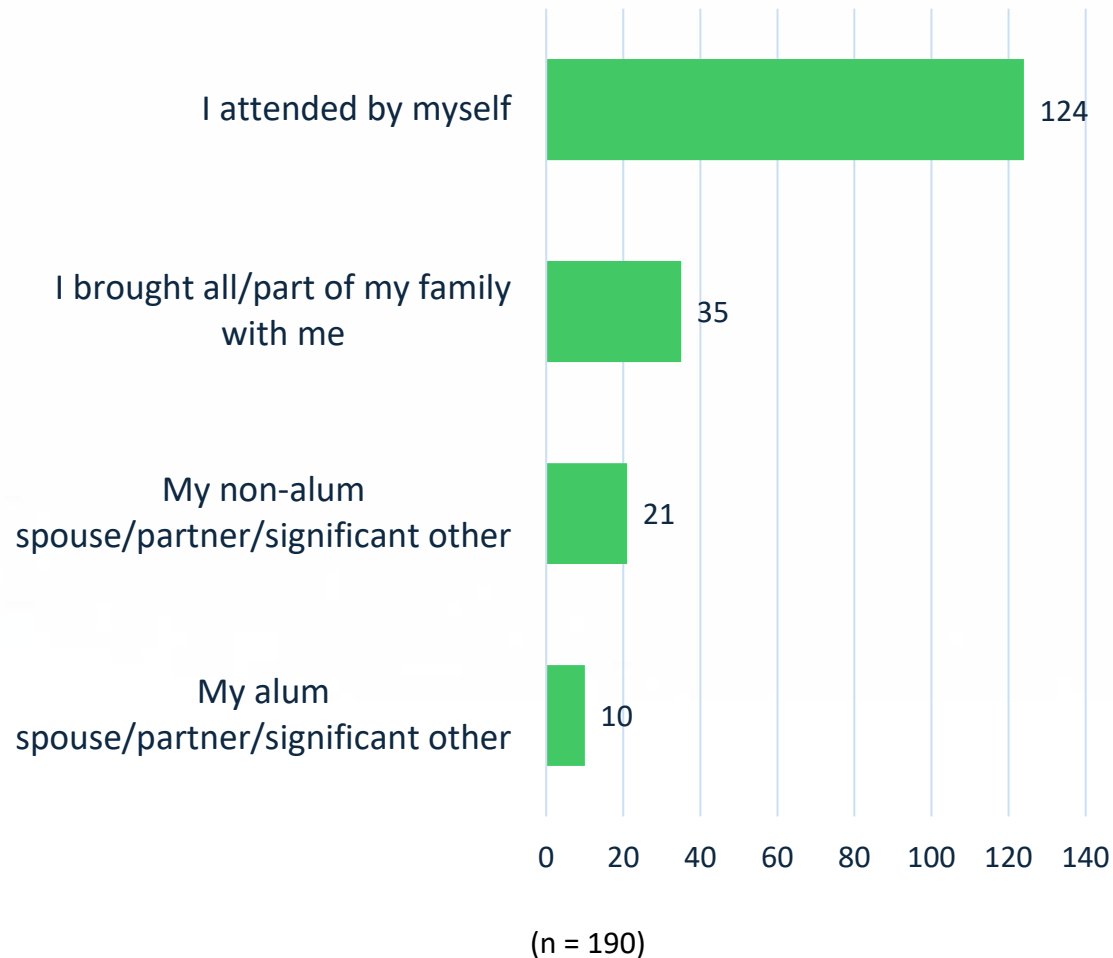
(n = 23)

60

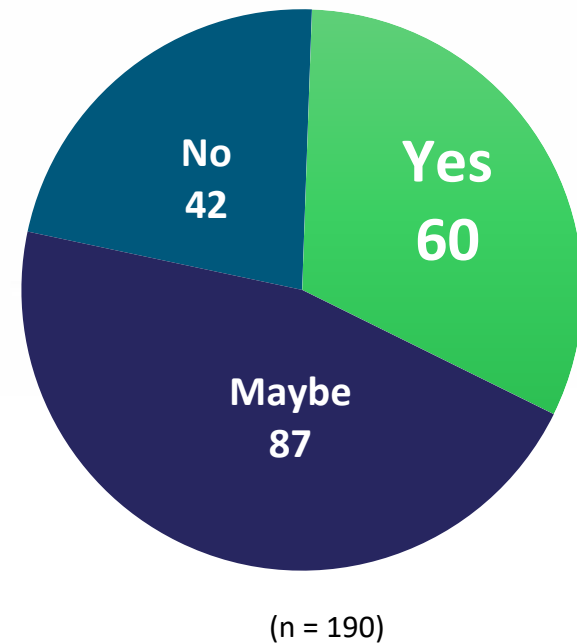
Would bring someone again



Who attended reunion with you?



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

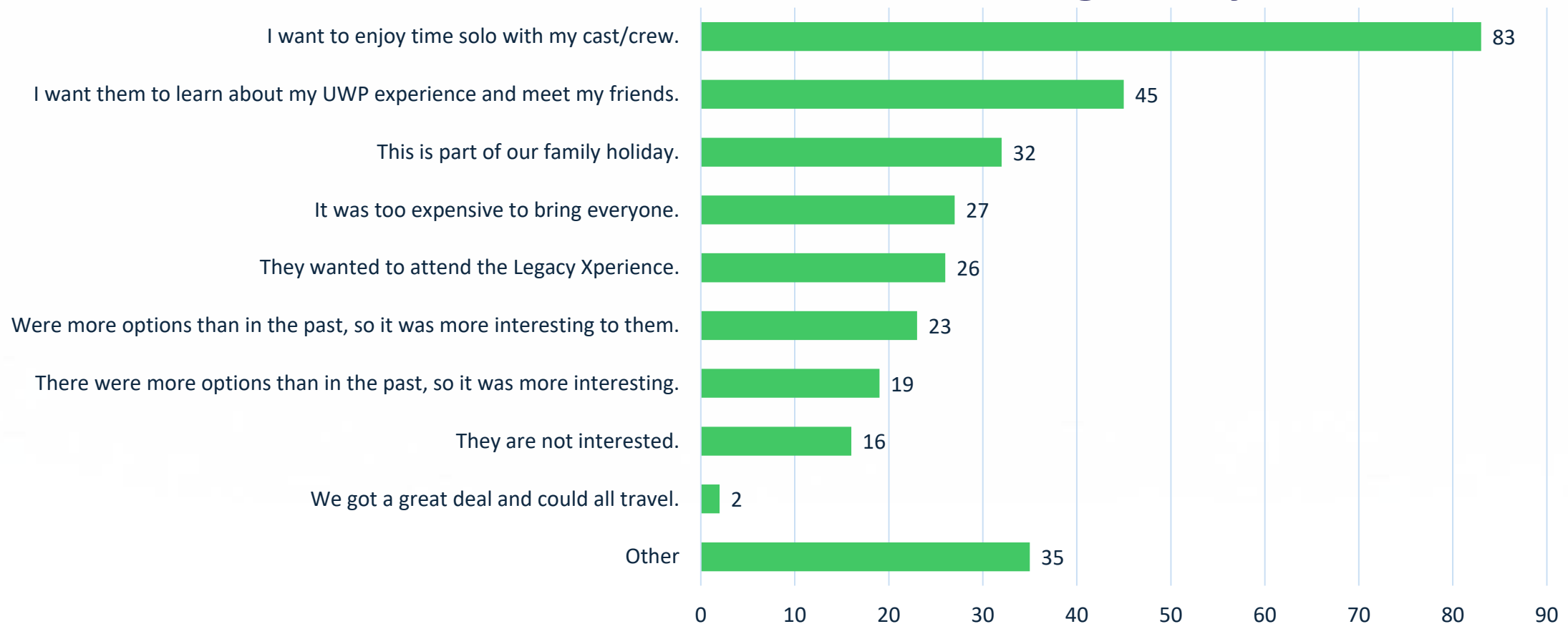


32

Made it part of their holiday



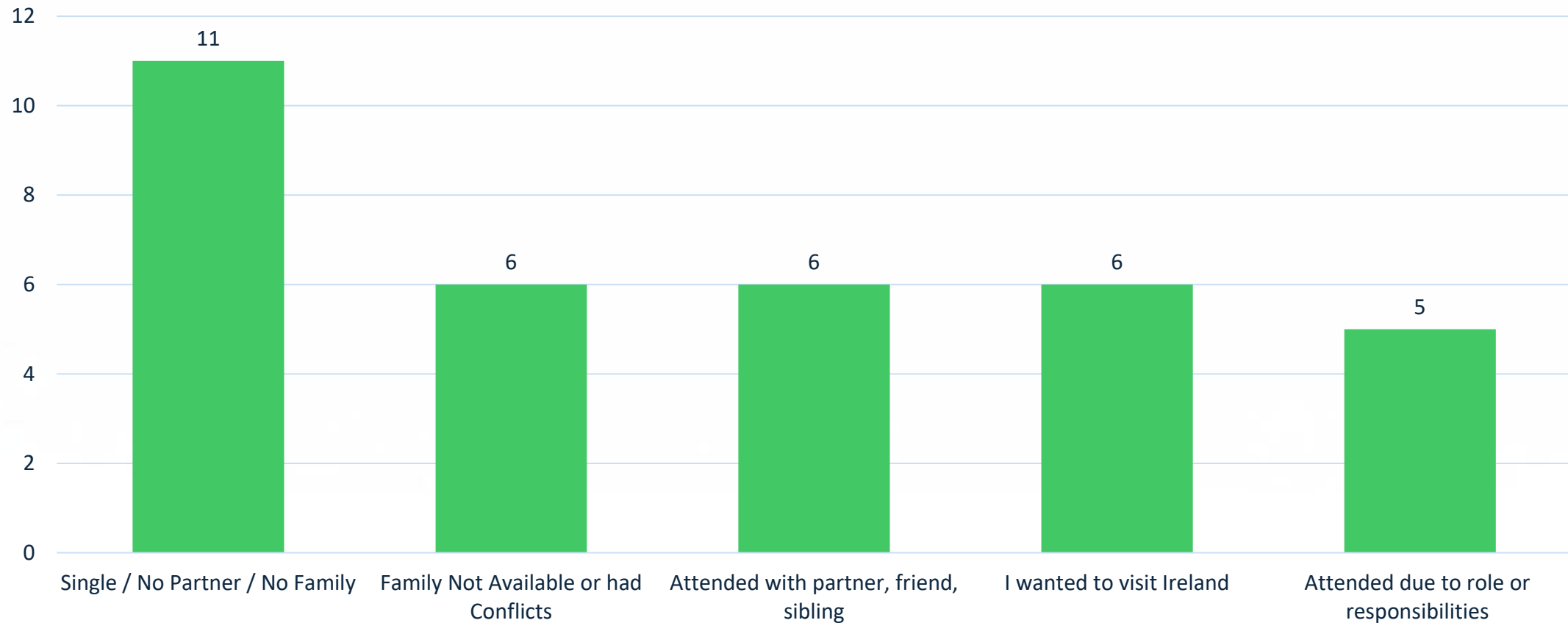
What drove the decision to attend alone or bring family?



(n = 308)



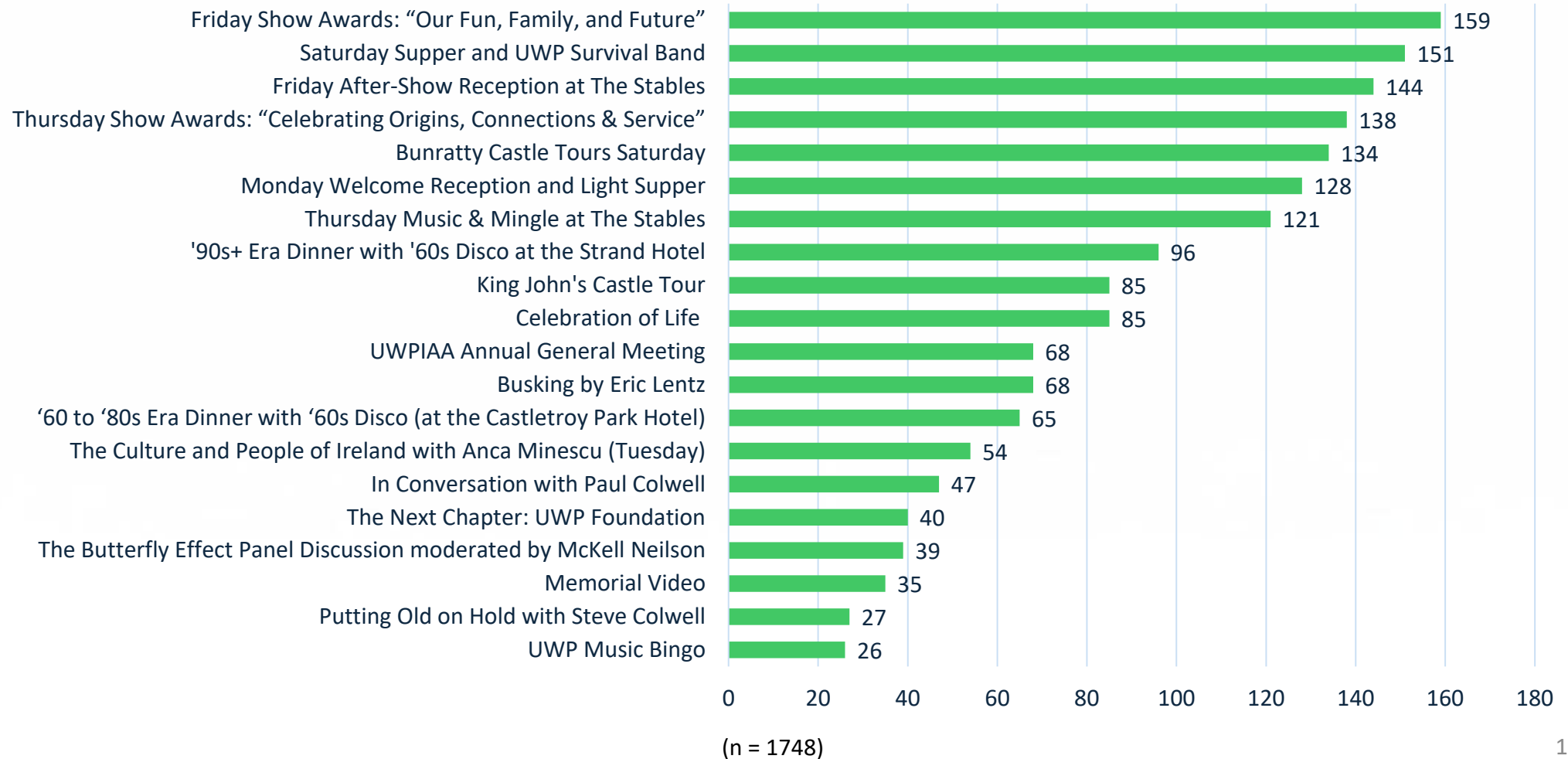
What drove the decision to attend alone or bring family?



(n = 34)

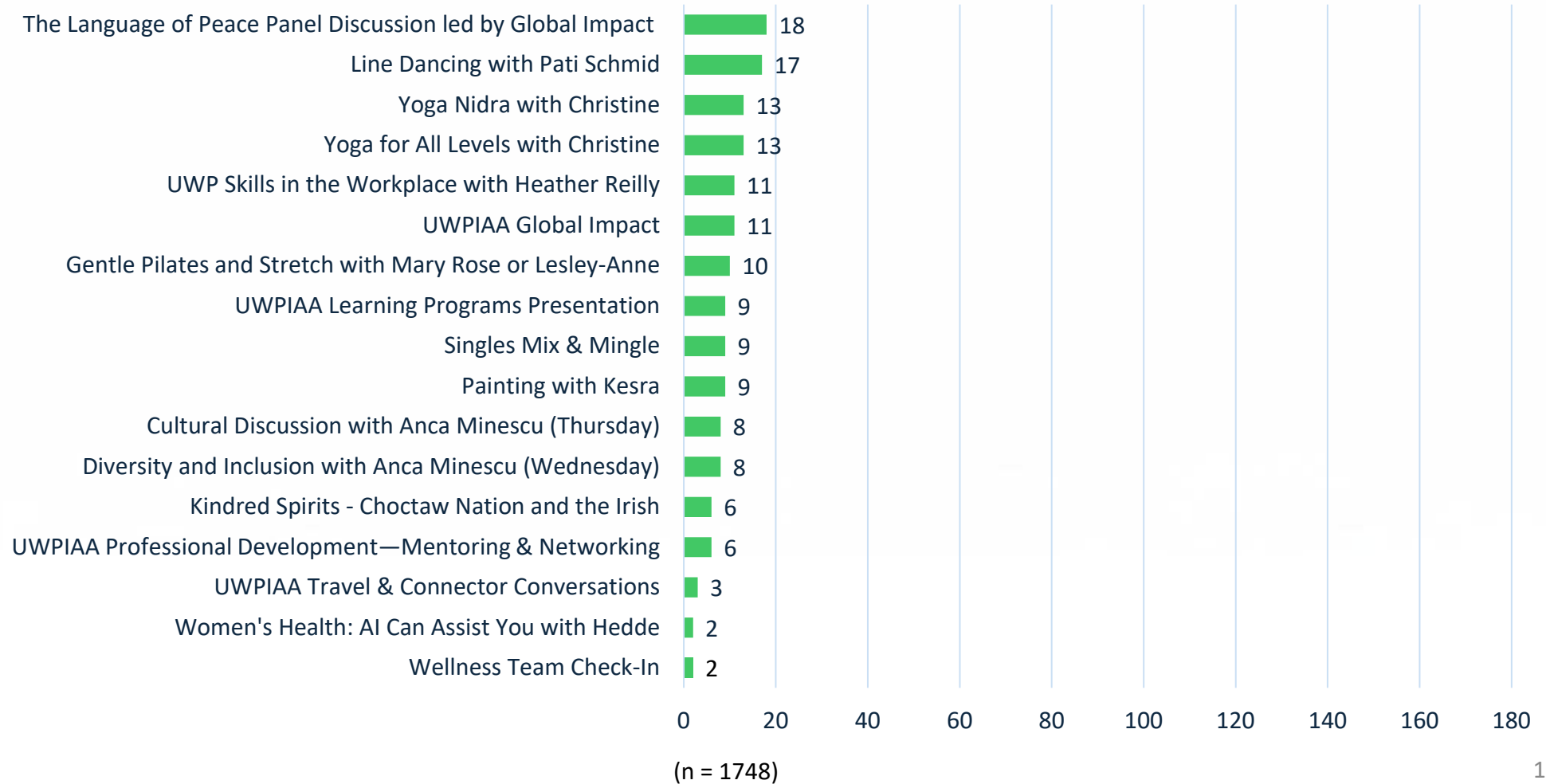


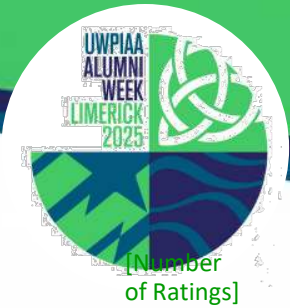
Which events and sessions did you attend?



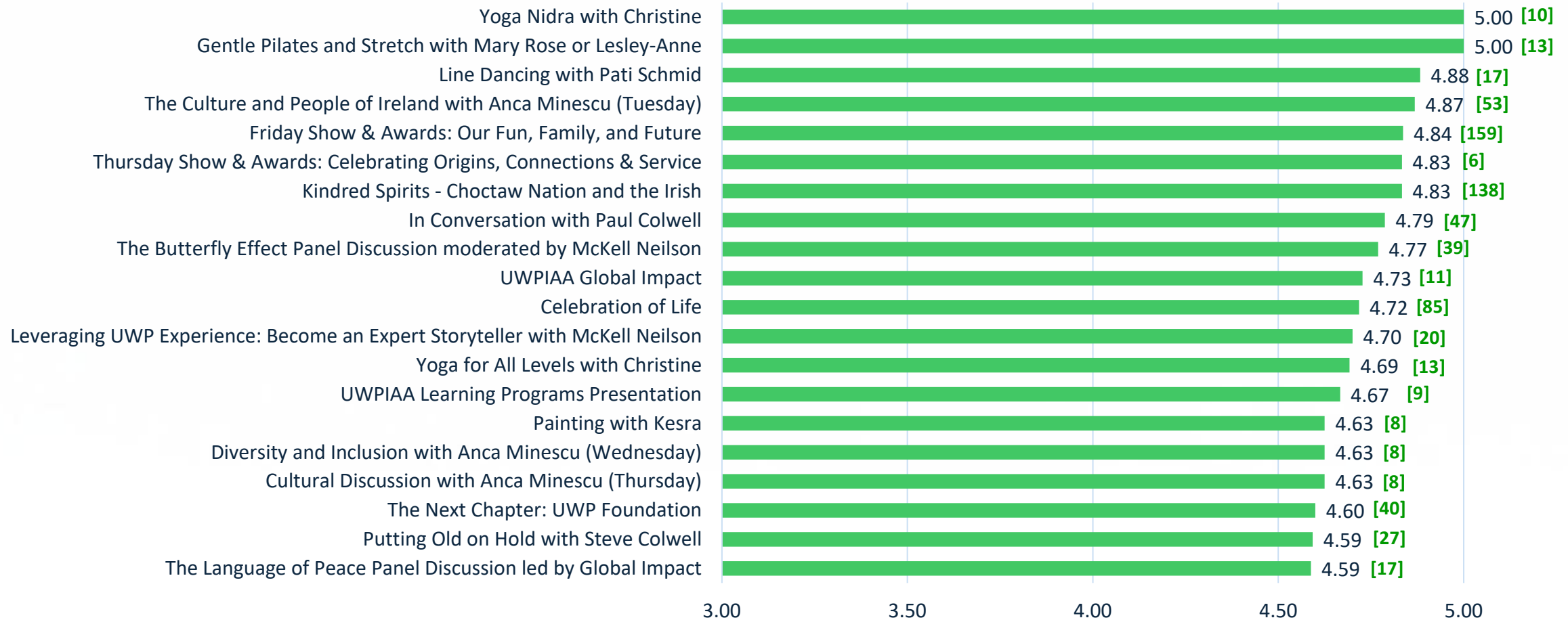


Which events and sessions did you attend? (continued)





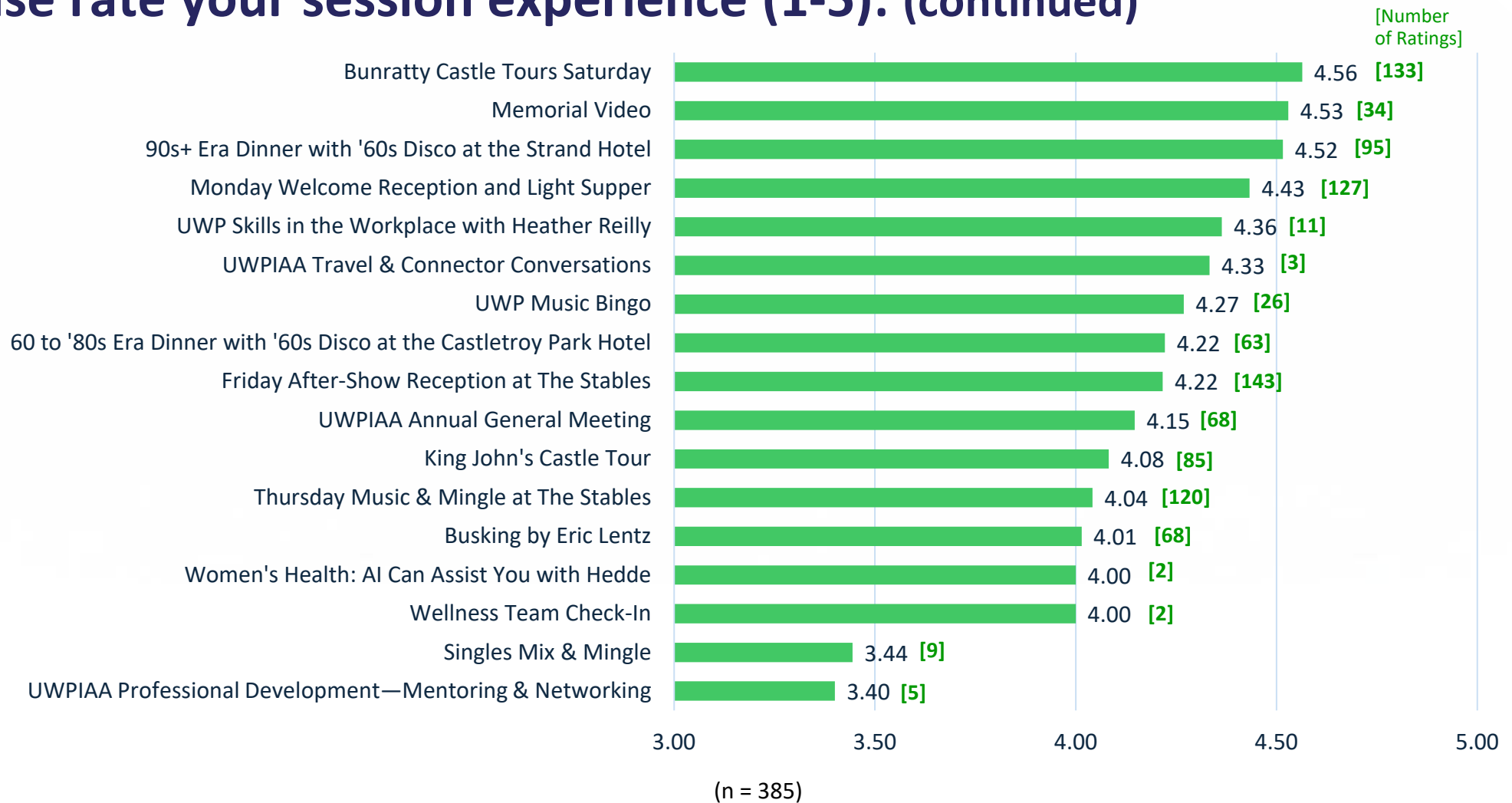
Please rate your session experience (1-5):



(n = 385)

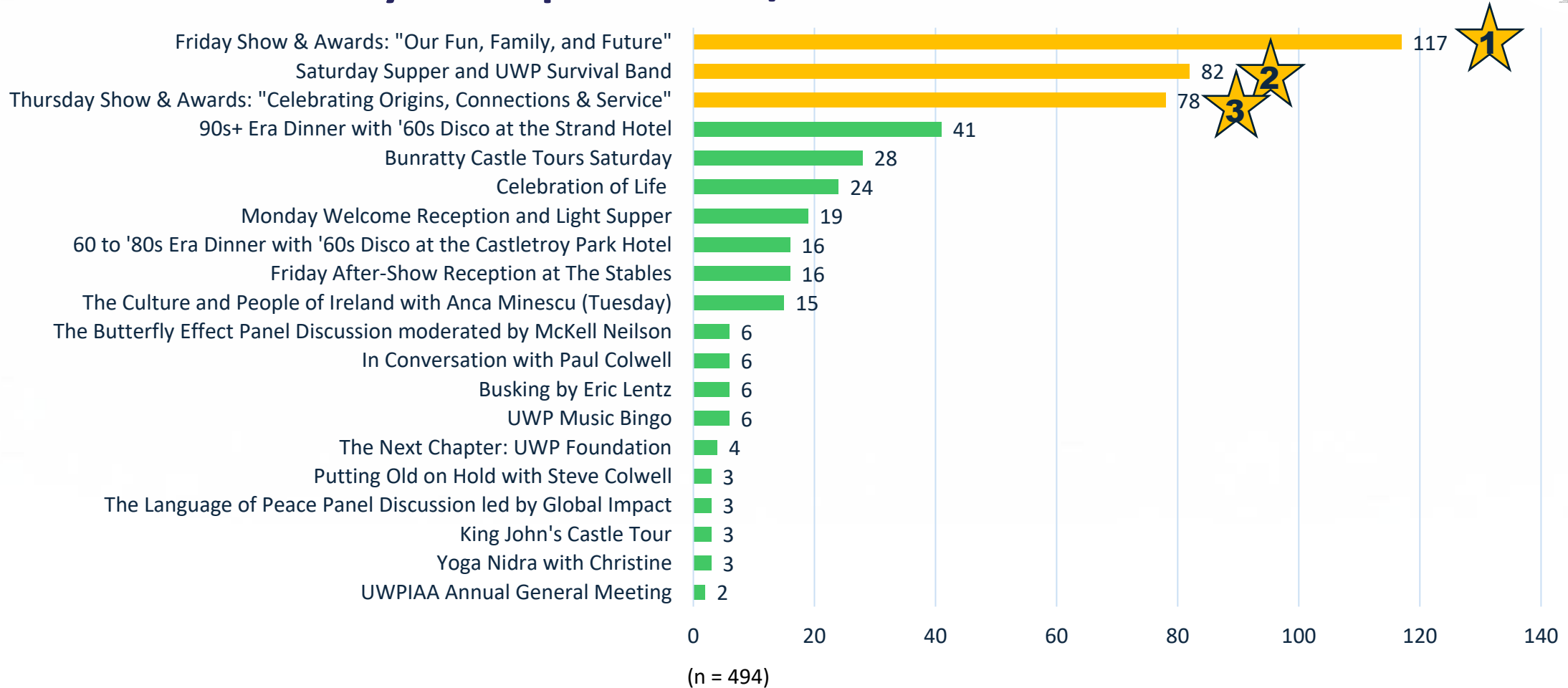


Please rate your session experience (1-5): (continued)



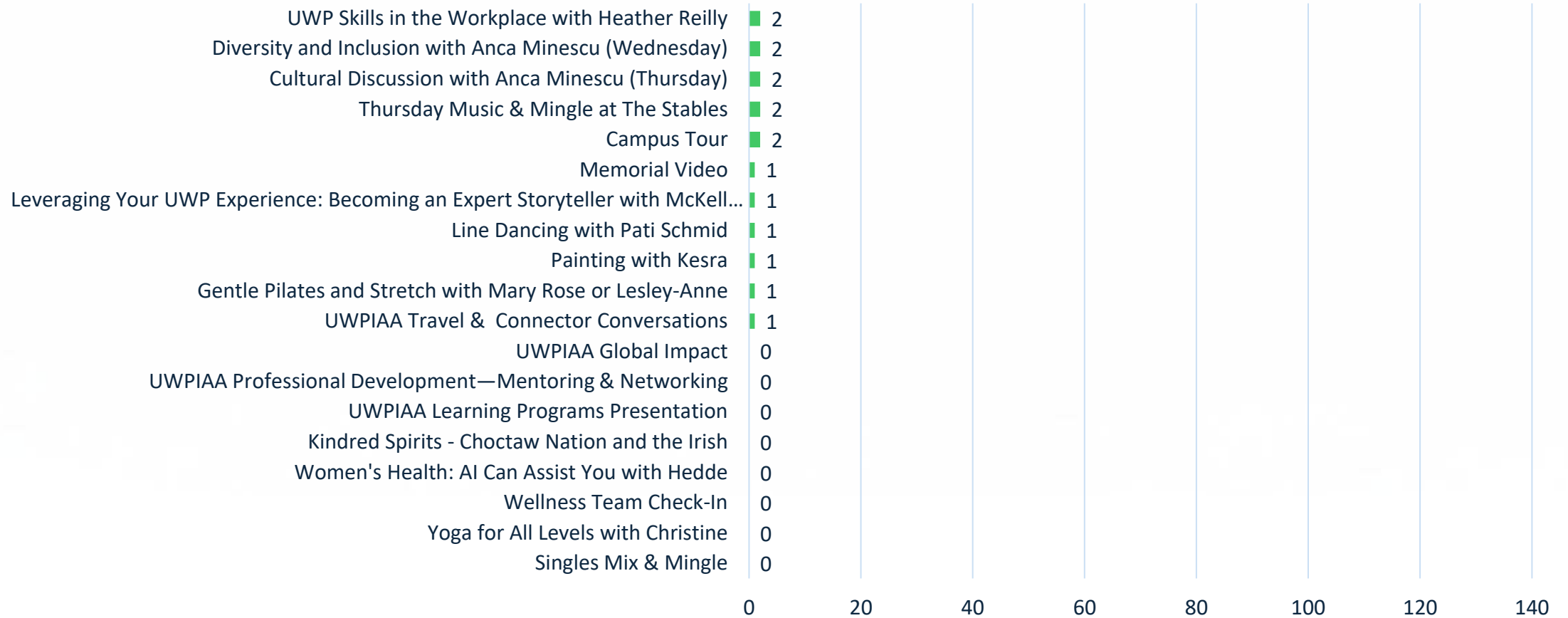


Please check off your top 3 events/activities from AAW 2025





Please check off your top 3 events/activities from AAW 2025



(n = 494)



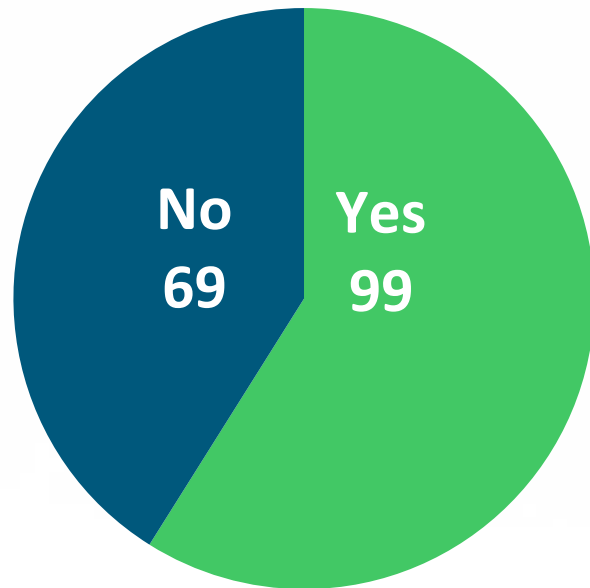
Of the three sessions you checked above, which one was the most significant or meaningful to you and why?

- **Era Shows & Performances (35–40%)**
These performances stood out as the emotional core of the week. Alumni repeatedly mentioned how powerful it was to return to the stage with castmates — some for the first time in decades. The shared experience of rehearsing and performing rekindled old bonds and reignited the spirit of UWP. Many called it “the highlight of the week” and expressed a profound sense of unity, identity, and personal renewal. For cast reunion years, it was especially poignant, with individuals calling it “cathartic” and “transformational.”
- **Celebration of Life (20–25%)**
This memorial session was described as deeply moving and essential to the week’s emotional depth. Attendees valued the space it created to honor lost castmates and reflect on shared journeys. Many were brought to tears and described feeling a profound sense of connection and reverence. The session helped provide closure for some, and others noted how it underscored UWP’s core values of humanity, remembrance, and compassion. It was praised as “beautifully done,” “respectful,” and “one of the most meaningful parts of the entire week.”
- **The Butterfly Effect Panel (10–15%)**
Praised for its inspirational content and ability to provoke thoughtful reflection. Attendees appreciated hearing diverse alumni perspectives on long-term impact, legacy, and the ripple effects of their time in UWP. It was described as “enlightening” and “motivating,” with many noting it gave them a renewed sense of purpose. Several said it helped reconnect them with UWP’s mission in a more mature, meaningful way—not just remembering the past, but thinking about how they continue to carry it forward.
- **Social Reconnection Events (15–20%)**
Events such as the Welcome Reception, Era Dinners, and casual gatherings were repeatedly mentioned for their joyful and spontaneous nature. Alumni valued the relaxed environment, the laughter, the hugs, and the shared memories. Many said they were able to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones in an organic, low-pressure setting. These moments created a sense of warmth, belonging, and community that attendees found just as meaningful as the formal programming. Some described these moments as “pure joy” and “the essence of UWP.”
- **Missed Sessions / Regrets (5–10%)**
Some attendees took the opportunity to express regret about missed sessions. Reasons included volunteer assignments, conflicting schedules, fatigue, or travel constraints. A few attendees asked for more flexible scheduling or better communication in future events.

(n = 165)

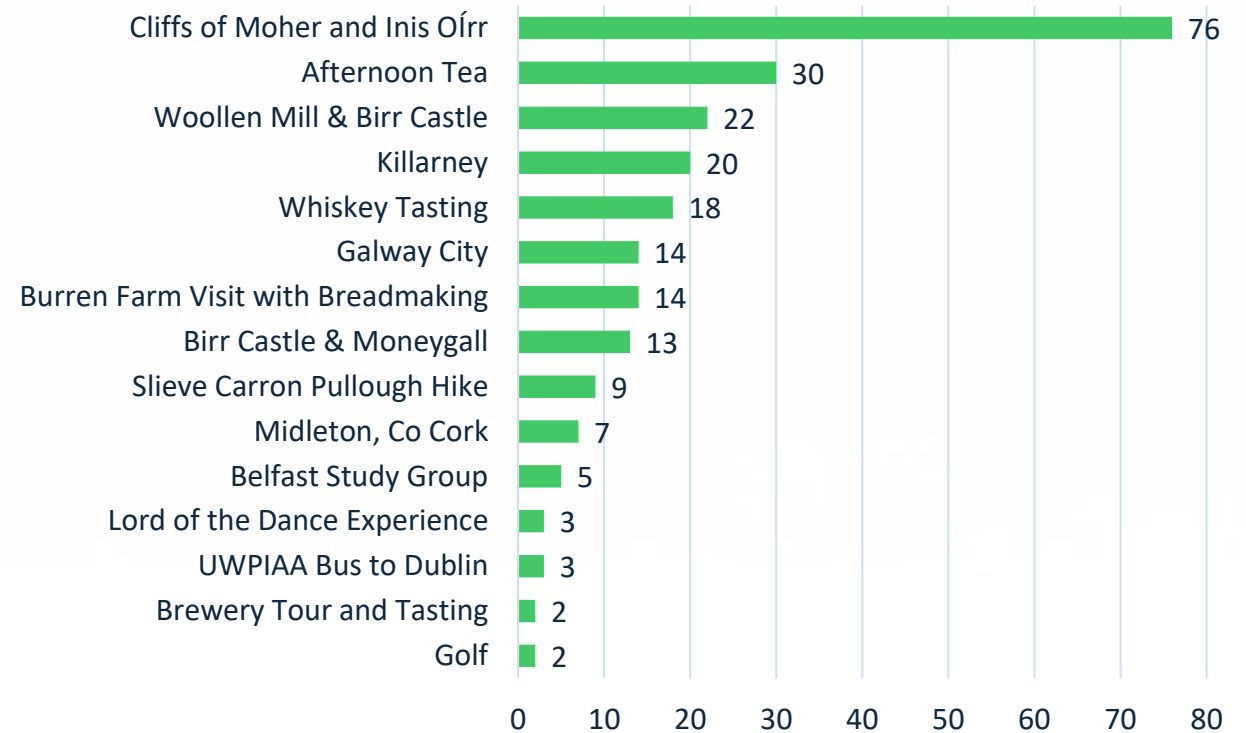


Did you participate in one or more of the optional tours, the Belfast study group, special activities (tea or tastings), or golf?



(n = 168)

Which of the following did you add to your registration?



(n = 238)



Please rate your session experience (1-5):





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

- **Cliffs of Moher and Inis Oírr (42 mentions)**
Most frequently cited experience. Attendees described it as iconic, beautiful, and unforgettable — often shared with castmates. Some wished for more time at key sites, while others valued the clarity of planning and smooth logistics.
- **Burren Farm Visit w/ Breadmaking & Sheepdog Demo (11 mentions)**
Praised for local charm, hospitality, and the cultural richness of activities. The personal touch of farm hosts stood out. A few attendees noted rushed pacing or underwhelming demonstrations.
- **Slieve Carron Pullough Hike (7 mentions)**
Appreciated for nature, serenity, and physical engagement. Notes included the need for hiking gear and better afternoon scheduling. Scones and tea at the end were a highlight.
- **Midleton, Co Cork (5 mentions)**
Valued for a scenic, informative, and well-paced day. Loved the mix of town time and structured touring, though one noted lunch timing challenges.
- **Belfast Study Group (2 mentions)**
Recognized as “extraordinary” and deeply impactful. Attendees appreciated the reflective space and meaningful dialogue.
- **Woollen Mill & Birr Castle (17 mentions)**
Frequently praised as unexpectedly fascinating. The science center, castle architecture, and passionate local guides stood out. Many appreciated the mix of culture, history, and hospitality. Some felt the woollen mill shop time could be shortened.
- **Afternoon Tea (18 mentions)**
A standout favorite for emotional connection and relaxed luxury. Attendees praised the delicious food, elegant atmosphere, and extended time for deep, personal reconnection. Many called it “memorable,” “meaningful,” and “so much fun.” Some minor service or cost issues were noted at one location, but the overall tone was overwhelmingly positive. Described as a rare opportunity to slow down and truly bond.

(n = 185)



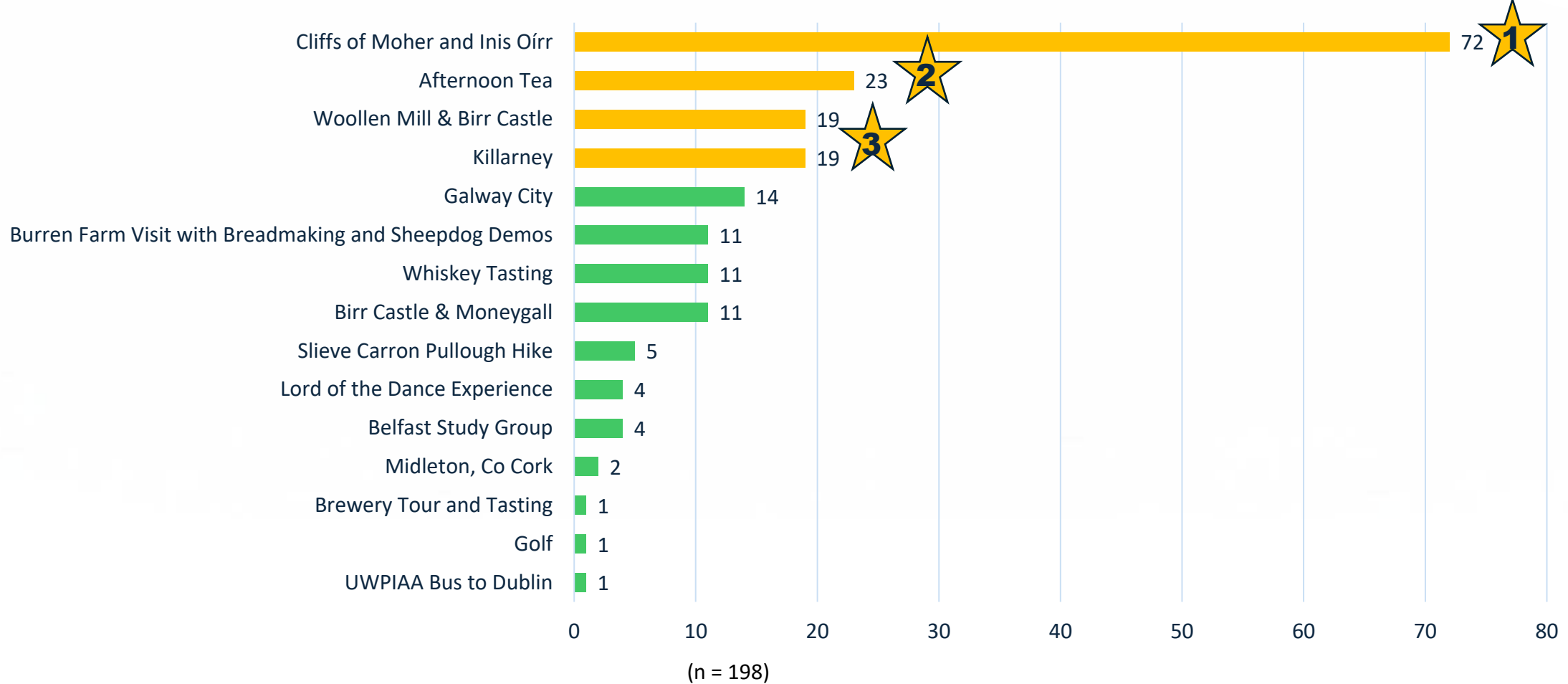
Which optional activity was the most significant or meaningful to you and why?

- **Killarney (13 mentions)**
Celebrated for beautiful landscapes, jaunting car rides, and time spent with castmates. Attendees enjoyed the relaxed pace and accessibility. Some wished for more time in town or different stop sequencing.
- **Galway City (9 mentions)**
Enjoyed for flexibility and charm. Free time for shopping, food, and exploring was widely appreciated. Positive guide reviews, especially for Mary Walsh. Some suggested more structure or fewer stops.
- **Birr Castle & Moneygall (12 mentions)**
Strongly praised for blending history and personal storytelling. Lady Rosse’s tour was a highlight, along with Obama-related stories. Many commented on the educational and memorable nature of the visit.
- **Whiskey Tasting (7 mentions)**
Praised for its small-group setting and interactive format. Guests enjoyed the hosts’ energy, humor, and depth of knowledge. Some appreciated how accessible and interesting it was — even for non-drinkers. A couple attendees wished for more history or variety in the tasting, but most considered it a “highlight,” “great craic,” and a “must-do” cultural experience.
- **Lord of the Dance Experience (3 mentions)**
Described as unique, joyful, and high-energy. Attendees appreciated the castmate connection and intimate feel of the performance. One called it “the best thing I did.”
- **UWPIAA Bus to Dublin (1 mention)**
Easy, convenient and affordable
- **Golf (2 mentions)**
Nice course and host, but it was far too expensive. The additional costs (rental clubs and cart fees) were not explained in advance. Skip the gifts and get the cost for golf down

(n = 185)



Please check off your top 3 optional activities from AAW 2025





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

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Most frequently cited experience. Attendees described it as iconic, beautiful, and unforgettable — often shared with castmates. Some wished for more time at key sites, while others valued the clarity of planning and smooth logistics.
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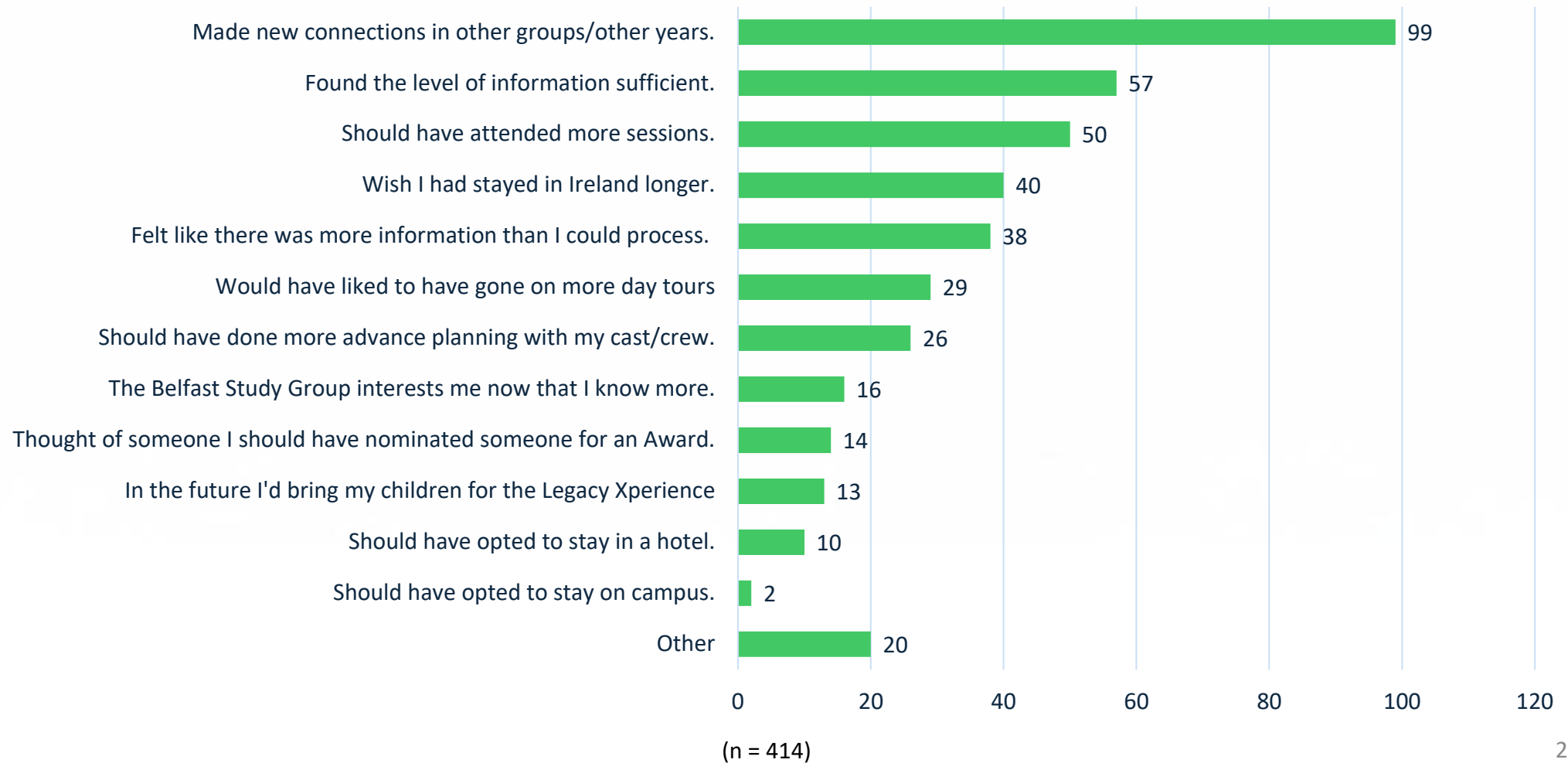
(n = 185)

99

Made friends
in other groups



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





Which was also true for you?

- 2 — Wished there was less programming or a reduced on-campus schedule to balance with excursions
- 1 — Room booking confusion led to underused space
- 1 — Would have preferred to skip loud post-show receptions and dine with cast instead
- 1 — Requested flexibility in answering survey questions (not all felt applicable)
- 1 — Would be interested in volunteering next year
- 1 — Felt completely welcomed as a parent of an alum

Constructive Criticism:

- Five attendees voiced frustration with information overload and inconsistency, citing that key details were either lost in volume, spread across too many platforms, never fully received, email overload, inconsistency, junk folder issues. Two of the five felt information was incomplete or confusing (still had unanswered questions despite frequent updates)
- Two wished for simplified communications, suggesting structured timetables or AI-based clarity checks.
- Four had scheduling conflicts between tours and sessions led to missed opportunities, with some suggesting reduced on-campus programming or staggered options.
- Two attendees expressed that costs were a concern, particularly when considering bringing family or legacy participants.
- Not all feedback was critical — some appreciated the campus housing experience and feeling welcomed and included, even as non-alumni parents.

(n = 20 Other responses)



Which was also true for you?

9 – Communication Overload & Inconsistency – Too many channels (WhatsApp, email, web, forms); conflicting or unclear details. Several asked for a single communication platform and more context for “must-do” messages.

7 – Housing / Dorm Concerns – Many found campus housing uncomfortable, far apart, or inaccessible. Some noted mobility issues, long walks, and poor room conditions (smells, bedding, towels, breakfast).

6 – Too Expensive / Poor Value – Cost seen as high for both individuals and families. Calls for shorter events, lower lodging costs, and more flexible ticketing options.

5 – Accessibility & Aging Population – Strong feedback urging future reunions to be mobility- and disability-friendly, with shuttles and shorter walking distances.

5 – Scheduling Conflicts / Too Many Overlaps – Multiple respondents missed sessions due to tours, overlapping events, or unclear timing between on-campus and off-campus programs.

4 – Event Length / Format Too Long – Some felt a week was excessive—preferring 3–4 days or a hotel-based event for easier access and connection.

4 – Logistical / Navigation Issues – Confusion finding buildings, bus stops, or housing assignments; late arrivals had difficulty locating check-in or assistance.

3 – Food & Water Access – Limited breakfast options, long lines, and poor access to food or hydration points during the day.

3 – Organizational Clarity / Leadership – Requests for better-defined ownership of tasks, clearer volunteer roles, and accountability when issues arise.

3 – Legacy / Family Feedback – Parents appreciated inclusion but requested shorter or optional youth programs and flexibility for family members to join select activities.

2 – Tour vs. Session Balance – Missed key sessions due to tours or rehearsals; desired more free time with castmates.

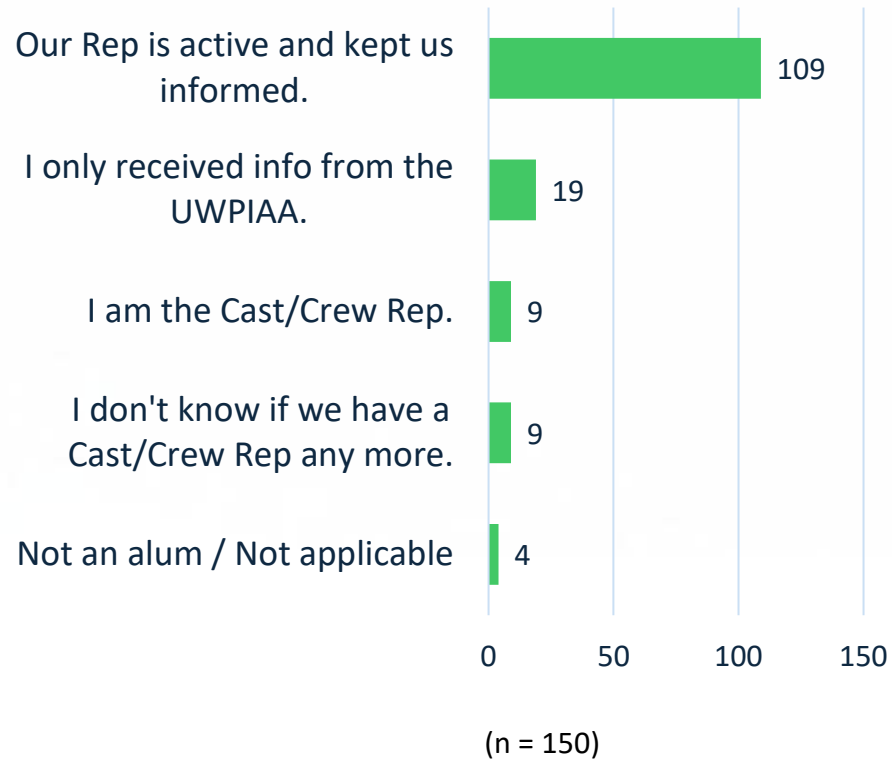
Overall Insights:

- Attendees praised the **energy, volunteers, and spirit of connection**, yet cited **logistical strain** and **communication fatigue** as recurring pain points.
- The **communication system** was often called overwhelming—too many tools, long emails, and little context. Participants suggested using one clear channel or an AI-assisted summary system for clarity.
- Several noted **campus accessibility challenges**, with long walks between dorms and venues. Alumni emphasized the need for **future reunions to consider an aging population**.
- Many found the **university lodging experience subpar**, describing it as costly, inconvenient, and not suited to all mobility levels.
- **Scheduling** emerged as a key issue—simultaneous sessions, tours, and performances left participants feeling they missed meaningful opportunities.
- A number of alumni expressed that the **length and intensity of the week** made it exhausting and expensive; shorter, hotel-based gatherings were preferred by some.
- Despite criticism, there was consistent appreciation for **volunteers, the diversity of programming, and the joyful reconnection with castmates**, affirming that the event was deeply meaningful once logistics were overcome.

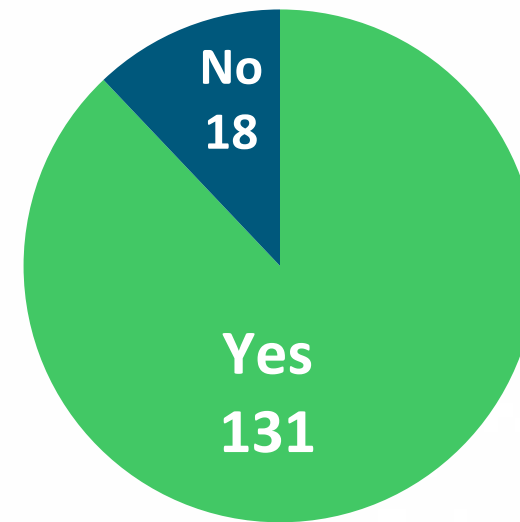
(n = 53 open responses)



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



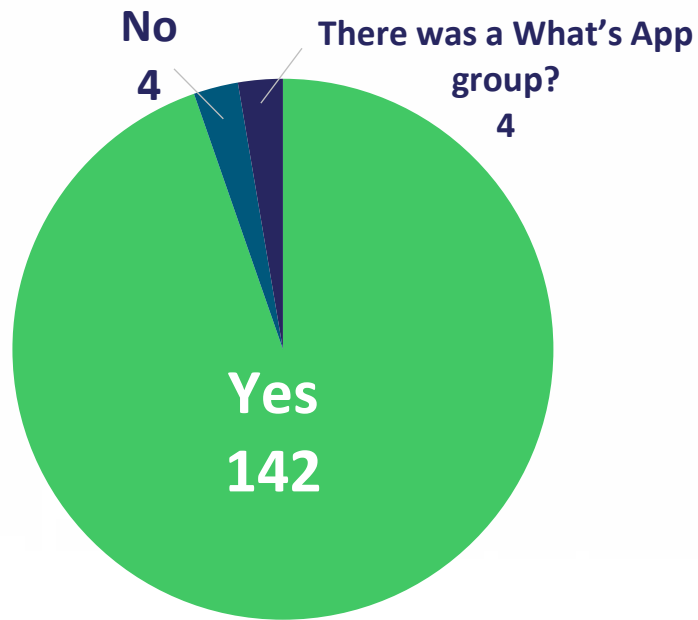
Did you find the mobile-friendly schedule for Annual Alumni Week helpful and useful?



(n = 149)

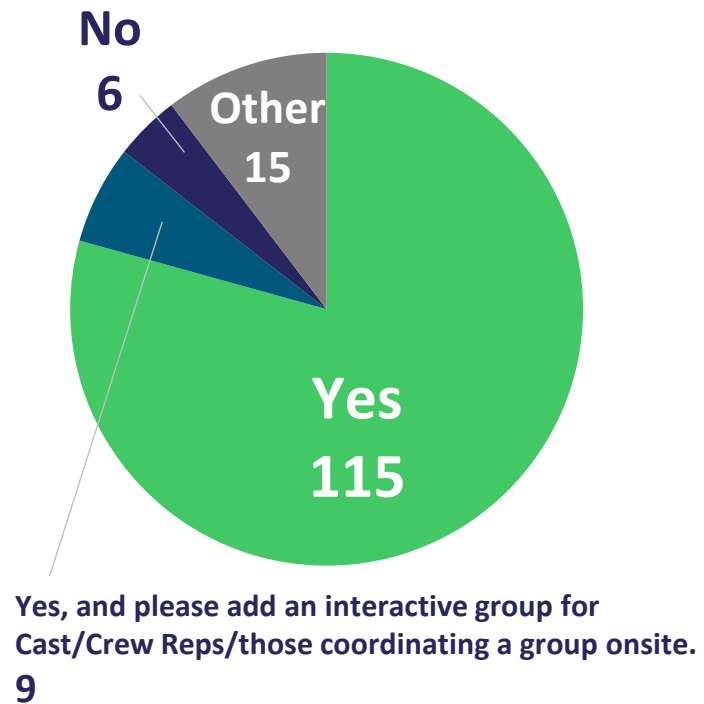


Did you/someone in your group join the WhatsApp group for Annual Alumni Week?



(n = 150)

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



(n = 145)

4 – Too Much / Repetitive Information
Several noted that messages were overwhelming, repetitive, or buried key updates. Requested a simpler system, clearer summaries, and better prioritization of urgent information.

3 – Didn't Know About or Couldn't Access Group – Some attendees said they were unaware of the group, joined late, or couldn't find access details. Suggested clearer invitations or earlier onboarding.

2 – Didn't Participate / Not in Group
Respondents said they either didn't use the group or relied on their own cast chat instead.

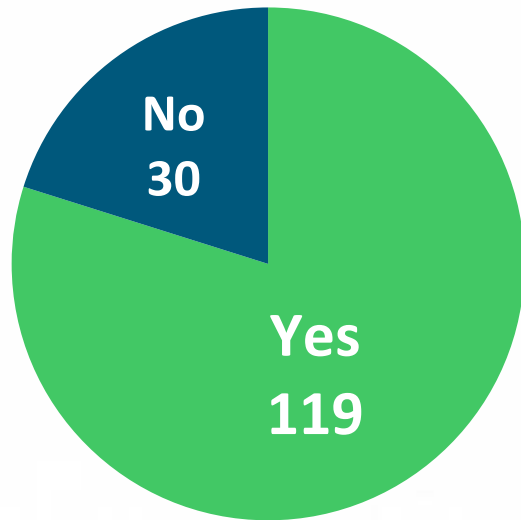
2 – Information Hard to Navigate or Constantly Changing – Updates were hard to track due to frequent edits or short-notice changes.

1 – Privacy / Platform Suggestion
One respondent suggested moving from WhatsApp to a platform like Signal for privacy and better organization.

1 – Positive Experience – Found the WhatsApp group helpful and a useful way to stay connected once joined.

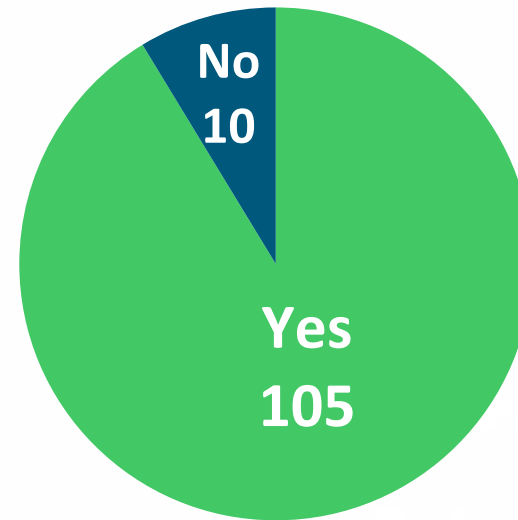


Did you/someone in your group attend the monthly Info Sessions?



(n = 149)

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



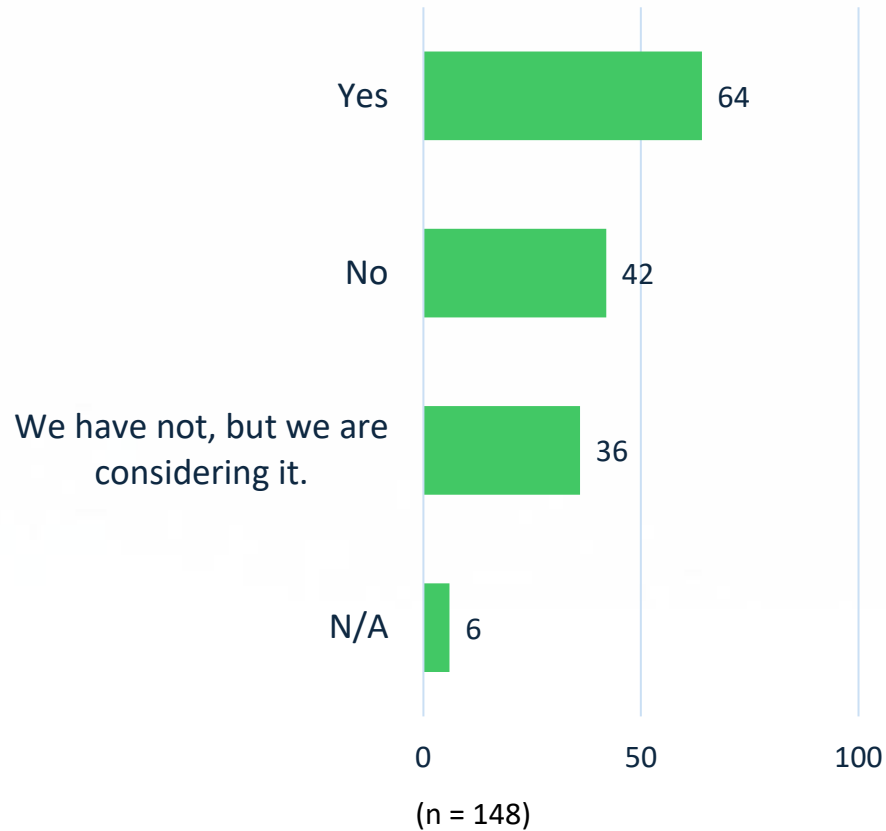
(n = 115)

34

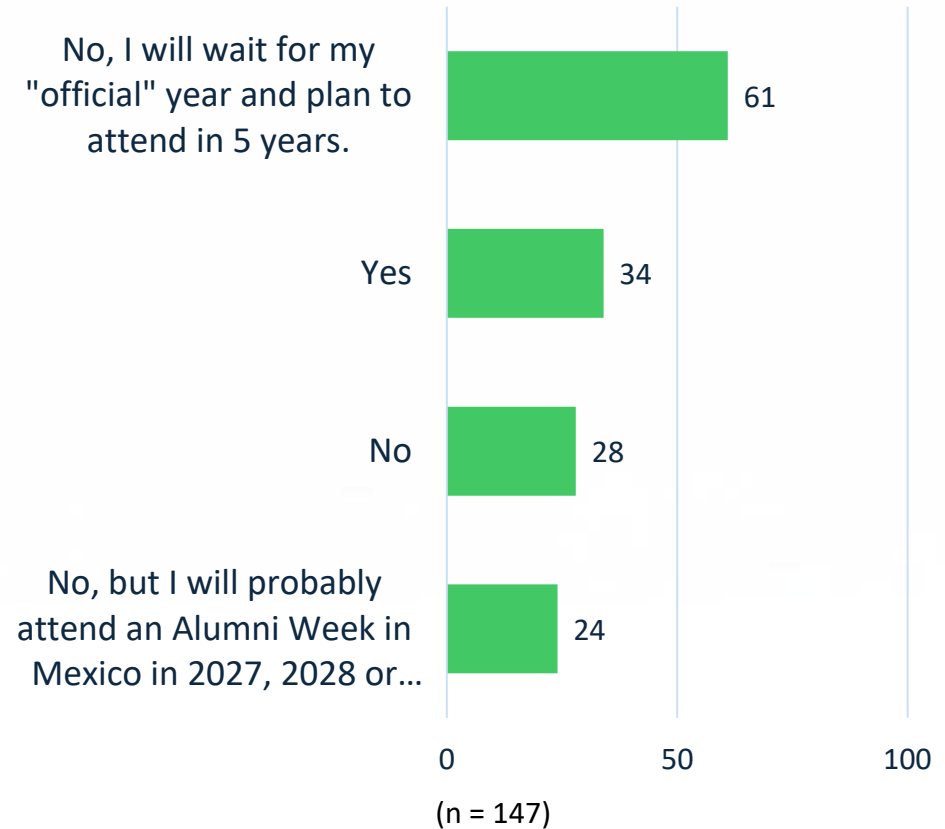
Would attend again in 2026



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



Annual Alumni Week will be held in Ireland again next year. Would you attend again in 2026?

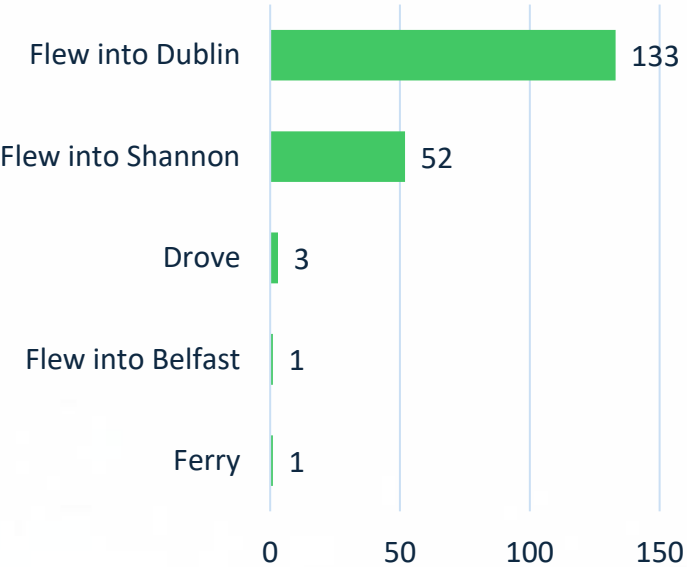


92

Attendees toured Ireland before/after AAW

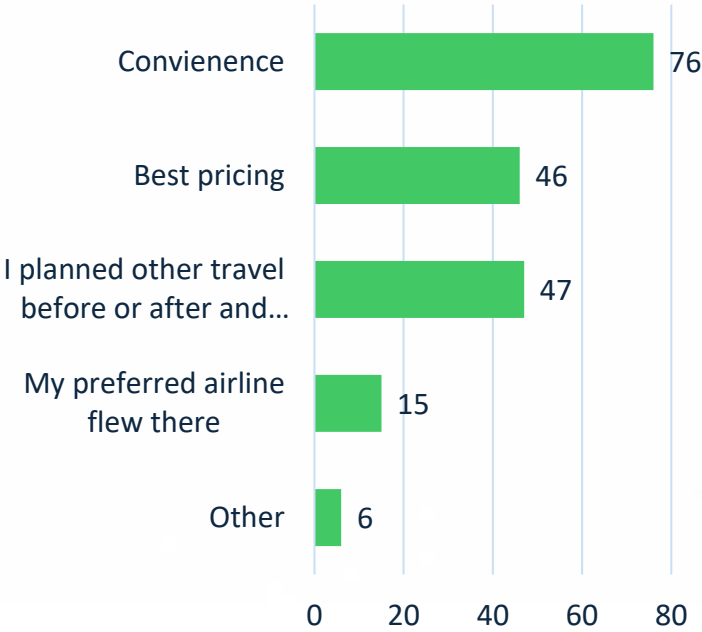


How did you arrive to Ireland?



(n = 190)

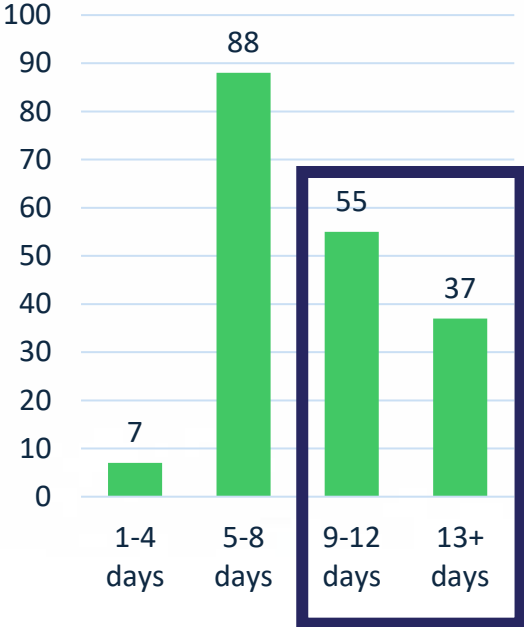
Why did you choose this method?



(n = 190)

other (6): 2-I live here/live in Kerry Ireland; 1-No boat option; 1-No flight to Shannon; 1-only option for flying in from Belgium; 1-Time (fastest way to get there)

How many total days were you in Ireland?

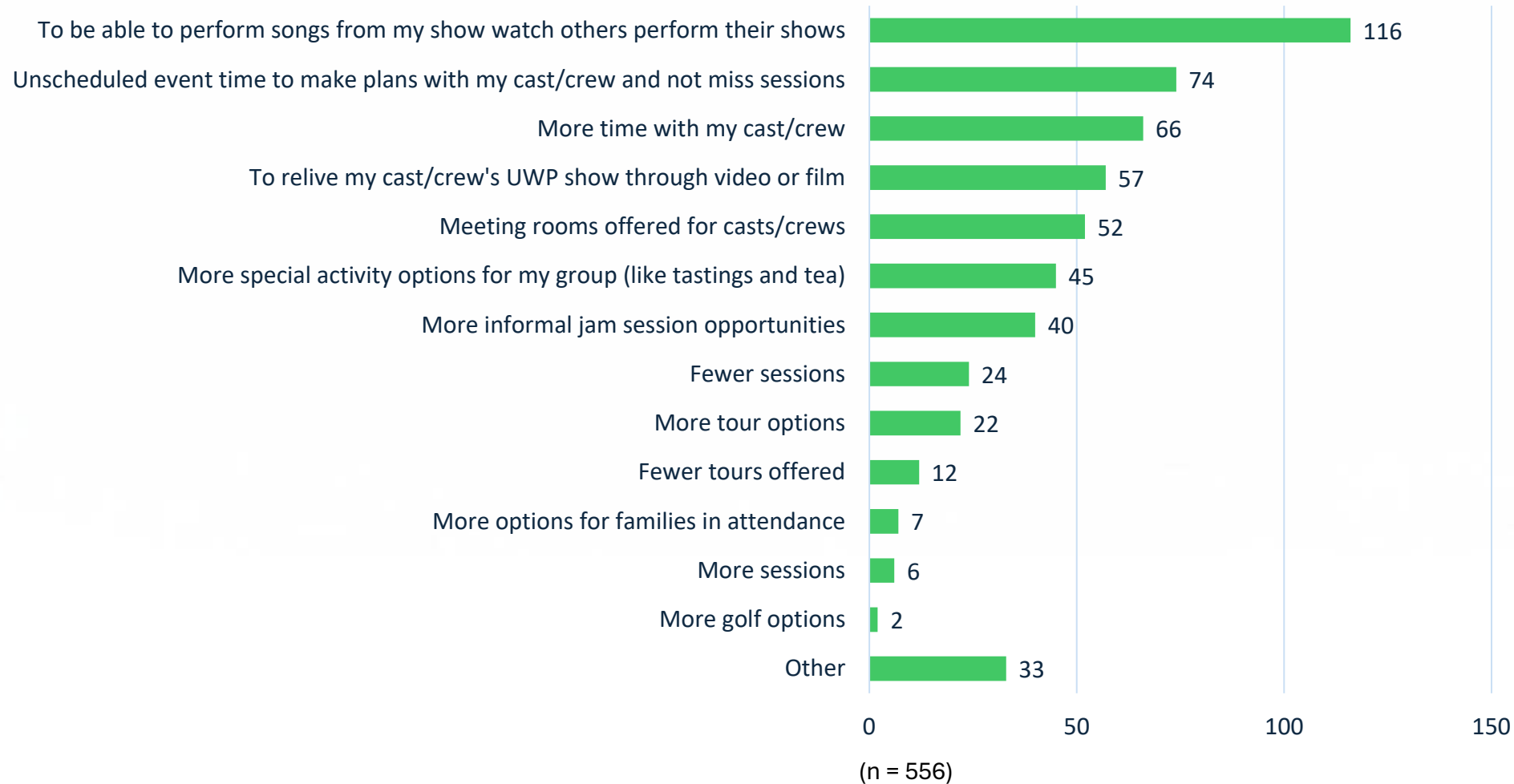


(n = 190)

other (3): 2-I live in Ireland



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





At future Annual Alumni Weeks, I'd like: (Other)

Summary:

Overall feedback reflects a high level of satisfaction with Alumni Week's mix of structure and freedom. Most suggestions focused on earlier communication, greater flexibility in participation options, and more targeted social opportunities for specific groups (singles, families, or partial attendees). Alumni want the same warm, connected experience — just with simpler logistics, more choices, and a few extra moments to dance.

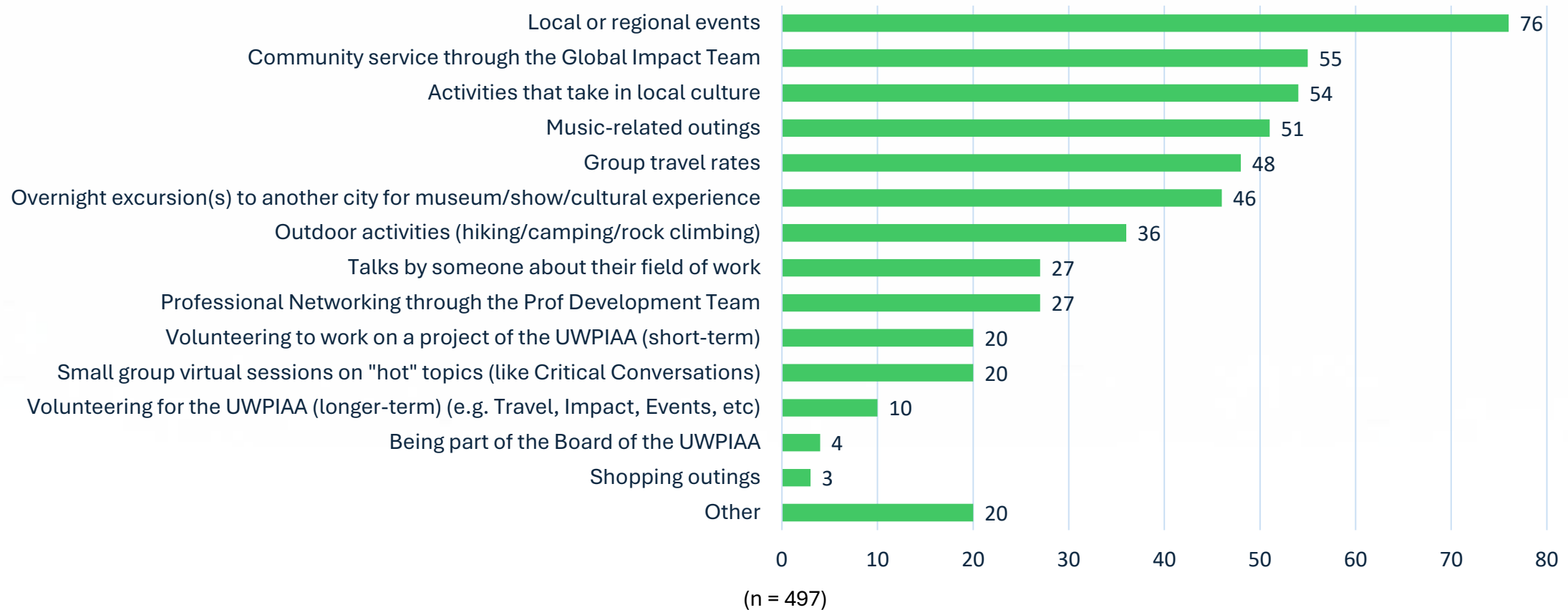
Additional comments:

- Program Content & Balance - 8 mentions – Many praised the mix of structured and free time, saying it was well-balanced and allowed for flexibility. Some asked for fewer overlapping sessions and simpler information delivery, suggesting clearer scheduling to avoid conflicts and missed opportunities. Requests for new session topics, including social/environmental impact of alumni clubs, and activities for single attendees.
- Scheduling & Communication - 7 mentions – Several respondents said information came too late to plan effectively; early release of the schedule, tour sign-ups, and 3-day/weekend options would help future planning. Suggested clearer, more concise communication and less email volume.
- Accessibility & Cost Options - 5 mentions – Desire for flexible registration options (day passes, weekend packages, or guest-only passes). Some requested lower fees or partial registration rates for non-alumni family members.
- Facilities & Social Spaces - 4 mentions – Casts want to be housed together when possible for easier connection. Interest in shared spaces for private cast meals or gatherings, possibly with local catering partners.
- New or Enriched Activities - 5 mentions – Suggestions included karaoke, sports, better dance music, and more post-show dancing. A few also asked for volunteer appreciation events and family-inclusive tours (especially for those with kids in the Legacy Experience).

(n = 33 Other responses)



At other times of the year, I'd like to see the UWPIAA offer:





At other times of the year, I'd like to see the UWPIAA offer: (Other)

Summary:

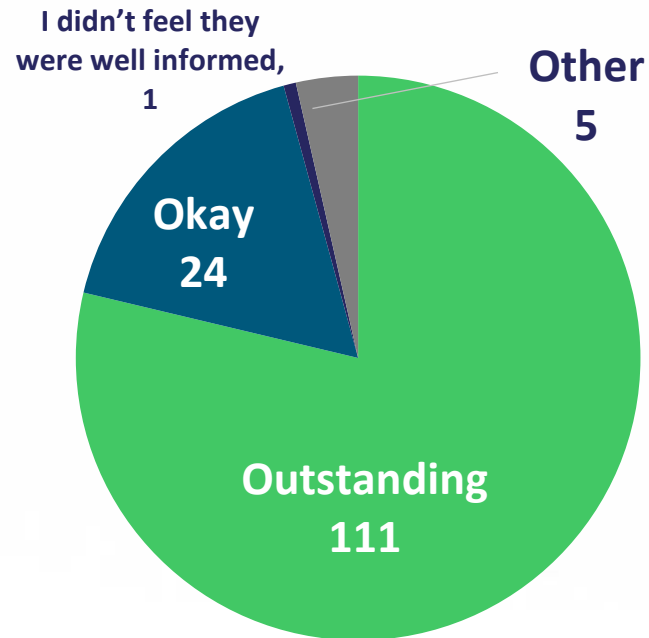
Most respondents envision occasional, flexible engagement — mainly through reunions, newsletters, or when life allows. A smaller group expressed enthusiasm for virtual networking, regional initiatives, and creative event formats. Future success lies in offering low-barrier, interest-based ways to stay connected, both online and in local communities.

Additional comments:

- General Sentiment & Uncertainty - 6 mentions – Many respondents were unsure or undecided about future involvement (“not sure,” “depends on timing,” “I don’t know”). Indicates that engagement may hinge on location, accessibility, or life stage.
- Reunion & Passive Participation - 5 mentions – Several said they are happy with reunions as their main interaction or prefer to simply receive updates and newsletters. A few noted they might engage more after retirement or when time allows.
- Existing Regional & National Activities - 3 mentions – Alumni in Germany cited their active national club, which already provides social and service opportunities, reducing the need for more central UWPIAA events.
- Ideas for Virtual or Thematic Connections - 4 mentions – Interest in digital meetups or networking groups by profession or cause (teachers, nonprofit leaders, entrepreneurs). Suggestions for Zoom sessions, virtual updates, or creative gatherings like “Choir Choir” singalongs in different cities.
- Volunteerism & Low-Cost Cast Activities - 2 mentions – Desire to volunteer during Alumni Week or have no-cost local cast activities for more inclusive participation.



The interactions I had with volunteers were:



(n = 141)

- **Deep Appreciation & Gratitude** (≈45 mentions) The overwhelming majority thanked volunteers personally and passionately. Words like amazing, outstanding, fantastic, and so grateful were frequent. Alumni recognized the volunteers as the heart of the event, bringing warmth, energy, and community spirit. Many said they felt inspired to volunteer next year because of this team's example.
- **Friendly, Helpful & Visible Support** (≈25 mentions) Volunteers were consistently described as kind, cheerful, and proactive. The purple vests made them easy to identify and added approachability. Attendees appreciated how approachable and supportive the team was. Their presence and enthusiasm elevated the atmosphere, helping alumni navigate complex schedules with ease.
- **Coordination & Efficiency Gaps** (≈10 mentions) A few comments noted bottlenecks, rigid enforcement, or confusion at registration and event check-ins. Most frustration stemmed from task distribution and autonomy — alumni felt volunteers sometimes followed rules too rigidly or weren't empowered to make quick decisions.
- **Tone & Interactions** (≈8 mentions) While most volunteers were friendly, some feedback mentioned rudeness, impatience, or condescending tone in isolated situations. These were outliers, but they stood out enough to suggest the need for customer-service-style training for front-line volunteers, especially in stressful moments.
- **Organization & Communication Improvements** (≈6 mentions) Comments highlighted inconsistent communication, unclear signage, and late check-ins as areas to refine. Alumni want to keep the same spirit but see better coordination, clearer directions, and empowered volunteer leads to reduce confusion at high-traffic moments.

(n = 94)



Please share your top highlight of Ireland and of the event :

Reconnecting & Relationships (≈55 mentions)

- The #1 highlight for most attendees was reconnecting with castmates, some after 30–40 years.
- Described as “magical,” “healing,” and “like being 25 again.”
- Alumni deeply valued shared dorm housing, late-night gatherings, and the family-like bond rekindled through music and conversation.
- Many said the sense of global unity and UWP spirit reminded them why they joined originally.

Shows, Performances & Music (≈40 mentions)

- The Era Shows, UWP Survival Band, and Saturday Night Celebration were consistently cited as the emotional heart of the week.
- Attendees praised the energy, nostalgia, and professionalism of the performances and loved participating in cast rehearsals.
- Mentions of Paul & Steve Colwell, the Legacy Experience performances, and singalongs at The Stables were especially meaningful.
- “Music reawakened our mission — unity, peace, and joy.”

Exploring Ireland (≈35 mentions)

- Ireland itself was a major highlight — Cliffs of Moher, Inis Oírr, Bunratty Castle, Killarney, and the West Coast were named most often.
- Attendees loved the scenery, Irish hospitality, humor, and warmth of the people.
- Several noted farm visits, horseback riding, and local pubs as authentic cultural experiences.
- One wrote: “The Irish people were so open and kind — I’ve never met a nation that smiles more.”

Legacy Experience & Family Connection (≈10 mentions)

- Parents described watching their children perform in the Legacy Experience as “incredible” and “emotional beyond words.”
- Many said it felt like a generational bridge — seeing their kids experience UWP’s mission for the first time.
- A few families combined the week with their first-ever European vacation, calling it “a dream come true.”

Campus Life & Event Organization (≈15 mentions)

- The University of Limerick campus received strong praise for its layout, apartment housing, and proximity of activities.
- Alumni appreciated the balance of scheduled and free time, choice of tours, and volunteer support throughout the week.
- Comments highlighted smooth logistics, vibrant atmosphere, and welcoming energy.
- “It was like a summer camp for grown-ups — joyful and seamless.”

Other Personal Highlights (≈8 mentions)

- Afternoon Tea at 1 Pery Square, Whiskey Tasting, Woollen Mill tour, and Bernadette Flynn’s dance session were singled out for their intimacy and charm.
- Several attendees found smaller experiences (like a pub singalong, market visit, or Irish dance class) to be the unexpected gems of the trip.

(n = 141 - answers split between event and Ireland responses)



Feedback on a topic we didn't cover:

Communication (≈18 mentions)

- Wanted earlier / clearer info on schedules, session list, and partial-week options; avoid last-minute changes without active notices.
- Centralize details on the website/FAQ (what's in apartments, linens/towels, how roommate matching works, etc.).
- Reduce volume; ensure key updates don't get lost (e.g., WhatsApp, junk folders).
- Record or repeat popular sessions; consider an Opening Ceremony; share plans for UWP's future.

Logistics & Transportation (≈20 mentions)

- Campus size / walking was tough; requests for shuttles, closer housing to venues, more signage, alternate quiet gathering spaces (not only pubs).
- Registration: late/closed desks, Monday a.m. sign-in unavailable; want smoother late check-in.
- Room booking / keys: payer should access all rooms on a multi-room booking; simplify housing hand-offs.
- Allow leftover food/item drop-off; COVID testing option; consider Canada as a future host.

Food & Accommodations (≈22 mentions)

- Breakfast window short for non-tour guests; mixed quality. Desire better lunch options on tours and clearer what meals are included.
- Several meal venues praised; a few disappointments (tea/Scholars) and value concerns (Castletroy).
- Publish a what's provided list (linens, towels cadence, kitchen gear, detergent).
- Dorm notes: loud doors, tight seating at Stables; many still loved apartment housing for cast connection.

Event Structure & Activities (≈24 mentions)

- Strong ask for flexible packages: weekend/3–4-day option, à-la-carte tickets (era show, awards) for family/unregistered alumni; release limited show seats near event.
- Session overlap—offer repeats; some prefer fewer daytime sessions given tours and cast time.
- Keep community service, add local vendor market; production tweaks (Founders more than one song; reconsider strenuous choreography).
- Overall high praise for variety, volunteers, and balanced schedule; many said it was the best reunion yet.

Accessibility & Families (≈12 mentions)

- Mobility needs: closer housing, box-meal options, quieter evening spaces.
- Legacy families: group housing proximity; early roommate coordination; family-friendly choices.

Bottom line: Keep the heart—people, music, and cast time—and refine clarity, access, and flexibility (earlier info, easier movement, and modular ticketing) to lift the next reunion from great to exceptional.



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.