



### **Executive Summary for Strand Bookstore National Marketing Plan**

Strand Bookstore's primary revenue comes from retail in-store sales of books, gifts, branded apparel, and merchandise. There are opportunities to increase revenue through some of the Strand's unique offerings by expanding marketing efforts to reach a broader, national market.

Three areas of revenue opportunity we propose to target are:

- Vinyl record sales through e-commerce
- The Strand's "Rare Book Room" by promoting it as a unique holiday party venue, and creating awareness nationally as an unforgettable wedding venue for traditional and same sex couples
- "Books by the Foot" through creating awareness on Instagram and display ads in targeted publications and websites for interior and set designers

A content audit shows that Strand Bookstore has a robust website but lacks a channel for blog posts. It is recommended that this channel be added to provide a home for regularly scheduled blog posts to boost SEO.

## Goals and Objectives



Market some of the unique offerings Strand Bookstore offers available to a national market:

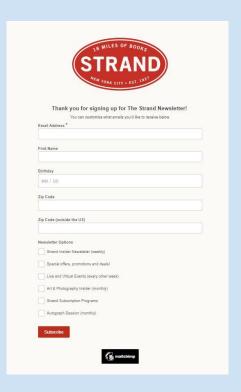
- Increase "Sounds of the Strand" vinyl collection sales by 20% through e-commerce by end of 2022
- Fill Q4 2022 booking calendar for "The Rare Book Room" event space to capacity, and increase bookings by 30% from Q1 - Q3 2023 by creating national awareness of its availability
- Increase "Books by the Foot" custom book collection sales by 10% and rental revenue by
   20% by end of 2022, targeting interior decorators and set designers

# Owned Content:

## **FAQs**



## Strand Newsletter

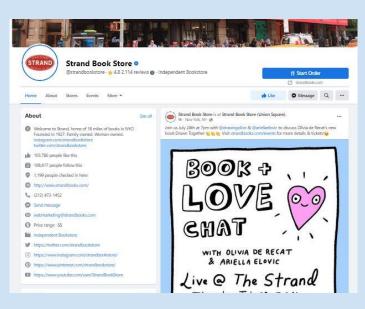


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# Non-Owned Content:

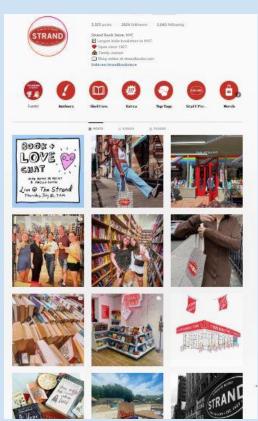
#### Facebook



### **Twitter**



## Instagram



## Content gaps and opportunities for vinyl record sales

## Competitors: Academy Records and Limited to One Record Shop

Keyword	www.strandbo	https://academy- lps.com/	https://www. limitedtoone shop.com/	CPC	Average Volume
record shops near me	0	49	0	1.23	6600
where to buy vinyl records	0	93	0	0.57	3600
vinyl records stores near me	0	76	0	1.21	2900
vinyl record near me	0	58	0	1.22	2900
used record stores near me	0	33	0	1.24	2900
used vinyl records	0	44	0	0.43	2400
used record store near me	0	45	0	1.24	2400
used records	0	37	0	0.47	2400
academy gift card	0	27	0	0.28	2400
academy records	0	2	0	0.99	1900
records stores near me	0	47	0	1.42	1900
used records near me	0	12	0	1.16	1900
used records stores near me	0	59	0	1.24	1900
records near me	0	20	0	1.75	1900
buy vinyl records	0	63	0	0.67	1600
records store near me	0	71	0	1.42	1600
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Broad gap analysis for record shops in NYC

<b>Keyword Analysis</b>						
	Google Search Ranking					
Keywords	Strand Bookstore	Academy Records	Limited to One Record Shop			
best place to buy records	0	24	0			
buying records online	0	60	0			
buying vinyl records online	0	74	0			
cheapest place to buy vinyl	0	71	0			
punk stores nyc	0	0	46			
punk rock record store	0	0	42			
rare record shops	0	0	82			

Specific keyword opportunities

#### Insights and observations:

- Strand Bookstore is not appearing in searches for vinyl records.
- Competitor Academy Records showed low ranking for vinyl and used record searches.
- Other venue competitor, Limited to One Shop showed low but existent ranking for punk record search terms.

## Content opportunities to market Strand Bookstore vinyl record sales:

#### Non-owned content:

- Ads targeted to millennials and Gen Zs on Twitter, Reddit, and Instagram
- Social posts on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram promoting "Sounds of the Strand" generally, and highlighting specific titles on vinyl available through e-commerce





#### Owned content:

- SEO optimized blog posts using keywords that competitors are ranking with, i.e. "Why The Strand is the Best Place to Buy Records in NYC"
- Deep dives into "Sounds of the Strand" on "The Strandcast" (existing podcast) about featured artists, tying back to the variety of titles available for sale on the website

### Content gaps and opportunities for Strand Bookstore as an event venue

## Competitors: The Foundry and Glasshouse Chelsea

Keyword	www.strandbooks	https://www.theglas shouses.com/glassho use-chelsea	The state of the s	CPC	Average Volume
bookstore	4	0	0	0.81	165000
book store near me	20	0	0	0.95	110000
avenue event space	0	94	0	1.56	170
glass house 2021	0	53	0	0	170
endless entertainment	0	62	0	0.61	170
small glass house	0	84	0	0	170
glass house restaurant	0	57	0	0	170
glass housr	0	62	0	1.47	170
hoboken glass house	0	87	0	1.61	170
holiday party 2021	0	2	0	0	170
nyc venue	0	59	0	1.44	170
660 12th ave	0	1	0	0	170
the glass house wedding venue	0	7	0	1.35	170
680 west end avenue	0	95	0	0.19	170
the glass house tavern	0	37	0	0	140
venue nyc	0	59	0	1.28	140
glass house tavern new york city	0	10	0	0.76	140
the glads	0	90	0	1.8	140
nyc venue space	0	76	0	1.8	140
now work city owent chace	0	on.			140

Broad gap analysis for small event venues in NYC

Google Search Ranking				
Strand Bookstore	Chelsea Glasshouse	The Foundry		
0	75	0		
0	78	0		
0	57	0		
0	45	0		
0	2	0		
0	59	0		
	Strand Bookstore 0 0	Strand Bookstore         Chelsea Glasshouse           0         75           0         78           0         57           0         45           0         2		

Specific keyword opportunities

#### Insights and observations:

- Strand Bookstore is not appearing in searches for an event venue in NYC.
- Competitor Glasshouse Chelsea ranked high for "holiday party"; ranked lower for other NYC venue searches but did rank.
- Other venue competitor, The Foundry, showed no SEO rank.

## Content opportunities to market Strand Bookstore nationally as a venue option:

#### Non-owned content:

- Partner with wedding planning websites such as theknot.com as a reception venue
- Develop high quality video content to run on YouTube and Instagram featuring weddings, holiday parties and other events held in the Strand's "Rare Book Room"
- Display ads, print and digital " 'Book' Your Next Special Event at The Strand"
- Advertorials (paid editorial content) in targeted local magazines in different geographical markets for LGBTQ community, travelers, and others
- SEO optimized blog posts submitted to Huff Post and Buzz Feed about unique wedding experiences

#### Owned content:

- SEO optimized blog posts using keywords that competitors are ranking with.
- Podcast series featuring various couples' stories who got married in the "Rare Book Room", how they met, challenges they faced, etc.

### Content gaps and opportunities for Strand Bookstore's "Books by the Foot"

## Competitors: Used Books Factory Used Wholesale Books

Keyword	www.strandbooks.com	P 18.01	http://usedwhole salebooks.com/	CPC	Average Volume
thift books	0	0	30	2.59	5400
wiseguy book	0	73	0	1.9	2400
thriftbooks login	0	0	28	3	2400
triftbooks	0	0	30	2.59	2400
theift books	0	0	31	2.59	1900
thrifbooks	0	0	24	2.59	1900
monga book	0	71	0	1.19	1300
thrifted books	0	0	28	3	1000
throftbooks	0	0	27	2.59	1000
thrift book com	0	0	26	1.19	1000
second hand bookstores near me	0	76	0	0.7	1000
literary fiction definition	0	78	0	0	1000
gifts for bookworms	0	68	0	0.4	1000
box of books	0	55	0	1.52	880
hriftbooka	0	0	20	2.59	880
hrift ooks	0	0	32	2.59	880
books box	0	52	0	0.84	720
oatagonia second hand	0	95	0	0.83	720
the touch by brian lumley	0	70	0	0	720
1445 rock quarry rd	0	0	89	0	720
thrift booked		0	21	2.50	480

Broad gap analysis for bulk books

Keyword Analysis					
	Google Search Ranking				
Keywords	Strand Bookstore	Used Book Factory	Used Wholesale Books		
thrift books	0	0	30		
box of books	0	55	0		
wholesale book distributors	0	0	54		
bulk book store	0	0	30		
old classic books	0	92	0		
wholesale bookstore	0	0	8		
book bulk	0	0	13		

Specific keyword opportunities

#### Insights and observations:

- Strand doesn't appear in searches for bulk books, books as props, or books as interior design.
- Competitor Used Books Factory has low ranking for "box of books" and "old classic books"
- Competitor Used Wholesale Books ranks 13 for "book bulk"
- Etsy marketplace has vendors who also offer books as decor for purchase (but doesn't offer rental).

## Content opportunities to market Strand's "Books by the Foot" available as props and decor

#### Non-owned content:

- Digital display ads on architecturaldigest.com
- Print display ads in Architectural Digest
- Facebook and Instagram ads for "Books by the Foot" bulk book rental service, leading back to strandbooks.com

#### Owned content:

- Update FAQs on "Books by the Foot" web page to include keywords that competitors are ranking with.
- Podcast episode featuring guest client (interior designer, set designer, film or TV prop designer) talking about how they go about curating props



## Content ideation to support objectives: Vinyl Record Sales

#### **Twitter:**

- Meme with Yoda "Spin that vinyl you must"
- Sounds of the Strand asks, "What's the first record you ever bought?" (engages followers)

**Instagram:** Top 5 Rare Records of the Month (using keywords "rare records")

#### **Blog Posts:**

- "Why Vinyl is Making a Comeback"
- "Top 5 Staff Picks"
- "The Best Place to Buy Records Online" (using keywords "best place to buy records")



## Content ideation to support objectives: The "Rare Book Room" Event Venue

<u>Advertorials</u> (paid editorial) in niche publications targeting LGBTQ communities in Chicago, Miami, San Francisco, Boston - "Why You Should Plan Your Destination Wedding at The Strand's 'Rare Book Room'"

<u>Instagram:</u> "'Book' your holiday party in the 'Rare Book Room' at the Strand" (using keywords "holiday party")

<u>Blog Post:</u> "Looking for a Unique Event Space in NYC? The Strand's 'Rare Book Room' is a Rare Find" (using keywords "unique event space")



## Content ideation to support objectives: "Books by the Foot"

<u>Display ads, print and digital in Architectural Digest Magazine and on their website:</u> "Books by the Foot: Bulk Books for Your Next Big Design Project" (using keywords "bulk books")

<u>Instagram stories and paid ads:</u> "Need some cool props for your next design project? There's a box of books with your name on it, with Books by the Foot at The Strand." (using keywords "box of books")

<u>Blog Posts:</u> "Top 5 Ways to Use Old Classic Books to Add Modern Charm" (using keywords "old classic books")



### **Creative Mockups**



#### Strand Bookstore

#### Sponsored



"Where there is love there is life." - Mahatma Gandhi

Learn More

Celebrate the best day of your life at the Rare Book Room at Strand Bookstore, a venue as unique as the love you share. #strandbookstore #weddingvenue #nyc #rarebookroom #loveislove #uniquevenuenyc



## **Creative Mockups**





#### Sponsored W

Need some cool props for your next design project? There's a box of books with your name on it, with Books by the Foot at The Strand.



Strandbooks.com

Learn more

Rent your own custom book collection with Books by the Foot.  $% \label{eq:collection}%$