SXSWedu® Learn by Design Competition Announces Citti Academy, BCPS, and University of Utah as Winners

March 8, 2017, AUSTIN, Texas – The SXSWedu Conference & Festival named Citti Academy: Developing Collective Intelligence, BCPS Mobile Innovation Lab and University of Utah Lassonde Studios as the winners of the SXSWedu Learn by Design competition. Following pitches from this year’s 15 finalists, five in each category, the announcement closed out the competition hosted by SHP with winners in conceptual design, experiential design and physical design.

The winner in the conceptual category, which is dedicated to projects that do not exist yet in physical form is Citti Academy: Developing Collective Intelligence. The winner in the experiential category, which is defined as projects that enhance or create an interactive learning environment is BCPS Mobile Innovation Lab. The winner in the physical category which is a project that has moved past the conceptual phase is University of Utah Lassonde Studios.

Learn by Design is a new program focused on the design of physical learning spaces and how they have the potential to impact learning outcomes. The program is centered around a design competition showcasing projects in three distinct categories that all address the creation and implementation of physical learning spaces. In the context of SXSWedu, Learn by Design encourages designers and educators to work together to discover design-based solutions to challenges within education.

"We have seen a real growth in the conversation about learning spaces at SXSWedu over the last few years," said Greg Rosenbaum, SXSWedu General Manager. "The Learn by Design competition showcases the future of learning space design and utilization, and celebrates the impact that physical space has on learning."

The finalists were selected by the Learn by Design Advisory Board to compete onsite at SXSWedu 2017. For a full list of 2017 Learn by Design finalists, please visit: SXSWedu Learn by Design

"We were all so impressed with the breadth and depth of the innovation brought to the Learn by Design competition," said Taryn Kinney, DLR Group. "Designers and educators are doing a really great job responding to all of the changes in education. This competition showed the huge opportunity when space and learning are aligned."

The competition drew upon the insight and expertise of this year’s judges, all of whom serve as designers, architects, and an education practitioner, who effectively evaluated each project based on their innovation and effectiveness. The 2017 Learn by Design judges were Amy Jones (O’Connell Robertson), Taryn Kinney (DLR Group), Arturo Lomeli (Glenn High School Leander ISD) and Alex O’Brient (Ennead Architects). The 2017 SXSWedu Learn by Design competition was emceed by Carlos Moreno (Big Picture Learning) and Naseem Haamid (Student, Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom High School).
About SXSWedu

The SXSWedu® Conference & Festival fosters and celebrates innovations in learning by hosting a diverse and energetic community of stakeholders across a variety of backgrounds in education. The annual four-day event affords registrants open access to engaging sessions, immersive workshops, interactive learning experiences, film screenings, early-stage startups, business opportunities and networking. Through collaboration, creativity and social action, SXSWedu empowers its global community to Connect. Discover. Impact. SXSWedu is a component of the South by Southwest® family of conferences and festivals. Join the passionate and innovative community at SXSWedu, March 6-9, 2017 in Austin, Texas. For more information, please visit http://sxswedu.com.

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