



SXSWedu® Announces Keynote and PanelPicker® Programming

Keynote, featured sessions, concurrent programming, film screenings and more slated for 2017 event

Oct. 19, 2016, AUSTIN, Texas – SXSWedu® revealed the largest swath of programming for the 2017 Conference and Festival, including Dr. Christopher Emdin as a keynote speaker and more than 240 sessions and workshops voted on by the community in the PanelPicker® process.

Dr. Christopher Emdin, Associate Professor of Science Education and Director of Science Education in the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology at Teachers College, Columbia University, will provide keynote remarks as part of the March event. Dr. Emdin's work focuses on hip hop education, STEM education, politics, race, class, diversity and youth empowerment. He is a regular media contributor on issues of race, culture, inequality and education, as well as the author of the acclaimed books, "Urban Science Education for the Hip-Hop Generation" and "For White Folks Who Teach in the Hood... and the Rest of Y'all Too: Reality Pedagogy and Urban Education."

Highlights from this year's initial release of concurrent programming include an increased emphasis on research, with case studies making their debut, as well as a deeper dive on new tracks for 2017 including Employability, ESL/ELL and VR/AR. Following a strong start at SXSWedu 2016, this year's event will feature an expanded program on learning spaces, including the inaugural Learn by Design competition, which focuses on the design of physical learning spaces and how it impacts learning outcomes.

"It's incredibly exciting to see the richness of topics and perspectives that come through PanelPicker each year," said Greg Rosenbaum, SXSWedu General Manager. "This year's event is poised to be the most energetic and powerful SXSWedu yet, and we're looking forward to seeing how the community continues to push the needle forward on creativity in and out of the classroom."

Newly announced featured sessions showcase education leaders Jessica O. Matthews (Uncharted Play), Andrew Smith Lewis (Cerego) and Ross Szabo (Human Power Project), as well as panels exploring student perspectives on the state of schools, refugee education and teacher innovation. The SXSWedu Expo will welcome back Dan and Martin Rather to award the 2017 Rather Prize, celebrating innovation in education in the state of Texas.

In addition to dynamic session and workshop programming, SXSWedu has announced initial selections for the Policy Forum, Playground, summit program and the expanded Industry Hub. The SXSWedu Film program returns with compelling and thought-provoking documentaries and features, with initial films "Landfill Harmonic" and "Paper Tigers."

For a full listing of announced programming and more information on ways to participate at SXSWedu 2017, please visit <http://sxswedu.com>.

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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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Press Credentials: If you are a member of the press and interested in attending, media accreditation for SXSWedu 2017 is now open. Please visit <http://www.sxswedu.com/press> for more information.

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