



SXSWedu® Launches PanelPicker® for 2017 Event

Proposals for programming accepted through July 22

June 28, 2016, AUSTIN, Texas – The SXSWedu® Conference & Festival begins accepting proposals today for programming through PanelPicker®, inviting the education community to help shape the seventh annual event through the crowd-sourced online platform.

Community engagement for SXSWedu 2016 reached a new record, with more than 1,300 session ideas proposed for the March event. PanelPicker fuels the majority of sessions and workshops at SXSWedu across all formats and an expanded selection of thematic tracks. For the first time in 2017, the public is invited to propose ideas through PanelPicker for Industry Talks in the Industry Hub, Meet Ups, and Case Studies, a new session format focusing on research findings. New tracks for 2017 include Business, Employability, ESL/ELL and VR/AR.

PanelPicker will remain open for new ideas through Friday, July 22. The platform will then re-open on Monday, August 8 for public voting on all programming proposals through Friday, September 2. Program selections will be made on the basis of community voting, as well as review from the SXSWedu Advisory Board and staff. Initial speakers and sessions for SXSWedu 2017 will be announced on Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

“Community engagement and collaboration are essential components of the SXSWedu experience and the vibrancy of the event,” says Greg Rosenbaum, SXSWedu Producer. “The PanelPicker process epitomizes the collective energy and creative vision of the SXSWedu community as they work to build the future of how we teach and learn.”

In addition to proposing programming through PanelPicker, beginning on June 28, members of the community are invited to apply for the SXSWedu Film program, Launch startup competition, Playground displays, and opportunities to be a mentor at the event.

The SXSWedu team embarks on a meet up tour across the United States in July to support the community’s participation in PanelPicker and celebrate the innovative work going on in education throughout the country. Registration for SXSWedu 2017 will open on Monday, August 1, 2016.

More information on the PanelPicker process can be found at <http://www.sxswedu.com/panelpicker> and in the [2017 Session Starter Kit](#). Visit <http://sxswedu.com> for meet up dates, locations and event information.

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>.

###

Press Credentials: Press accreditation for SXSWedu 2017 will open on Monday, August 1, 2016 at <http://www.sxswedu.com/press>.

Contact:

SXSWedu Press & Publicity
press@sxswedu.com
512-467-7979