



March 7–10, 2016
Austin, Texas

SXSWedu® Begins Accepting Proposals for 2016 Program

PanelPicker® open for community ideas through July 24

June 29, 2015, AUSTIN, Texas – The SXSWedu® Conference & Festival launches PanelPicker® today for the 2016 event, inviting members of the education community to propose their ideas for conference programming through the crowd-sourced, online platform.

For SXSWedu 2015, PanelPicker saw more than 1,000 proposals for programming, reaching an unprecedented level of community input on the event. PanelPicker helps to fuel more than 80% of presentations at SXSWedu with ideas spanning across all eleven formats. In addition to sessions and workshops, PanelPicker will also be accepting entries for mentor and summit programming, which made their debuts at SXSWedu 2015.

PanelPicker is open for new ideas through Friday, July 24. The SXSWedu community will then be able to share feedback on proposals during the public voting period running from Monday, August 10 to Friday, September 4, 2015. Community voting, in addition to responses from the SXSWedu Advisory Board and staff, will help shape the 2016 event. Last year, there were more than 30,000 public votes on programming proposals in PanelPicker. SXSWedu will announce initial speakers and sessions on Wednesday, October 21, 2015.

“We had an outpouring of phenomenal ideas in PanelPicker for SXSWedu 2015,” says Greg Rosenbaum, SXSWedu Producer. “This process not only empowers the SXSWedu community to shape the event, but also highlights the strength and diversity of ideas, innovations and best practices.”

To celebrate growing community engagement at the event, the SXSWedu team will hit the road in July for a meet up tour in select cities to bring together education stakeholders and provide more information on the PanelPicker process. Registration for SXSWedu 2016 will open on Monday, August 3, 2015.

Growing from a regional event to an international platform on innovation and education, SXSWedu explores the future of teaching and learning across all dimensions, from early education to K-12, higher education and beyond. The 2016 event will see a new range of simplified themes for programming to highlight the growing scope of global education. More information on this year’s themes, formats and the PanelPicker process can be found at <http://www.sxswedu.com/panelpicker> and in the [2016 Session Starter Kit](#).

About SXSWedu

The SXSWedu Conference & Festival fosters innovation in learning by hosting a diverse and energetic community of stakeholders across a variety of backgrounds in education. The four-day event affords registrants open access to engaging sessions, interactive workshops, hands-on learning experiences, film screenings, early-stage startups and a host of networking opportunities. By providing a platform for collaboration, SXSWedu works to promote creativity and social change.

SXSWedu is a component of the South by Southwest® family of conferences and festivals that includes SXSW® Music, Film and Interactive; SXSW Eco® and SXSW V2V®. Internationally recognized as the convergence gathering for the creative arts, SXSWedu extends SXSW’s support for the art of engagement beyond musicians, filmmakers and new media innovators to include society’s true rock stars: educators.

Join the passionate and innovative community at SXSWedu, March 7-10, 2016 in Austin, Texas. For more information, please visit <http://sxswedu.com>.

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Press Credentials: Press accreditation for SXSWedu 2016 will open on Monday, August 3, 2015 at <http://www.sxswedu.com/press>.

Contact:

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