



SXSW EDU Announces First Keynote Speaker, Renowned Author, Researcher and Media Literacy Expert, Dr. danah boyd

September 28, 2017, AUSTIN, Texas – The SXSW EDU Conference & Festival announces today that renowned author, researcher and media literacy expert **Dr. danah boyd** is participating in SXSW EDU 2018 as a keynote speaker. boyd joins SXSW EDU's roster of Featured Speakers, including actress Allison Williams, edX CEO Anant Agarwal, Achieve President Derrick Feldmann, educator and activist José Luis Vilson, President and CEO of Digital Promise Karen Cator, Managing Director of Chicago Beyond Liz Dozier, and Senior Vice President for Education at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Mario R. Rossero.

In her SXSW EDU keynote, **What Hath We Wrought?**, Dr. boyd will leverage her extensive research on [media literacy](#) and explore the timely issues surrounding fake news, media manipulation, media literacy, radicalized racism and its resulting effect on society and our youth. She will also discuss the role of educators, education and technology in addressing today's challenges in interacting with media.

"A decade ago, my collaborators and I imagined a participatory culture which empowered young people to strategically use technology to engage with the world around them," said Dr. boyd. "Through a mixture of peer learning, self-learning and formal education, we saw many young people develop sophisticated understandings of how to use social media to their advantage. Yet, not all of the practices that emerged as a result are inherently positive. From the rise of pro-Ana communities to the trolling associated with #Gamergate, to the strategic manipulation of media for racist agendas, we've seen an unhealthy, cruel, and socially devastating participatory culture emerge."

"SXSW EDU is committed to providing a forum for the important conversations and issues impacting our community," said Greg Rosenbaum, SXSW EDU General Manager. "danah boyd address both the good and bad that has stemmed from youth engagement with digital media and how the education community can take a measured approach to support students on their journey to become discerning and responsible citizens."

Dr. boyd is the founder and president of [Data & Society](#), a research institute focused on understanding the role of data-driven technologies in society, a principal researcher at [Microsoft Research](#), and a visiting professor at [New York University](#). She is a published author and her most recent books titled "[It's Complicated: The Social Lives of Networked Teens](#)" and "[Participatory Culture in a Networked Age](#)" both examine the intersection of everyday life and social media.

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To learn more about danah and other previously announced SXSW EDU speakers, please [visit the speakers page](#).

About SXSW EDU

The SXSW EDU® Conference & Festival cultivates and empowers a community of engaged stakeholders to advance teaching and learning. 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. SXSW EDU is a component of the South by Southwest® family of conferences and festivals. Join the passionate and innovative community at SXSW EDU, March 5-8, 2018 in Austin, Texas. For more information, please visit <http://www.sxswedu.com>.

Press Credentials:

Press accreditation for SXSW EDU 2018 is now open at <http://www.sxswedu.com/press>.

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