



For Immediate Release:

SXSW EDU PANELPICKER NOW OPEN UNTIL JULY 19 FOR 2020 EVENT PROGRAMMING SUBMISSIONS

10th Annual Conference and Festival Continues its Focus on Community Engagement and Experience

July 1, 2019, AUSTIN, Texas — The SXSW EDU® Conference & Festival is now accepting programming proposals through PanelPicker®, its official user-generated session proposal platform. PanelPicker serves as a two-part process that enables anyone who is passionate about teaching and learning to help shape the annual event by proposing session ideas. The submission process is then followed by a window for public voting and advisory board review.

PanelPicker is open for submissions today through Friday, July 19. The platform will then re-open on Monday, August 5 for public voting on all programming proposals through Friday, August 23. Program selections will be made on the basis of community voting, as well as review from the SXSW EDU Advisory Board and staff. Initial speakers and sessions for SXSW EDU 2020 will be announced in October.

“In honor of our 10th year, we are approaching the conference and festival with a renewed desire to celebrate the community that has helped build this event into one of the largest learning festivals,” said Greg Rosenbaum, SXSW EDU General Manager. “Bringing a fresh perspective to how we present content that reflects the incredible innovations happening across the education landscape, attendees will see new and varied topics, approaches to teaching and the latest technology supporting learner success. Every year we are amazed at the powerful and creative ideas that are submitted and how they take form and ultimately are shared with all at the event in March.”

Building on the incredible feedback from the SXSW EDU community and with an eye on the evolution happening across the education space, SXSW EDU is introducing new tracks to reflect the world it represents. Exciting new tracks for 2020 include — **SEL & Wellness, Global Education, and Policy & Civic Engagement**. For a full description of each of the 16 tracks, please go to **Tracks**.

In addition to the new programming tracks, the programming formats are evolving to bring in some new opportunities for individuals wanting to participate. This year, for the first time, SXSW EDU will host a **Podcast Stage**, which will feature live podcast conversations recorded in an intimate setting amongst a live audience at the event. One of the most popular formats have been **workshops**. Based on feedback from the community, these are being shortened to 90 minutes to allow for increased variety and interaction. Lastly, one of the up-and-coming formats is **performances** which features dynamic artistic showcases combined with a workshop-style experience offering a deeper understanding of the concepts fueling the performance and activities that can be adopted for the classroom. This year, performance ideas can be submitted through PanelPicker.

SXSW EDU

Another facet of the event that saw a great expansion in March was networking. From **pop-up dinners** to **walking tours** and a **wellness studio** in the Expo, last year's networking events were very well attended and provided an opportunity for new connections. Given the popularity, 2020's Conference & Festival will showcase a robust offering of **wellness events**, enabling a new way for like-minded mind-body-soul wellness enthusiasts to connect.

This past event featured an all-day Thursday program that tackled topics that appear in the news every day — **the workforce, the talent pipeline and cities of learning**. In 2020, the Thursday summit will showcase programming that the community at-large is helping to build. Speakers and content will range from learnings, products and services, edtech, community colleges, higher ed, corporations, and governmental agencies.

For more information, **please go to sxswedu.com/panelpicker**.

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 9-12, 2020 in Austin, Texas. For more information, please visit sxswedu.com.

Press Credentials:

Press accreditation for SXSW EDU 2020 will open on Thursday, August 1, 2019 at sxswedu.com/press.

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