



SXSW EDU® ANNOUNCES NEW FEATURED SESSIONS, INCLUDING ADDITIONAL CROSSOVER DAY PROGRAMMING

Featured Session Speakers Include Kasley Killam, Maureen Polo, Rebecca Winthrop, Martin McKay, Larry Miller and Ken Oliver

SXSW EDU Web Schedule Now Live With Programming Dates, Times and Venues

January 14, 2026 // Austin, Texas – South by Southwest EDU® (SXSW EDU) today announced three new Featured Sessions for the SXSW EDU 2026 Conference & Festival (March 9-12), including additional Crossover Day programming.

“SXSW EDU is where educators, global experts, and local leaders converge to turn big ideas into actionable change. From exploring the balance of humanity and AI, to redefining social health, and expanding economic mobility through second-chance hiring, our 2026 sessions highlight the most urgent and inspiring shifts in learning today,” said **Julia Shatilo**, Senior Director of SXSW EDU. “With the SXSW EDU schedule now live, this is the perfect moment for attendees to start favoriting sessions and mapping out their Austin experience to ensure they don't miss a single transformative conversation.”

Featured Sessions

Highlights from the newly added SXSW EDU Conference programming include:

Redefining Redemption through Talent, Culture, & Opportunity—This discussion will explore how cultural influence and gold-standard hiring practices can create pathways to education and meaningful employment for the 80 million Americans with criminal records. **Larry Miller**, Chairman of the Jordan Brand at Nike and Founder of JUMP (Justice and Upward Mobility Project), and **Ken Oliver**, President of JUMP, will share a practical playbook for achieving upward economic mobility through the power of second-chance opportunities.

Crossover Day

Crossover Day (March 12) marks both the final day of SXSW EDU and the first day of SXSW, providing special access and co-programming opportunities for attendees of both events. New sessions added to the Crossover Day schedule include:

Social Health Trends & Predictions: Connection is the New Frontier—Building on her bold 2025 SXSW presentation, expert **Kasley Killam** returns to reveal the latest breakthroughs and trends shaping the movement to transform society through connection. As the author of *The Art*

and Science of Connection, Killam shares global research and an inspiring vision for the future of social health, longevity, and human thriving.

How to Support Resilient Youth in an AI World—As generative AI reshapes youth development, this panel explores how to ensure these technologies strengthen children's capacity to think, relate, and thrive. The discussion features **Rebecca Winthrop**, Director of the Center for Universal Education at Brookings; **Maureen Polo**, CEO of Hello Sunshine; and **Martin McKay**, Executive Chair and Founder of Everway sharing insights from a 50-country report on supporting resilient youth.

SXSW EDU Web Schedule

The SXSW EDU Web Schedule is now live with dates, times, and venues for all programming announced to date. The schedule features a brand new personalized schedule dashboard, with favorites, recommendations, and more all in one place.

For more on the new sessions added today, and all SXSW EDU Conference & Festival programming, visit the [schedule](#) now to start planning your experience.

About SXSW EDU:

The SXSW EDU® Conference & Festival is a reflection of the world's most critical social issues as seen through the lens of education. This year's event will bring together the learner, the practitioner, the entrepreneur, and the visionary to share their groundbreaking stories, tackle complex issues, and build reimagined paths forward. As a community of diverse people who are united around a like-minded vision for the future, SXSW EDU serves as a place for attendees to renew their purpose in practice from both a personal and professional perspective. It is a place to reinforce the core principles of teaching and learning as well as an opportunity to express your creativity and passion for education. Join the passionate and innovative community at SXSW EDU, March 9-12, 2026.

Media accreditation is now open for SXSW EDU through February 13, 2026. Please visit sxswedu.com/press/accreditation to submit your application.

Press Contacts

SXSW

Brett Cannon
Alex McClure
press@sxswedu.com

One Strategy Group

Liz Stein
liz.stein@onestrat.com

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