



SXSW INTERACTIVE NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES FOR 2016 AWARDS

SXSW Accelerator, SXSW Gaming Awards and SXSW Innovation Awards

Austin, TX -- July 21, 2015 -- The South By Southwest (SXSW) Interactive Festival (March 11-15) is now accepting applications for its 2016 Awards competitions including [SXSW Accelerator](#), [SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards](#) and the [SXSW Gaming Awards](#). As SXSW Interactive showcases the most innovative and creative individuals and companies in the world, these awards presentations honors their hard work and dedication. SXSW Interactive encourages the community of makers, gamers, startups and creatives to enter their project or work into one of these competitions.

SXSW Accelerator: The SXSW Accelerator startup competition features product demonstrations by the most ambitious talents in the world with the most creative new ideas to change it. Now in its eighth year, SXSW Accelerator has helped over [300 companies](#) receive over 60% in funding, totaling more than \$2 billion with 13% of those companies acquired.

This year's competition will take place on March 12 and March 13 within Startup Village at the Hilton Downtown. On March 13, 48 finalists will present their ideas to a live audience and a panel of companies who will return on day two to present to a new set of emcees and judges that will select the grand prize winners for each category.

Winning startups from each category will be honored at the SXSW Accelerator Awards on Sunday evening, March 13 at the Hilton Downtown Austin.

Apply for the SXSW Accelerator startup competition via [this official entry form](#).

Deadline to Enter: November 6, 2015

SXSW Gaming Awards: The third annual SXSW Gaming Awards celebrates the craft and art of gaming, with a focus on the beauty and hard work behind every title, not necessarily its spot at the storefront. From major studies to indie game titles, the SXSW Gaming Awards honors titles in 21 total categories, including the SXSW Gamer's Voice Award, which is awarded solely to indie developers and teams.

This year's awards show will take place on Saturday evening, March 19.

Apply for the SXSW Gaming Awards via [this official entry form](#), and for the Gamer's Voice Award via [this official entry form](#). All entries are free and open to the community.

Deadline to Enter: November 6, 2015

**If your title releases after the November 6 deadline, you can still enter. Please contact gamingawards@sxsw.com for the entry form.

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SXSW Innovation Awards: The 19th annual [SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards](#) celebrate the most inspiring, creative innovations in the connected world. The 2016 Awards showcases the most exciting tech developments from the 2015 calendar year, including achievements in digital design, health technology, privacy and security, 3D printing, augmented and virtual reality, and beyond.

This year's awards show will take place on the evening of Tuesday, March 15 and feature 13 award [categories](#) and five special honors including [Best of Show](#), [People's Choice](#), [Breakout Trend of the Event](#), [Speaker of the Event](#) and [Meme of the Year](#). The 2016 [Interactive Hall of Fame](#) inductee will also be honored.

Apply for the SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards via [this official entry form](#).

Early Entry Deadline: September 25, 2016

Deadline to Enter: November 6, 2015

Attending these SXSW awards shows allows attendees to have a chance to meet all finalists and winners of the various awards shows, plus network with like-minded registrants.

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SXSW Interactive will announce its first-round of Featured Speakers on Tuesday, July 28. More content will be announced in early September, along with the bulk of 2016 [programming announced on October 19](#). If you'd like a say in what speakers you'd like to see at SXSW 2016, join the community and vote for your favorite sessions. PanelPicker [community voting is open to all](#) from August 10 through September 4.

To apply for press credentials to cover SXSW 2016, you must be on assignment from a media outlet and your assigning Editor/Producer must fill out the online application form. SXSW will begin accepting press applications on August 3, 2015. For more information on this process, visit: <http://sxsw.com/press/accreditation>.

On August 3, SXSW will also open for business. [Save over 35%](#) by purchasing your badge on August 3rd and have early access to downtown hotel rooms options.

About SXSW Interactive

The 23rd annual SXSW Interactive Festival returns to Austin from **Friday, March 11 through Tuesday, March 15**. An incubator of cutting-edge technologies and digital creativity, the 2016 event features five days of compelling [presentations and panels](#) from the brightest minds in emerging technology, scores of exciting networking events hosted by industry leaders and an unbeatable lineup of special programs showcasing the best new websites, video games and startup ideas the community has to offer. From hands-on training to big-picture analysis of the future, SXSW Interactive has become the place to preview the technology of tomorrow today.

Join us in March 2016 for the [sessions](#), the [networking](#), the [special events](#), the 18th Annual [SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards](#), [SXSW Accelerator](#), the [SXSW Gaming Expo](#), the [SXSW Trade Show](#), [SX Create](#), [The Job Market](#), cross-industry conversations with attendees from [SXSW Film](#) and [SXSW Music](#), and, most of all, the [unforgettable inspirational experiences](#) that only SXSW can deliver.

SXSW Interactive is sponsored by Esurance, Mazda, Monster Energy, Capital One and The Austin Chronicle.

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