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SXSW Interactive Reveals Finalists for 2015 SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards

Rebranded competition features 14 new award categories; celebrates technological achievement across an increasingly diverse digital ecosystem

January 27, 2015, Austin, TX –The South by Southwest Interactive Festival today announced the finalists for the 18th annual [SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards](#), taking place the evening of March 17, 2015, on the sixth floor of the Hilton Austin Downtown. Previously called the SXSW Interactive Awards, the SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards embraces the evolving and broadening scope of the digital industry by reflecting its increasingly diverse ecosystem of platforms, software, apps and devices. The awards ceremony will be [emceed by the raucously talented comedian James Adomian](#), and is presented by [PricewaterhouseCoopers](#) and supporting sponsors [Cloud.typography](#) and [IBM](#).

Beyond the new name, the 2015 competition features 14 entirely new [categories](#), including Health Med & Biotech, Innovation in Connecting People, Innovative 3-DIY, Internet of Things, Music Discovery, New Economy, Privacy & Security, Responsive Design, SciFi No Longer, Student Innovation, Sustainable Tech, Transportation Advancements, Visual Media Experience, and Wearable Tech. All finalists within these categories reflect developments or redesigns made within calendar year 2014.

Out of hundreds of applications received, this year's 70 finalist spots were selected by a panel of judges comprised of industry peers and experts. The meticulous consideration of each entry also included the first-ever SXSW Interactive Gadget Fair — an exclusive opportunity for judges to interact with, test, and evaluate the physical devices entered for consideration in the 2015 competition.

“We are truly honored and humbled by the caliber of this year's Innovation Award finalists,” said Mason Stewart, SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards Coordinator. “SXSW Interactive is driven based on the values of innovation, inspiration and creativity, and these finalists embody these principles to their core.”

In addition to announcing the winning entry in each of the 14 categories, the 18th annual SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards ceremony will reveal the [Breakout Trend of SXSW 2015](#), [Speaker of The Event](#), and [People's Choice](#); all special honors selected by the public. The March 17th event will also include the induction of [Tamara Hudgins into the SXSW Interactive Hall of Fame](#).

This year's SXSW Interactive Innovation Award finalists include:

HEALTH MED & BIOTECH

Awarded for an innovation that improves the quality, efficacy, and/or cost-effectiveness of diagnosis, treatment, and care in the field of medicine.

Alvio

By: QoI Devices

alv.io

New York, NY

CareCycle Navigator

By: CareCycle Management

carecycle.com

Dallas, TX

Fly-inspired Hearing Device

By: Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin

utexas.edu/news/2014/07/22/fly-super-hearing-engineering

Austin, TX

LIM Innovations Infinite Socket

By: LIM Innovations

liminnovations.com

San Francisco, CA

VocaliD

By: VocaliD

www.vocalid.co

Boston, MA

INNOVATION IN CONNECTING PEOPLE

Awarded for the best new way to connect with others.

FireChat: the first off-the-grid messaging app

By: Open Garden Inc.

opengarden.com/firechat

San Francisco, CA

Stream - broadcasting from your mobile device

By: Infinite Takes

stre.am

Charleston, SC

Talkitt: This Is My Voice

By: Voiceitt

talkitt.com

Jerusalem, Israel

UNI

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By: Motion Savvy
motionsavvy.com
San Francisco, CA

VocaliD

By: VocaliD
vocalid.co
Boston, MA

INNOVATIVE 3-DIY

Awarded for making 3D printing technology more accessible, producing more affordable personal 3D printers, or to the Maker using such technology in new and exciting ways.

Da Vinci 1.0 AiO

By: XYZprinting Inc.
us.xyzprinting.com/product/dv10aio
San Francisco, CA

Open Gigabot (OpenGB)

By: re:3D
re3d.org
Austin, TX

Project Daniel

By: Not Impossible
notimpossible.com/labs/project-daniel
Los Angeles, CA

Strati, The World's First 3D Printed Car

By: Local Motors Inc.
localmotors.com/localmotors/the-3d-printed-car-aka-direct-digital-manufacturing/
Las Vegas, NV

The Raptor Hand Series by e-NABLE

By: e-NABLE
enablingthefuture.org/upper-limb-prosthetics/raptor-reloaded/
San Francisco, CA

INTERNET OF THINGS

Awarded for the best smart product that most seamlessly integrates into our lives to improve convenience and efficiency through its intelligence and interconnectedness.

Cone

By: Aether
aether.com
San Francisco, CA

Clever Buoy

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By: M&C Saatchi
cleverbuoy.awardentries.org
Sydney, Australia

Guide Dots

By: VML
creativeworkbench.com/guide-dots
Kansas City, MO

Hammerhead

By: Hammerhead Navigation
hammerhead.io
New York, NY

Sprinkl

By: Sprinkl.IO LLC
sprinkl.io
Frisco, TX

MUSIC DISCOVERY

Awarded for changing and improving the way we listen to and enjoy music.

22Tracks

By: Microsoft
22tracks.com
Redmond, WA

Cone

By: Aether
aether.com
San Francisco, CA

Meludia

By: Meludia
Meludia.com
Paris, France

Mogees: Play the world.

By: Mogees
mogees.co.uk
London, England

SoundCloud iOS Redesign

By: SoundCloud
soundcloud.com/mobile
San Francisco, CA

NEW ECONOMY

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Awarded to those redefining the exchange of goods and services, from the sharing economy, to virtual currency, to microfinance, to mobile-device-payment systems and beyond.

Acorns

By: Acorns

acorns.com

Newport Beach, CA

Clover Mobile

By: Clover Network

clover.com/pos-hardware/mobile

Mountain View, CA

Cultivate

By: PivotDesk

cultivate.pivotaldesk.com

Boulder, CO

Gridmates

By: Gridmates

gridmates.com

Austin, TX

Strati, The World's First 3D Printed Car

By: Local Motors Inc.

localmotors.com/localmotors/the-3d-printed-car-aka-direct-digital-manufacturing

Las Vegas, NV

PRIVACY & SECURITY

Awarded for 2014's most progressive accomplishment in the way we go about securing our data and ensuring our privacy.

Digify

By: Digify Inc.

digify.com

Redwood City, CA

Disconnect

By: Disconnect

disconnect.me

San Francisco, CA

netwars / out of CTRL

By: filmtank GmbH

netwars-project.com/webdoc

Berlin, Germany

openPDS/SafeAnswers

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By: MIT Media Lab
openpds.media.mit.edu
Cambridge, MA

Virtru

By: Virtru
virtru.com
Washington, DC

RESPONSIVE DESIGN

Awarded for excellent digital design, creating the best-integrated interaction in terms of content, aesthetics, and functionality.

100 Years of Design

By: Second Story, part of SapienNitro
celebratedesign.org
Portland, OR

Bluecadet

By: Bluecadet
bluecadet.com
Philadelphia, PA

Brooklyn Bridge Park

By: Kettle
brooklynbridgepark.org
New York, NY

Destiny Planet View

By: 72andSunny
destinyplanetview.com/en/home
Playa Vista, CA

Explore Data Science

By: Booz Allen Hamilton
exploredatascience.com
McLean, VA

SCIFI NO LONGER

Awarded for the coolest scientific achievement or discovery that before 2014 was only possible in science fiction.

AeroMobil 3.0 - prototype of a flying car

By: AeroMobil s.r.o.
aeromobil.com
Bratislava, Slovakia

The Brainwriter

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By: Not Impossible
notimpossible.com/labs/brainwriter-official-video
Los Angeles, CA

Fly-inspired Hearing Device

By: Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin
utexas.edu/news/2014/07/22/fly-super-hearing-engineering
Austin, TX

Nanomotors

By: Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin
engr.utexas.edu/features/nanomotors
Austin, TX

Noninvasive skin cancer detection device

By: Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin
engr.utexas.edu/features/skin-cancer-detection-device
Austin, TX

STUDENT INNOVATION

Awarded to the student with an exceptional interactive technology project or startup; both of which are the future.

Edge of the Sound

By: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
carolinaphotojournalism.org/cpjw/2014
Chapel Hill, NC

Expressive Wearable

By: Sangli Li
sanglidesign.com/expressive-wearables.html
Pasadena, CA

Lighten Up: Lightweight Efficient Microengines for Unmanned Aerial Systems

By: Reebeez
reebeez.com
Austin, TX

TetraBIN

By: Pinetree Labs
TetraBIN.com
Sydney, Australia

Visualizing MBTA Data: An interactive exploration of Boston's subway system

By: Mike Barry and Brian Card
mbtaviz.github.io
Hopkinton, MA

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SUSTAINABLE TECH

Awarded for innovation in power generation, power storage, eco-friendly or sustainable technology.

Clever Buoy

By: M&C Saatchi

cleverbuoy.awardentries.org/

Sydney, Australia

EDGEhome

By: Green Edge Technologies, Inc.

edgehome.com

San Diego, CA

Oroeco

By: Oroeco

oroeco.com

San Francisco, CA

Resilient Modular Systems [RMS]

By: WE-DESIGNS LLC WE-DESIGNS LLC / Resilient Modular Systems, Public Benefits Corporation

resilientmodularsystems.com

Cambridge, MA

Skyven Technologies - Skyven Cogen System (SCS)

By: Skyven Technologies LLC

skyventechnologies.com

Dallas, TX

TRANSPORTATION ADVANCEMENTS

Awarded for the development of technology that changes the way we move people and things, making transportation more efficient or eco-friendly.

Carma Carpooling

By: Carma Carpooling

carmacarpool.com

Austin, TX

Guide Dots

By: VML

creativeworkbench.com/guide-dots

Kansas City, MO

Hammerhead

By: Hammerhead Navigation

hammerhead.io

New York, NY

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New York City MTA "On the Go" Information Kiosks

By: Control Group

controlgroup.com/mta.html

New York, NY

Strati, The World's First 3D Printed Car

By: Local Motors Inc.

localmotors.com/localmotors/the-3d-printed-car-aka-direct-digital-manufacturing

Las Vegas, NV

VISUAL MEDIA EXPERIENCE

Awarded for content creation and delivery that moves beyond passive viewership by providing a more immersive and engaging entertainment experience.

Cronulla Riots - The Day That Shocked the Nation

By: SBS Australia

sbs.com.au/cronullariots

Sydney, Australia

Love Radio

By: Prospektor

loveradio-rwanda.org

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Native American Voices

By: Bluecadet Interactive

bluecadet.com/work/native-american-voices-the-people-here-and-now

Philadelphia, PA

netwars / out of CTRL

By: filmtank GmbH

netwars-project.com/webdoc

Berlin, Germany

The War & Money Project

By: Newsy

warandmoney.newsly.com

Columbia, MO

WEARABLE TECH

Awarded for the new hardware (and/or software) that revolutionizes the convenience, comfort, functionality, efficiency, and/or fashion of having a device literally "on you."

Android Wear

By: Google

android.com/wear

Mountain View, CA

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FreeWavz Smart Earphones

By: hEar Gear, Inc.

freewavz.com

Melbourne, FL

Google Glass Everywhere

By: Isobar

vimeo.com/97258091

Chicago, IL

Rip Curl Search GPS

By: VML Australia

ourawardswork.com/rip-curl-awards

Sydney, Australia

ShotTracker

By: ShotTracker

shottracker.com

Overland Park, KS

Additional entertainment at the 18th Annual SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards Ceremony will be provided by Vooza, Cracked.com, and MS Werd. Admission to the March 17 ceremony is free to all [SXSW Interactive, Gold, and Platinum badge holders](#). The list of winners from the 2014 competition can be found [here](#).

To apply for press credentials to cover SXSW 2015, you must be on assignment from a media outlet and your assigning Editor/Producer must fill out the online application form. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, February 11, 2015. For more information on this process, visit: <http://sxsw.com/press/accreditation>.

About SXSW Interactive

The 22nd annual SXSW Interactive Festival returns to Austin from Friday, March 13 through Tuesday, March 17. An incubator of cutting-edge technologies and digital creativity, the 2015 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 2015 for the [sessions](#), the [networking](#), the [evening events](#), the 18th Annual [SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards](#), [SXSW Accelerator](#), the [SXSW Gaming Expo](#), the [SXSW Trade Show](#), [SXSW Create](#), the [Digital Creative 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 2015 is sponsored by Miller Lite, Esurance, AT&T, IFC, Mazda, Monster Energy, McDonald's, Philips, Capital One, and The Austin Chronicle.

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