



SXSW ANNOUNCES INITIAL FEATURED SPEAKERS FOR 2023 CONFERENCE

Featured Speakers Announced include Sandy Carter, Allyson Felix, Alexandra Reeve Givens, Chris Hyams, Daniel Lubetzky, Guy Moot, Cecile Richards, Sophia Roe, Douglas Rushkoff, Nabiha Syed, Amy Webb and more

Austin, Texas — August 30, 2022 — South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conference and Festivals has announced its initial Featured Speakers for the 37th edition of its annual Conference, which celebrates the convergence of technology, film, television, and music.

“At SXSW, our goal is to always host a range of speakers who represent the full spectrum of the creative industries that converge in Austin every March,” said Hugh Forrest, Chief Programming Officer. “Our initial group of Featured Speakers, which includes futurists like Amy Webb, lifelong activists and advocates such as Alexandra Reeve Givens and Cecile Richards, and athletic titan turned business leader Allyson Felix, marks a significant first step towards a phenomenal SXSW 2023.”

The SXSW Conference is organized into 25 programming tracks presented in a variety of session formats. The tracks for 2023 include 2050, Advertising & Brand Experience, Cannabis, Civic Engagement, Climate Change, Creating Film & Episodics, Culture, Design, Energy, Film & TV Industry, Food, Game Industry, Health & MedTech, Markets & Economies, Media Industry, Music & Tech, Music Careers, Psychedelics, Sports, Startups, Tech Industry, Transportation, Travel & Leisure, Workplace Revolution, and XR & Metaverse. More information about SXSW programming tracks and formats can be found [here](#).

Newly-announced Featured Speakers include:

- Chief Brand Officer at Athleta **Kyle Andrew** in conversation with founder and President of Saysh and the most decorated Track & Field Olympian in history **Allyson Felix** and host of the *No One Is Coming to Save Us* podcast **Gloria Riviera**
- CEO and Chief Futurist at Signal And Cipher **Ian Beacraft**

- *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of upcoming book *The Future Normal: How We Will Live, Work and Thrive In The Next Decade* and founder of the Non-Obvious Company and Ideapress Publishing **Rohit Bhargava** in conversation with co-author of *The Future Normal: How We Will Live, Work and Thrive In The Next Decade* **Henry Coutinho-Mason**
- Founder of Sextech School and host of the *Future of Sex* podcast **Bryony Cole** in conversation with the Executive Creative Director at Josephmark **Alex Naghavi**
- Author of the upcoming book *Getting Along: How to Work with Anyone (Even Difficult People)*, Contributing Editor at the *Harvard Business Review*, and co-host of the *Harvard Business Review's Women at Work* podcast **Amy Gallo**
- CEO of Indeed **Chris Hyams**
- Founder of Starts With Us and KIND Snacks **Daniel Lubetzky**
- Co-Chair and CEO of Warner Chappell Music **Guy Moot**
- James Beard Award-winning chef, writer, and Emmy Award-nominated host of *Counter Space* **Sophia Roe**
- Author, professor, and host of the *Team Human* podcast **Douglas Rushkoff**
- Author, professor, and co-founder and CEO of Aldora.io **Joost Van Druenen**
- Quantitative futurist, author, and founder and CEO of the Future Today Institute **Amy Webb**
- Software engineer, writer, and founder of the website *Web3 is Going Just Great* **Molly White**

Newly-announced Featured Sessions include:

- *2050: Digital Identity is a Human Right*: As we become more and more digital as a species, it's critical that we don't forget about our human rights. Something as simple as owning your identity becomes a complicated issue in the digital realm of the metaverse, web3 and web5. But in an interconnected digital world, how can we be sure that our Digital Identities won't be data mined, duplicated, or stolen? In this session, join Senior Vice President at Unstoppable Domains **Sandy Carter** as she draws on her decades of experience being on the cutting edge to imagine a future where Digital Identity is seen as a Human Right.
- *Data Privacy After Roe v. Wade*: The overturning of *Roe v. Wade* is a watershed moment for the privacy of people seeking reproductive care. A person's browser history, search history, location, and private messages can now be used by law enforcement or private citizens to pursue people who are suspected of having or aiding an abortion. When people's most private digital information can be used against them, can tech companies change their practices to better protect their users' privacy? Plus, as some states try to outlaw websites that tell people how to access abortion care, can advocates ensure that reliable health information remains online? In this session, join co-founder of Supermajority, *New York Times* bestselling author, and former President and CEO of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund **Cecile Richards**, President and CEO of the Center for Democracy & Technology

Alexandra Reeve Givens, and CEO of The Markup **Nabiha Syed** for a discussion on ways advocates are working to protect users' privacy and access to information at this critical moment for reproductive rights.

- *Design for a Better Future*: In this session, dare to imagine a future where we can hack our bodies, make energy available to every human, create schools for lifelong learning, feed astronauts on their way to Mars, and make disabilities a thing of the past. Through unexpected designs and storytelling, co-founder and Owner of Nonfiction **Mardis Bagley** and Partner and Creative Director at Nonfiction **Phnam Bagley** will walk you through the possibilities of unbound imagination, and what it really takes to turn science fiction into reality.
- *RTR 2023: The Neuroscience of Self-Renewal*: Modern neuroscience tells us how we store and process information depends upon our emotional state, which easily triggers the "flight or fight" response. Technologies that are designed to empower our understanding of events at hand, as well as to respond quickly, ultimately depend upon our personal fortitude. In this session, join Chief Technology Officer of Everbridge **John Maeda** as he discusses inevitable failures and how the likelihood of either overcoming a calamity or getting overcome by it correlates to our confidence in self-renewal.

SXSW dedicates itself to helping creative people achieve their goals. Founded in 1987 in Austin, Texas, SXSW is best known for its conference and festivals that celebrate the convergence of tech, film and television, music, education, and culture. An essential destination for global professionals, the annual March event features sessions, music, and comedy showcases, film screenings, exhibitions, professional development, and a variety of networking opportunities. SXSW proves that the most unexpected discoveries happen when diverse topics and people come together. SXSW 2023 will take place March 10 - 19, 2023 in Austin. For more information, please visit sxsw.com. To register for the event, please visit sxsw.com/attend.

SXSW 2023 is sponsored by White Claw, Volkswagen, *The Austin Chronicle*, and Porsche.

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