



STRIVE HOSTS PANEL DISCUSSION AT SXSW EDU MARCH 3

Alternative Trade School for People Facing Systemic Barriers

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STRIVE HOSTS PANEL DISCUSSION AT
SXSW EDU MARCH 3

WHAT: SXSW EDU panel discussion:
[Alternative Trade School for People Facing Systemic Barriers](#)

WHEN: Monday, March 3, 2025, 1130
a.m. CST

WHERE: Austin Convention Center, Austin TX, Room 9AB

WHO:

- Monique Baptiste, STRIVE Chief Program Officer, Moderator
- Gregg Bishop, Executive Director, Joe and Clara Tsai Foundation Social Justice Fund
- Valerie Orellana, Vice President, Human Resources, Mount Sinai Health System
- Roy Castro, STRIVE graduate and co-chair of STRIVE's board of directors, and Founder and CEO of Castro Ventures

WHY IT MATTERS:

- Traditional college is not viable or necessary for everyone; there are alternative education and career paths that also can lead to prosperity
- Particularly for people facing system barriers, including those who are justice-impacted, a program that provides comprehensive job training with wrap-around services, and collaborative employer partners, is the secret sauce to success

Alternative Trade School for People Facing Systemic Barriers
MARCH 3, 2025 | 11:30 CST | ROOM 9AB

HEALTHCARE • CONSTRUCTION • LOGISTICS • MAINTENANCE • ADMINISTRATION

Expert Panelists Monique Baptiste, Gregg Bishop, Valerie Orellana, R.N., M.S., and Roy Castro, will discuss innovative new “trade school” approaches to workforce development

About STRIVE:

As one of the nation's leading workforce development and career solutions, STRIVE offers tuition-free skills and job-readiness training, one-on-one support and lifetime personal coaching for people ready for a new start.

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