

Scholars for the Dream Coalition-Building Lounge

Kansas City Marriott Downtown: Tea Room

Chair: Rhea Estelle Lathan

Hours:

- Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.–12:00 a.m.
- Thursday: 10:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.–12:00 a.m.
- Friday: 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m.
- Saturday: 9:30 a.m.–1:45 p.m.

Check the online program and mobile app for the full schedule.

This year the SFD committee has a space available for the duration of the convention. The purpose of the SFD Lounge is to provide a *lounge* atmosphere for socialization into an intellectual community drawn from our own cultural/linguistic perspectives as we conceptualize, plan, and build an SFD network. This will happen in an empowering space for SFD scholars and alumni to relax and meet while also building lasting relationships that we hope will serve everyone well beyond CCCC 2018. We have designed a space to facilitate a mix of insight-driven discussions—collaborative learning opportunities where participants can experience focus-driven downtime that provides a *brain break* without extinguishing their intellectual inspiration.

This will consist of multiple interactive Listening Tables, Dreamweavers, short Q & A sessions—both structured and unstructured—collation-building activities, as well as opportunities to join the SFD Network, which is a low-stakes mentoring network. We will have snacks and an hourly raffle, including signed books (SWR & Working and Writing for Change series), one-on-one time with a scholar, and tickets to Cs' events.

During the day we will have three to four Listening Tables running concurrently, facilitated by various past and present CCCC chairs, elders, caucus leaders, authors, and book and journal editors who will guide discussions on topics they choose. They will share their experience, knowledge, and wisdom. In the late evenings we will host the Collation-Building Lounge, which will feature specific narratives from Dreamweavers—senior SFD alumni and activists. Invited Table Talk and Lounge scholars include but are not limited to Steven Alvarez, Qwo-Li Driskill, David Holmes, Asao B. Inoue, Steve Parks, Malea Powell, Elaine Richardson, Vershawn Young, and many more. Each will engage with attendees in informal discussions. Topics include:

- What would you tell your SFD self?
- How do you negotiate race, identity, and power (grad student → tenure → full)?
- What has CCCC done for me lately? What's getting involved got to do with it?
- What has *my* caucus done for me lately? What's getting involved got to do with it?
- How do I succeed in composition studies without losing my culture/identity soul?
- What are your cultural survival habits and strategies?
- What are the politics of institutional cultural fit?

Throughout the convention we will ask everyone to identify existing resources and missed opportunities and consider possibilities for building and sustaining coalitions and networks within the field. Ultimately, this space will be a means to reimagine the 4C experience in order to better serve an underrepresented collective. Our hope is that you leave CCCC 2018 with relationships and resources that help you sustain long-term participation in the field.

Come experience a safe, low-stakes environment where we're building a coalition and collaborations toward future projects, while offering survival strategies for historically underrepresented voices.

