

PART 2. STORIES OF SUSTAINING COMMUNITY

This section advances our understanding of community listening through stories of sustaining community in deliberative and intentional ways. Notably, if coincidentally, each of the following chapters situates readers across the Southwest landscape. Chapter 4 “The Public Art of Listening: Relational Accountability and The Painted Desert Project” by Kyle Boggs contends with the role of art within the Navajo nation of Arizona and highlights how relationality has nuanced community engagement. Chapter 5 “The DJ as Relational Listener and Creator of an Ethos of Community Listening” by Karen R. Tellez-Trujillo carefully reckons with the role radio DJs play in El Paso, Texas, and illuminates the intentional centering of relationality by the DJ to inform, give form to, and even transform ways of thinking and being amongst marginalized communities across space and time. Chapter 6 “Listening In: Letter Writing and Rhetorical Resilience Behind Bars” by Alexandra J. Cavallaro, Wendy Hinshaw, and Tobi Jacobi reflects on prison letter writing programs in Colorado and explores how relationality can help navigate the challenges of thinking with and from incarcerated writers. Of no coincidence, the theme this section addresses is relationality and the role relationality can play in sustaining a community otherwise, which authors explore from various positionalities and potentials.