

“Six Conversations” Invitation for the Social Systems Mapping Community of Practice

Christine Capra and Social Systems Mapping (SSM) community steward Ben Roberts invite you to join them for a series of facilitated conversations in order to bring forth a newly energized SSM community of practice in 2022. Towards that end, these conversations are designed to:

- Deepen our relationships with one another
- Explore what engaging in this community of practice might make possible for each of us
- Support the ongoing emergence of a circle of SSM community stewards

You can read about the vision for SSM and this community [here](#) and [here](#). Watch [this short invitational video](#), and see below for more about the possibility, purpose, and requests associated with these conversations.

You are free to participate in as many sessions as you wish, and to jump in at any time. We began with two extended sessions in mid-January, and we are now shifting to shorter sessions. These are currently scheduled for Tuesdays from 11-11:45 US Central Time (CST) on an ongoing basis. Additional sessions have been added for February 11 and 25 from 12-2pm CST. We may continue to add other times to make these sessions more accessible--use the RSVP link below to request this.

[This social systems map](#) is also being used as a tool for visualizing the relational value of the conversations and for harvesting from them. You can participate via the map even if you haven't joined any live conversations. The live conversations are the heart of this process, though, so the goal is to have people show up in both ways.

[RSVP using this Google form](#)

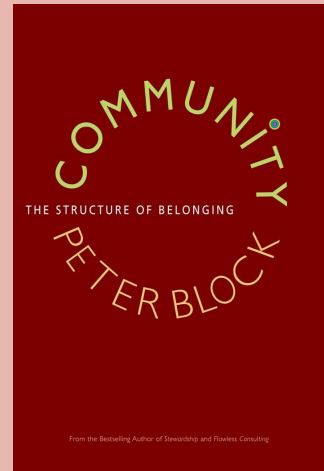
including to request the scheduling of additional sessions and to be added to the social systems map for these conversations

[Request a live invitation conversation](#)

Conversation host Ben Roberts would love to extend this invitation in a brief call, if you want to hear more

About the Six Conversations

Renowned consultant Peter Block laid out this approach, its sources, and the theory behind it in his 2008 book [Community: The Structure of Belonging](#). The conversations are designed as a way for communities that seek to catalyze systemic transformation to practice “a culture of restoration.” You can learn more about the overall approach via [this series of short videos](#) recorded by Block. Ben Roberts has trained with Block and has facilitated well over a hundred of these Conversations on behalf of many different communities.



The Possibility that has Inspired this Invitation

Ben is offering the Six Conversations as a gift based on his belief that they will support the emergence of a vital and energized community of practice (CoP) in 2022, with the following intended results:

- Being a part of this community (and these conversations) provides an experience of the transformation we seek in the world
- We learn how SSM can be a super-powerful tool/practice in support of transformation
- We catalyze the widespread implementation of SSM
- The CoP supports those who wish to use SSM as a means towards financial thriving (at multiple levels personal, organizational, systemic)

The Purpose of these Conversations

Through your participation in these conversations, you will be invited to:

- Become a carrier of a “culture of restoration” that can replace patterns of patriarchy and other forms of oppression and “power over” behavior.
- Grow a sense of belonging and of shared ownership in the vitality of the CoP
- Support self-organizing to tap into the gifts of community members and to release the co-creative energies of the group, in ways that emerge out of and are consistent with the Source Vision held by Christine (see below)
- Make space for authentic dissent as a necessary expression that strengthens the community’s capacity for commitment and for bringing forth the gifts of its members

Requests to Participants

If you choose to participate, please take note of the following requests:

- For any calls you choose to join, commit to being fully present, come on time, and stay for the duration
- Before participating, read Christine’s vision documents [here](#) and [here](#) to understand what growing this community of practice is (and is not) in service to
- Agree to treat this community as a commons, respecting Christine, Tim, and Greater than the Sum as its Source, and recognizing that their financial viability is part of what we are here to support