About our Host Location: Livonia, MI

Situated geographically –and metaphorically?—between Ann Arbor and Detroit, this year's TYCA MW location—Livonia—asks us to explore productive and unproductive tensions in our work—how we teach, how we measure learning, assumptions and mandates related to our teaching, and how we engage in a pernicious industry of "more." Livonia is recognized as one of the 25 safest cities in America and features a workforce as diverse as any urban city in the US. Livonia is where silicone meets grindstone, where the ivory tower meets rust belt, where every worker is an essential worker, and where "making a way" is the way, whether the field is healthcare, engineering, philosophy, or literature. With its history based as much in agriculture, fishing, and tourism as it is in automobile manufacturing, Michigan has experienced extreme economic and social shifts in recent decades, including unemployment rates and rebounds that are both lower and higher than the national averages. But we are also ideally situated for long-term stability and sustainable living even within the landscape and resources of the impending climate crisis.

What's more? Detroit is famous for its hustle, music, and industry. Surrounded by industry and water, we rock perpetually between productivity and restoration. The Metro Detroit area in SE Michigan boasts multiple community colleges that serve our communities with academic, artistic, creative, and critical reading and writing education as we perpetually rebuild, revise, and adapt. English teachers at these colleges, like their colleagues across the Midwest, have been called upon in recent decades to radically rethink our teaching.