

Black Deaf Studies Matters: A Defining Moment

Executive Editor's Message Associate Director's Message

Black Deaf Studies Symposium Proceedings

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Abstract

Since its inception in 2020, the Center for Black Deaf Studies has aimed to spotlight and address issues within Black Deaf communities, focusing on history, education, linguistics, and global perspectives. The recent symposium, supported by the Deaf Studies Digital Journal, brought together scholars and talents to discuss and preserve their voices, aiming for a brighter future and enhanced visibility in the field through bilingual and bimodal dissemination of their work. Messages from Evon Black and Patrick Boudreault underscore the importance of collaboration and documentation in elevating Black Deaf Studies.

Keywords

Black Deaf Studies, DSDJ, Symposium, Bilingual and Bimodal Dissemination, Foreword

Message Transcript

EVON BLACK —

Hello. Since the establishment of the Center for Black Deaf Studies in August of 2020, we've recognized that there have been several issues that need addressing and discussing. We identified one main theme (for the symposium); "why Black Deaf Studies matters?"

The intention here is to discuss different topics relating to Black Deaf history, Black Deaf education, Black Deaf global perspectives, Black Deaf linguistics. How we can preserve our voices in a way that can be looked at and unpacked for topics to discuss.

The symposium can address the work needed for a better tomorrow by reflecting, analyzing, and looking at each other, acknowledging the need to document and draw upon research and history. It gathers Black Deaf scholars and talent together to work towards a better future for the Center of Black Deaf Studies.

PATRICK BOUDREAULT —

Hello all. My name is Patrick Boudreault, and I am the executive editor of the Deaf Studies Digital Journal, DSDJ. This seventh issue is unique. It is the work from the conference symposium for the Center of Black Deaf Studies, hosted in the Spring of 2023 at Gallaudet University. This work was gathered and published from thirteen important presenters.

Really, I am delighted to be working with the community. As a white Deaf man, I feel honored to be invited into the community to spotlight them and work with them to organize, plan, edit/revise, and disseminate the knowledge, expertise, and scholarship of their community. Again, DSDJ is delighted to be supporting and elevating the dissemination of this work through their sign language, Black ASL, plus English transcripts which truly makes this bilingual and bimodal. With accessibility formats, PDF, slides, captions, all of this is encompassed with the goal of disseminating information for their increased prominence in the field of Black Deaf Studies. Thank you.

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