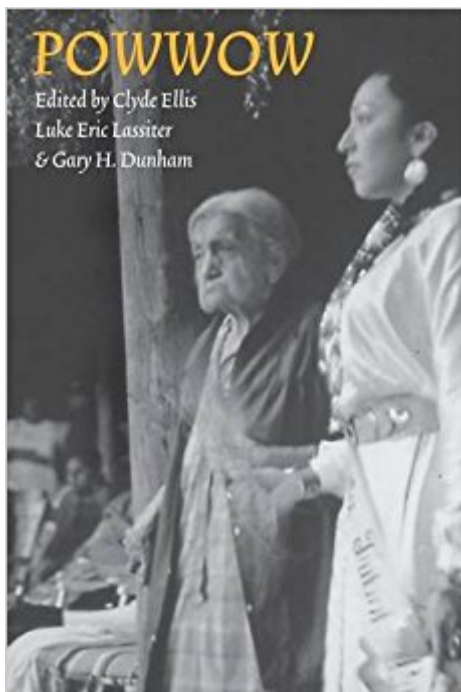


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Powwow



Synopsis

This anthology examines the origins, meanings, and enduring power of the powwow. Held on and off reservations, in rural and urban settings, powwows are an important vehicle for Native peoples to gather regularly. Although sometimes a paradoxical combination of both tribal and intertribal identities, they are a medium by which many groups maintain important practices. Powwow begins with an exploration of the history and significance of powwows, ranging from the Hochunk dances of the early twentieth century to present-day Southern Cheyenne gatherings to the contemporary powwow circuit of the northern plains. Contributors discuss the powwow's performative and cultural dimensions, including emcees, song and dance, the expression of traditional values, and the Powwow Princess. The final section examines how powwow practices have been appropriated and transformed by Natives and non-Natives during the past few decades. Of special note is the use of powwows by Native communities in the eastern United States, by Germans, by gay and lesbian Natives, and by New Agers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"These essays, tied together by the powwow theme, create a book whose words dance off the page. Readers should be delighted by their increased understanding of the American Indian powwow at the beginning of the twenty-first century." —Great Plains Quarterly (Clifford E. Trafzer Great Plains Quarterly 2006-12-19) —The essays in Powwow reveal the intertribal and local nuances of the complex powwow world from historical, cultural, community, and personal

perspectives. . . . Indeed, this glimpse into the powwow complex should spark much attention among scholars to a prominent component of modern Native lifeâ€”one that, like the persistence of Native communities generally, has thrived on change and innovation as much as continuity and tradition.â€”John W. Troutman, *Western Historical Quarterly* (John W. Troutman *Western Historical Quarterly* 2007-03-21)

Clyde Ellis is an associate professor of history at Elon University. He is the author of *To Change Them Forever: Indian Education at the Rainy Mountain Boarding School, 1893â€”1920*, and *A Dancing People: Powwow Culture on the Southern Plains*. Luke Eric Lassiter is an associate professor of anthropology at Ball State University. He is the author of *The Power of Kiowa Song: A Collaborative Ethnography* and coauthor (with Clyde Ellis and Ralph Kotay) of *The Jesus Road: Kiowas, Christianity, and Indian Hymns* (Nebraska 2002). Gary H. Dunham is the director of the University of Nebraska Press.

A great book, it gives a lot more insight into powwows than what you would be able to gather just by listening to people talking about them outside of the events themselves unless they are someone who REALLY knows about powwows.

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