

The UC San Diego Department of Ethnic Studies Presents:

The “Labor of Tourism” and Ho-Chunk Survivance: Performing Indigeneity at the Stand Rock Indian Ceremonial and the Pipe Dyer Trading Post in Twentieth Century Wisconsin

Amy Lonetree

Wednesday , November 30, 2016
3:00 – 4:30 pm
Dolores Huerta - Philip Vera Cruz Room
Reception to follow

My presentation focuses on twentieth century Ho-Chunk history and cultural performance through an examination of the Stand Rock Indian Ceremonial, a historical pageant attended by thousands of tourists every summer in Wisconsin Dells, WI from the 1920s through the 1970s. The Stand Rock Indian Ceremonial helped transform the town of Wisconsin Dells into a major tourist destination, and generations of Ho-Chunk families—including my own—made a living during the summer months performing dances for tourists at the Stand Rock Indian Ceremonial site by night, and displaying other cultural activities at the nearby Pipe Dyer Trading Post by day. Drawing upon an important visual archive of photographic images and film reels, I explore the complexities of cultural performance, modern labor, and the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism through the experiences of Ho-Chunk people performing Indigeneity within the contact zone of twentieth century Wisconsin. Particular attention is given to privileging the perspectives of the Indigenous people captured in the frame and the ongoing meaning that this visual archive has to our understanding of Ho-Chunk identity, the various ways Ho-Chunk people sought to make a living in the twentieth century, issues of representation, tourism, and survivance.



Amy Lonetree is an Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She received her Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from the University of California, Berkeley in 2002, and her scholarly research focuses on Indigenous history, visual culture studies, and museum studies. Her publications include, *Decolonizing Museums: Representing Native America in National and Tribal Museums* (2012); a co-edited book with Amanda J. Cobb, *The National Museum of the American Indian: Critical Conversations* (2008); and a co-authored volume, *People of the Big Voice: Photographs of Ho-Chunk Families by Charles Van Schaick, 1879-1942* (2011).