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Descriptive Summary

Title: Tara Browner Collection,
Collection number: 2004.10
Creator: Browner, Tara
Extent: 1 box: 7 audio cassettes and 20 PMCDs (listening copies available in the Archive)
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Ethnomusicology Archive
Los Angeles, California 90095-1490

Abstract: From Browner's book, Heartbeat of the People: "The year 1989 marked the final time the Ann Arbor Pow-wow was held in the Hill Street Coliseum." The Ann Arbor Pow-wow: A Brief Case Study In 1989, while conducting fieldwork for a project that ultimately did not result in a filed master's thesis, I assembled a musical ethnography of the Ann Arbor, Michigan, pow-wow, at the time the largest event of its kind in the state. Since then I have danced at Ann Arbor every year, been a member of the pow-wow committee, and worked in various roles, from security and finances (counting money as it came in) to registering dancers. My project in 1989 enabled me to gather historical information on the roots of the pow-wow, and my participation in years following has allowed me to see the event grow and change. Reflecting these experiences, the information that follows is meant to provide an overview of how one small, community-based gathering has grown into a major event. Although it would be helpful to declare this particular pow-wow as representative of most events, that statement would be deceptive because pow-wows are so varied. Nevertheless, I know the Dance at Ann Arbor better than any other (except, perhaps, the UCLA Pow-wow, which is predominantly Southern) and can discuss it in the most detail. The Ann Arbor Pow-wow, part of both the larger complex of Northern pow-wow events and traditions, is representative of a typical Anishnaabeg-dominated event. Within these two larger frameworks, it is also the product of a unique set of circumstances, including (within the Detroit area) the influence of non-Anishnaabeg Indian cultures and the pressures placed upon a community-based event by a large university that intends to portray itself as supporting the Native American community. In more than a quarter-century of existence the pow-wow has changed from a small, traditional affair into a competitive extravaganza complete with concerts, affiliated "dry dances," and raffles.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Tara Browner Collection, 2004.10, Ethnomusicology Archive, University of California, Los Angeles.

Scope and Content

7 Tapes

Box 1, Item 2004.10_amc01

Tape 1: 17th Annual Ann Arbor Powwow - University of Michigan March 18, 1989

Physical Description: AMC 01 : analog audio cassette

Scope and Content Note


Note

Listening CD available in Archive. Preservation CD-ROM stored at SRLF.
Container List

Tape 5: 17th Annual Ann Arbor Powwow - University of Michigan March 19, 1989

Physical Description: AMC 05 : analog audio cassette

Scope and Content Note

Note
Listening CD available in Archive. Preservation CD-ROM stored at SRLF.

Tape 6: 17th Annual Ann Arbor Powwow - University of Michigan March 19, 1989

Physical Description: AMC 06 : analog audio cassette

Scope and Content Note

Note
Listening CD available in Archive. Preservation CD-ROM stored at SRLF.

Tape 7: 17th Annual Ann Arbor Powwow - University of Michigan March 19, 1989

Physical Description: AMC 07 : analog audio cassette

Scope and Content Note

Note
Listening CD available in Archive. Preservation CD-ROM stored at SRLF.