



The Journey Museum and Learning Center
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Cultural Collaboration: The Duhamel Sioux Indian Pageant

RAPID CITY, SD - The Journey Museum & Learning Center is excited to announce the first event in its Fall Learning Forum series, set for Sunday, October 8th titled, “A Cultural Collaboration: The Duhamel Sioux Indian Pageant”. Dr. Eric Zimmer explores the unique partnership between Alex Duhamel and Nicholas Black Elk that resulted in the first Indian-authored Indian pageant in the United States.

“A Cultural Collaboration: The Duhamel Sioux Indian Pageant” Learning Forum will begin at 2 p.m. on October 8 in The Journey’s Wells Fargo Theater. Dr. Zimmer will discuss the role Sitting Bull Caverns, Rapid City businessman Alex Duhamel and Lakota holy man Nicholas Black Elk all played in creating a one-of-a-kind Native American beauty pageant in the Black Hills.

From 1927 to 1957, Sitting Bull Crystal Caverns was home to summertime performances of Lakota culture and spirituality. Through Sioux Indian Pageant performances, Black Elk sought to provide income for struggling Native families, preserve Lakota ceremonies, educate non-Natives about Lakota culture, and defy oppressive regulations challenging Native rights to religious expression.

Raised in Rapid City, Eric Steven Zimmer, PhD attended Central High School and Black Hills State University before completing his master’s and PhD in American History from the University of Iowa. He is a Senior Historian at Vantage Point Historical Services, Inc., and a Research Fellow at the Center for American Indian and Native Studies on the Pine Ridge Reservation. His essays and reviews have appeared in national and regional scholarly publications and news outlets, and his dissertation won the 2016 Rachel Carson Prize for Best Dissertation from the American Society of Environmental Historians.

Learning Forums are thought-provoking presentations on a wide variety of topics. Each program features a forty-five minute presentation, followed by an open forum with questions and discussion about the topic.

Admission for Learning Forums is \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$9 for students, & half-off for members (includes museum admission).

For more information and details about this event or other items, be sure to call (605) 394-6923 or email visserv@journeymuseum.org.

The Journey Museum and Learning Center was established in 1997 and is conveniently located in downtown Rapid City at 222 New York St, 2 blocks east of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center right across from the Club for Boys. Visit www.journeymuseum.org to find additional schedule information and ‘like’ us on Facebook!

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