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### The Haudenosaunee in Contemporary Contexts

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**Haudenosaunee in Contemporary Contexts: Influences and Interactions**

PRESENTER:

Joela Falk



What are the social, political, and economic impacts, interactions, and influences of Cayuga, Oneida, and Onondaga as sovereign nations on Upstate/Central New York? How do these interactions and influences demonstrate Oneida, Cayuga, and Onondaga progression towards placemaking?

Local Haudenosaunee placemaking can be seen in their efforts to establish a less dependent and subservient relationship with NY State. These efforts are evident in their push for legal action for their land and the environment, growing relationships with historians and anthropologists, and economic stimulation. Kellogg wanted the reservation to be “protected and developed economically, politically, and aesthetically.”

“The Oneida reservation continues to be a place of business and industry, self-governance, and an ongoing autonomous relationship with the federal government... maintaining connections to the Oneida homeland through personal connections, litigation, and lobbying continues to be followed today.”

Art

“Native American ghosts haunt the North American literary and visual cultural imagination simultaneously to remind settler nations of the unspeakable, horrific past and to commit representational genocide by writing contemporary Native American people out of the present and future.”

Environmental Justice:

“As central to capitalist development as it is universally necessary for life itself, water has been integral in the establishment and consolidation of highly racialised social, political, and economic configurations in Central New York. It has also, not coincidentally, figured centrally in the social struggles of the region’s marginalised peoples, as both the Onondaga Nation and the Partnership for Onondaga Creek have sought to bring public attention to the creek and its social and ecological importance.”

Economics:

“The [Oneida] Nation’s 2016 Annual Report noted that it continued to invest resources in [its] community, remaining a model of shared prosperity for the future of the region even as so many others endure hardships and face uncertain times.”



Limitations:

- I was not able to speak with a member of these nations
- I am looking at these nations with the perspective of an outsider
- This is information is not applicable to all nations, so it is not to group the Haudenosaunee as one similar people

Methodology:

- Interviews with local museums
- Participant observation of Haudenosaunee museum exhibits
- Literature reviews

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