



# DARTMOUTH COLLEGE POWWOW

In 1970, newly inaugurated President John Kemeny pledged to address the historical lack of opportunities for Native Americans in higher education. Due to his efforts, Dartmouth College has one of the strongest and most diverse Native American communities among the academic community. It was during the Kemeny Administration that Native Americans at Dartmouth (NAD) held its first Powwow. The Powwow has since grown in both size and scope. What was once a small gathering at Storrs Pond, and later at the Bema, is now an event that attracts upwards of 1,500 people from all over the country.

## Want to learn more?

Visit our  
Native American Program  
website:  
<https://students.dartmouth.edu/nap/>

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## What is a Powwow?



A Powwow is a Native American and First Nations gathering where people come together to dance, sing, and reconnect. Powwows are an opportunity to celebrate traditions, community, and culture for Indigenous people, as well as sharing this with non-Indigenous guests. Powwows are usually inter-tribal, meaning many different tribal communities participate.

The Dartmouth Powwow brings together all facets of our community. The Powwow is an opportunity for Dartmouth students, faculty, staff, and all of the Upper Valley to celebrate Indigenous culture from many different tribes, places, and traditions.

# Logistics & FAQs



## **Parking:**

It is preferred that you park in Dewey Lot (1 Dewey Field Road, Hanover, NH) for this event. You do not need a permit and do not have to pay for parking. We will have two shuttle vans transporting from Dewey Lot to the Green throughout the day.

## **Attendance:**

Anyone may attend the Dartmouth Powwow. You do not have to be Indigenous, or an affiliate of Dartmouth.

## **Can I buy Indigenous made items from the vendors?**

Yes! We encourage you to support the vendors. We carefully select our vendors for this event to ensure items sold are authentic and Native made. You are encouraged to buy their products and wear what you purchase, even if you are not Indigenous.

## **Purchasing:**

This year, you will be able to make purchases of food and merchandise through Venmo or with cash.

## **Items Prohibited:**

Alcohol, drugs, and weapons are prohibited.

# Proper Powwow Etiquette



## **Master of Ceremonies**

The best principle is to follow the instructions from the Master of Ceremonies (MC). He will provide everyone with instructions, rules, and announcements during the Powwow.

## **Dance Arena**

The dance arena is a sacred space. Please do not enter the arena unless you have been invited to do so by the MC.

## **Grand Entry**

If able, remain standing and remove any hats during the entire grand entry. The MC will announce when it begins. We ask that you show respect to the flag and honor song by standing until the songs are completed.

## **Respect for Dancers and Elders**

You may not place chairs or sit in front of the drummers or dancers' chairs. The covered areas around the arena are designed for the singers, dancers, and elders.

You may bring lawn chairs, sit anywhere on the bleachers, unless marked otherwise.

## **Children**

Children are welcome to attend Powwow. The MC will announce a time when children are invited to dance and participate. Again, please listen for instructions from the MC.

## **Regalia**

Please do not refer to the dancers' regalia (clothing) as "costumes." Dancers' outfits are personal, traditional, and unique. Please give the dancers and their regalia proper respect. Do not touch a dancer's regalia without asking their permission. These handcrafted outfits are given much thought, time, and expense.

## **Photography and Videos**

Listen carefully to the MC; he will announce when photography is not allowed. Videotaping is always strongly discouraged.

If you want dancers to pose for a photograph, please get their permission. If you may use the image in the future for a commercial project, have dancers sign a release form.

Photographing or recording of the Grand Entry or the ceremony to recover a fallen Eagle Feather is forbidden.