

Sue Eiholzer

Selected Audio Transcript

I believe that we in America have not faced up to our history with the Native people. And a lot of it goes to that, to the Doctrine of Discovery, and that concept of Manifest Destiny, and that sort of thing. And I think that in NOON's [Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation's] "witness to injustice" exercise, we examine that history and present it to people. And so I think that the statue overshadows that, and that there is a need to bring in a more balanced history, and not just in terms of Natives, but there are people in Syracuse from countries that were also harmed by the Doctrine of Discovery. And so I think there's a wide swathe of ethnicities in this community, it's one of the assets we have in this community, that needs to be recognized.

Biography

I was trained as a marriage and family therapist. So I focus on people and how they feel about things. And I was raised in Indiana, and I thought all the Native Americans were in the West. When I came to New York State, and found out about the Haudenosaunee, I was absolutely amazed. I have been working with Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation since its inception about fifteen to twenty years ago. And so I've gotten to meet a lot of Native people across New York State, and I consider that a real blessing. So I've done a lot of work to promote that allyship and be supportive of them.