

Hey Matthew,

I'm e-mailing to follow up with you about the Beehive Collective's upcoming California tour!

A bit of context as to the deeper specifics of the group: Based out of small-town Machias across the country in rural Maine, the Beehive Design Collective is an all-volunteer organization of activists, artists, educators and organizers. Our main focus is creating and presenting graphic works about global issues internationally. These portable murals are teeming with intricate images of plants and animals, illustrating surreal but meticulously researched scenes of sociocultural realities in the modern world. Not only are our graphics detailed, beautiful works of art, but they also are tools in understanding the big picture of a region's struggles.

We present our work at differing community spaces, venues, and colleges all over the place! Examples of schools we have presented to in the past include local UC Berkeley, University of Victoria in British Columbia, Skidmore College in New York, and University of Washington, to name a few! All of our artwork is anti-copyright (free for educational/non-profit use), and our presentations resonate in relevance to many differing topics, from arts history and sociology to international relations and natural resources.

As it stands, a group of Bees are heading out on tour to help folks understand the complicated forces at work in our own communities and all over the world, with a specific focus on water scarcity and the drought in the West Coast region. Focusing on Mesoamerica Resiste, our latest graphic that speaks on corporate colonization and those impacts on indigenous communities in Central America, **West Coast Water Crisis: Drawing Connections from MesoAmerica to California** is the Bees' latest storytelling and workshop drawing connections from these struggles to local dynamics. Mesoamerica Resiste was a nine-year project that spanned thirteen illustrators and many more collaborators, a two-part banner mural made up of visual metaphors of real-life stories from communities in the Mesoamerican region.

Here is a quick summary of the **West Coast Water Crisis: Drawing Connections from MesoAmerica to California** presentation:

California is in the midst of a historical drought, the most severe the region has had in the last 500 years. This water crisis has devastated resources, with several communities facing the prospect of running dry. A number of projects advocating infrastructure development such as the BDCP and Prop 1 have been proposed as solutions for the state, but are they truly in the interests for all? What are their impacts to our drying rivers and reservoirs? Fisheries and communities? Drawing inspiration from struggles against large-scale infrastructure projects throughout MesoAmerica, the Bees will take you on a visual journey touching on the local and the global struggle for control and protection of water.

If text isn't your thing and videos speak more to you, check out our successful Kickstarter campaign (featured on Upworthy! <http://www.upworthy.com/the-poster-is-mesmerizing-the-story-it-tells-is-electrifying-have-you-seen>) with a vid that explains pretty succinctly who we are: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/beehivecollective/hatch-the-beehives-epic-story-graphic-mesoamerica>

If you'd like us to plan a show together in your community during our tour times (mid-October to early November or post-January), please get in contact and fill out this super easy presentation request form! :)

[Bring the Bees | Beehive Design Collective](http://beehivecollective.org/tours-booking/bring-the-bees/) (<http://beehivecollective.org/tours-booking/bring-the-bees/>)



Bring the Bees | Beehive Design Collective

BRING THE BEES Interested in hosting us, or have a lead? Complete the form below to get in touch! NOW BOOKING for Fall

[View on beehivecollective.org](http://beehivecollective.org) Preview by Yahoo

We are traveling up and down major cities in Northern and Southern California in mid October through the beginning of November:

OCT.

20- San Rafael / San Marin

21- Berkeley / Oakland

22- San Jose

23- Santa Cruz

24- Monterey

25- Paso Robles / SLO

26- Santa Barbara

27- Los Angeles

28- San Bernadino

29- Bakersfield

30- Fresno

31- Davis

NOV.

1- Redding

2- Sacramento

3- Stockton

Let us know if you are interested in hosting us at a community space for October/November if you are around those areas; otherwise, we will be continuing with this tour beginning in January onward with anywhere and everywhere welcome to get in touch! If you have any more questions, feel free to shoot me an e-mail or contact me via phone at 209-683-8879!

Lots of honey,

xoxo ryan bee