

December 2015

COMIXTM35

Our Mission: To bring people to Christ through the visual storytelling medium of comics



As You Read This...

We are probably in the middle of a five-day COMIX35 seminar in Quebec.

The comics-loving Québécois literally kicked God out of their culture in the sixties. Now this unreached people group has Canada's highest percentage of divorce, abortion, and out-of-wedlock births. Their suicide rate is one of the highest in the industrialized world. Yet, God has not forgotten them, and I have been excited about what God can do in Québec ever since I heard the statistics of how much they love comics.

This seminar is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these Canadian Christian artists to have a truly international education. *Les Enseignants* (the Instructors) are Ryo Azumi, a Japanese Manga artist (illustrator of *Manga Mutiny*, *Manga Melech*, and *Manga Messengers*, who taught with COMIX35 in Taiwan in 2014 and 2015), Benjamin Couadio, an African artist (one illustrator of *Éclats*, who taught with COMIX35 in Cameroon in 2012 and Ivory Coast in 2014), Denis Grenier and Eric LeBlanc, two Québécois artists, and myself. It is an honor to teach with this group of people.

We have other special guests: the head of LLB (Ligue pour la Lecture de la Bible) will lead a devotional one day, a speaker from Billy Graham is coming to speak, and the assistant general manager of SEMBEO (Séminaire Baptiste Évangélique du Québec—the people who are letting us use their office free of charge) is going to provide a devotional as well.

Please join us in prayer for the seminar: that people will be inspired to commit fully. Our prayer is that the Lord will set these artists' hearts on fire to serve Him and to spread His Gospel in Québec through the medium of comics.

2015 in Review

April-July: Truth for Youth comics project for Revival Fires, a Louisiana-based ministry doing outreach to US youth: 5 new comics including *Sexting & Cyber-Bullying* and *Cutting & Suicide*.

April: Sponsored Ryo Azumi to teach on manga (Japanese comics) in Taiwan.

June: Illustrated sermon at Crossroads Baptist Church in Houston, TX.

August: SEND North America (Missions) Conference in Nashville, TN

September: 1st Comics Library Donation sent to Biola University.

October: Planning meeting with Christ for Native Youth in Albuquerque, NM

November: First Webinar for Magazine Training International.

December: Comic Training Seminar in Montréal, Québec.

Les Enseignants du séminaire



To support COMIX35, please make checks payable to:

COMIX35
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Prayer Requests for our Work in Native America

- For the Lord to prepare the steps of all the leaders and that they are following His ways completely
- For Him to endow Nate with wisdom and discernment
- For Him to call Native artists and storytellers to this opportunity to share their story
- For His hedge of protection over all involved, and for all powers and principalities of this world who are working against this ministry to be bound.



A Call to Prayer

Dear Friends,

It is with great hope and encouragement that I write this letter, asking for you to join us in a specific prayer initiative of Comix35.

Nate Butler works around the globe, training artists and writers to create stories that share the Gospel their own way in their own language.

Over the past five years he has led seminars in Mexico, Thailand, French-speaking Canada, Cameroon, Norway, the Ukraine, Taiwan, and the Ivory Coast. In 2013, God opened the doors to the United States' Native youth.

In November 2013, he met with ministry workers from Christ for Native Youth and Western Indian Ministries for a weekend seminar/retreat in the Southwestern United States. In October 2014, he met with them again for a one day introductory comics seminar/workshop. While both meeting times were fruitful in building cooperation and cohesion between the organizations, it has been difficult to build the necessary connections and partnerships with native artists that will lead to actual comic production. As it is always Comix35's desire to enable artists to share the Gospel in their language for their people, this is a significant hurdle.

In the spring of 2016, Nate is again hoping to meet with leaders and artists from the Tse Bonito area of New Mexico. Friends, we are asking for your prayers during the next few months as Nate and the other ministry leaders prepare for their meeting and possible seminar. It is vitally important that this whole process be bathed in prayer, from beginning to end. As we walk in this season of prayer, we trust in the Lord that His mighty will be done.

In grace and thanks, Amanda Allen and the Board of Comix35



COMIX35 International Collection

Did you know that universities and seminaries across the United States can share their libraries through interlibrary loans and ebook borrowing? Why does this matter to you? Because you as a COMIX35 supporter are now a part of it!

Biola University is proud to announce the opening of its Comics Collection, the largest Christian comics library in the world, and they are getting their largest chunk of their materials from COMIX35. Throughout my 20 years in the Christian comics ministry, I have acquired Christian comics from many languages and many regions worldwide, one of the largest collections ever. A number of them have been gifts from the creators or publishers, while some were found unexpectedly in backstreet book shops. Together they provide an expansive view into the flourishing state of Christian comics publishing internationally. But that collection has been sitting on my shelf. Not anymore!

Biola University is taking my library, along with other Christian comics libraries, and making them all available in their special collections. This means researchers, historians, theologians, missiologists, anthropologists, and any other scholars from universities and seminaries all over the country will soon have access to this wide-ranging and historical collection! It also mean the academic world is starting to recognize how powerful the visual storytelling medium of comics is for sharing the gospel. As more people gain access to this collection, join me in praying that it inspires the next generation of artists, storytellers, and missionaries from all countries to share the Gospel in meaningful ways. To learn more, please see <http://libguides.biola.edu/comics/comix35>.