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## **Adopt-A-Bee and Receive an Invite to An Exclusive Party with Edible Baja Arizona, Whiskey del Bac, and Three Wells Tequila**

**Tucson, AZ (June 7, 2016)** Everyone is abuzz about Tohono Chul's inaugural Adopt-A-Bee, where you get to name a bee and send it to camp! Tohono Chul's mission is to enrich people's lives by connecting them with the wonders of nature, art, and culture in the Sonoran Desert region and inspiring wise stewardship of the natural world. Their passion for preservation and conservation comes through in their latest project, Adopt-A-Bee. This fun and quirky program engages people in the Tucson community and throughout the world. Adopt-A-Bee was created not only to increase the awareness of the various bee species in Southern Arizona, but also to promote the importance of bees as they sustain the local and international food economy. Their gardens rely heavily on a plethora of bee species to facilitate plant pollination, whether it's for food sourcing from the Ethnobotany Garden, for the surrounding grounds featuring native plants, or to sustain products for their Retail Greenhouse. Adopt and name your bee today on their website at [tohonochul.org/bee](http://tohonochul.org/bee)

A bonus to your bee adoption is an exclusive invite to their Pollinator Party sponsored by **Edible Baja Arizona** from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, June 24. Beyond enjoying the regional honey bar, samples of **Three Wells Tequila** and **Whiskey del Bac**, and molecular gastronomy with bee pollen and honeycomb by the **Garden Bistro**, they want you to get to know your bees. Meet experts in the community of beekeeping, bee habitat building, and bee knowledge. Discuss urban beekeeping with **Dos Manos Local Apiaries**, as they are committed to keeping bees using, natural, treatment-free methods, and being a model to show that anybody can keep bees in Tucson. This is a great opportunity to see if backyard beekeeping is for you.

The party not only promotes National Pollinator Week, but honors the work of these little winged things. National Pollinator Week (June 20-26, 2016) highlights bats, birds, butterflies and bees for their contribution that ensures the survival of our terrestrial ecosystems. It is estimated that 90% of all flowering plants depend on animal pollinators to help them reproduce and that includes about 35% of the world's food crops – consider that one bite in three at the dinner table depends on animal pollinators. Fruits and vegetables come immediately to mind, but foodstuffs from your cup of coffee in the morning to that glass of wine with an artisanal chocolate bar at the end of the day are also the direct result of animal pollination. In fact, in the United States, the pollination services provided by honey bees and other insects directly impact 150 different food crops and result in \$20 billion worth of agricultural products each year.

Tohono Chul hopes you will appreciate the humor and whimsy in the Adopt-A-Bee project, as they make no guarantee in actually being able to tell any bee apart long enough to name one (insert your bee name here). This silly campaign was created to inspire pollinator education, including raising awareness about why the bee community is so important to our survival. For more event information and to adopt your bee visit their website at [tohonochul.org/bee](http://tohonochul.org/bee)

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