



The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions

OVERVIEW

History

The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions is a non-profit organization whose history dates back to the 1893 World's Parliament of Religions, held in conjunction with the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, Illinois. This marked the first formal gathering of representatives from eastern and western spiritual traditions and is recognized today as the birth of formal interreligious dialogue worldwide.

Mission

The Council seeks to cultivate harmony among the world's religious and spiritual communities and foster their engagement with the world and its guiding institutions in order to achieve a more just, peaceful and sustainable world.

Partnerships

The Council works in partnership with a diverse group of individuals, communities and institutions, so that they can pursue the religious and spiritual aspirations that inspire them and live the ethical values that guide them. Our partnerships help to:

- Foster understanding and cooperation between diverse peoples, communities and cultures
- Promote human rights and social justice within communities around the world
- Cultivate cultures of peace
- Encourage sustainable ways of living

In this spirit, and motivated by the hospitality and compassion inherent in the world's religious and spiritual traditions, the Council creates open forums in which individuals, communities and institutions of goodwill and hope come together.

PROGRAMS OF THE COUNCIL

Periodic Parliaments

The Council has held periodic Parliament events in the past 15 years, inviting people from around the world and from every religious and spiritual tradition to come together in peace and understanding. Past and future Parliaments include:

- 1993 – Chicago, Illinois, USA
- 1999 – Cape Town, South Africa
- 2004 – Barcelona, Spain
- 2009 – Melbourne, Australia (December 3-9, 2009)

Partner Cities Network

The Partner Cities Network provides a model for building both local and global interreligious movements. The network consists of a group of cities, metropolitan areas and regions, and facilitates the sharing of experiences and opportunities for cooperative actions on issues of local importance that also have global significance.

Engaging Guiding Institutions

The Council seeks a new level of creative engagement between religious and spiritual institutions and the other powerful institutions that influence the character and course of human society. To this end, the Council connects religious communities with such guiding institutions to build new, reliable and more imaginative partnerships toward shaping a better world.

Contact Us

For more information about ways to get involved visit our website www.parliamentofreligions.org. If you have other ideas about how you would like to contribute, please contact us: Telephone: 312.629.2990 Email: info@parliamentofreligions.org



2009 Parliament of the World's Religions Make a World of Difference: Hearing each other, Healing the earth

We invite you to attend the 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne, Australia, December 3-9, 2009.

We look forward to people from around the world convening and renewing their commitment to the future of the planet. We invite you to participate in this event as a participant, volunteer, sponsor or presenter. You can find more information about the 2009 Parliament and ways to be involved by visiting our website at www.parliamentofreligions.org

Major sponsors of the 2009 Parliament are:



Australian Government
Department of Immigration
and Citizenship

