

## Ways to get involved in the 2009 Parliament and the ongoing work of the Council

- **Register** – Participate in the 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne, Australia.
- **Submit a proposal** – Present a lecture, dialogue, workshop, panel discussion, religious or spiritual observance, training session or artistic performance.
- **Sponsorship** – Donate a full or partial registration for an individual or group who otherwise would not be able to attend.
- **Outreach** – Promote the Parliament in your community.
- **Bring a group of Students** – Teach a course that leads up to the Parliament.
- **Volunteer** – Offer your support and time before and during the 2009 Parliament.
- **Host** – Consider hosting a Pre-Parliament Event.
- **Join** – Become a member of the Partner Cities Network.
- **Contribute** – Further the work of the Council through making a donation.

Have additional ideas? Contact us at [info@parliamentofreligions.org](mailto:info@parliamentofreligions.org).

# GET INVOLVED



*The Wurundjeri people welcome you to Melbourne for the 2009 Parliament.*

– Professor Joy Murphy Wandin AO,  
Senior Woman of the Wurundjeri People

The **2009 Parliament of the World's Religions**, in Melbourne, Australia, will be an international interreligious gathering spanning seven nights and six days – from December 3rd to 9th – bringing together over 8,000 people from around the world.

The Council invites all people of faith and spirit to encounter the vast and rich diversity of the world's religious and spiritual traditions and take part in over 450 events including keynote addresses, seminars, conferences, dialogues, performances, concerts and exhibitions, all focused on the theme:

**Make a World of Difference:  
Hearing each other, Healing the earth.**

The theme reflects the urgent need for religious and spiritual communities and all people of goodwill to act on their concerns for the environment, peace, and overcoming poverty, and to take responsibility for cultivating awareness of our global interconnectedness. In our differences lies great opportunity; we can make a world out of our difference. Hearing each other, we can move towards a more just, peaceful and sustainable future. Healing the earth is our common task: to heal is to set right and repair, to restore to health and spiritual wholeness. This is hopeful work.

**We look forward to people from around the world convening and renewing their commitment to the future of the planet.**



*We all have a responsibility for a better global order. Our involvement for the sake of human rights, freedom, justice, peace and the preservation of the Earth is absolutely necessary.*

– *Towards a Global Ethic: An Initial Declaration, 1993 Parliament of the World's Religions*



### Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions

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Major sponsors of the 2009 Parliament are:



**Australian Government**  
Department of Immigration  
and Citizenship



**The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions invites you to support its efforts to achieve a more just, peaceful and sustainable world.**

*In today's world, understanding people of different faiths is not optional – it is essential*

# SUPPORT





# HISTORY

The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions officially dates back to 1893, when the first World's Parliament of Religions was 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. The Council has held three such international Parliament events in the past fifteen years, and invites you to the Fifth Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne, Australia from December 3– 9, 2009.

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
- 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 to make a difference.

## Enrich the Council and the 2009 Parliament of The World's Religions

The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions relies on individuals, foundations, institutions, organizations and religious communities to enable the programs and ongoing work of the Council in its mission to help achieve a more just, peaceful and sustainable world.

Every donation helps the Council work towards attaining its mission. From supporting and connecting grassroots interreligious efforts in communities across the globe to hosting the world's largest interreligious gatherings, the Council is hard at work building bridges of understanding and cooperation.

### Support the 2009 Parliament:

- Enrich the program at the 2009 Parliament.
- Make the 2009 Parliament event available to an individual or a group who otherwise would not be able to attend.

### Support the Council's ongoing work and partnerships:

- Help the Partner Cities Network in promoting dialogue and harmony around the world.
- Build the Council's capacity to serve the Interreligious Movement.

*The 2009 Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne, Australia will be an occasion for individuals and communities of faith and spirit to join with people of goodwill in dialogue, visioning and commitment.*

*Your financial support makes this important work possible.*

## Ways to contribute

### Donate monthly

Make a steady commitment to the Council. Your monthly contribution will help sustain the work of the Council and Parliaments to come.

### Double your gift

Does your company have a matching gift program? Many companies support their employees' philanthropy by matching or even doubling the amount donated to a non-profit organization. If your company/ employer has such a program, attach a copy of the matching gift form with your donation and mail both to us.

### Gifts of stock

If you would like to donate appreciated stock to the Council, or would like more information on this form of giving, please email [info@parliamentofreligions.org](mailto:info@parliamentofreligions.org) or call 312-629-2990.

### Gifts in honor of an individual

Express your appreciation for someone special by giving a donation gift in celebration of their birthday, anniversary, Mother's Day, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, communion or other special occasion.

### Memorial gifts

Honor and remember the passing of a loved one. Giving a memorial gift is a beautiful way to honor a loved one.

For more information on these and other ways to contribute go to [www.parliamentofreligions.org](http://www.parliamentofreligions.org).

The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions is a registered 501(c)(3) U.S. tax-exempt organization. All contributions are tax-deductible up to the full extent of the law.

**YES! I will support the Council.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept this gift in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Options

Please charge my:  Visa  MC  Check enclosed  
Make checks payable to CPWR

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**These funds should be designated for:**

- Enrich the program at the 2009 Parliament
- Make the 2009 Parliament event available to an individual or a group who otherwise would not be able to attend
- Help the Partner Cities Network in promoting harmony in many of the world's metropolitan centers
- Build the Council's capacity to serve the Interreligious Movement

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