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CALL FOR CARUS AWARD NOMINATIONS PARLIAMENT OF WORLD'S RELIGIONS 2009

Chicago, Illinois, (October 16, 2009) – Recognizing the urgency for greater cooperation, respect and harmony among the world's religions, the Parliament of the World's Religions announces the **Paul Carus Award for Interreligious Understanding** to be awarded at the fourth modern Parliament in Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 3—9, 2009.

The Paul Carus Award seeks to honor outstanding work in the international interreligious movement and celebrate the efforts of an individual, community or organization that work effectively toward the creation of a more just, peaceful and sustainable world.

“We know of no honor which so powerfully symbolizes the significance of interreligious dialogue and understanding than the Paul Carus Award,” explains Dirk Ficca, Executive Director of the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions. “The Carus Award serves as both recognition of past achievement and inspiration for all who work toward more peaceful relations among the world's diverse spiritual communities.”

The Carus Award is given in memory of Dr. Paul Carus — scholar, writer, publisher and visionary — who played a central role in bringing together Eastern and Western religions and helped to organize the first historical Parliament of Religions in Chicago at the 1893 Columbian Exposition. The current work of the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions is a living testimony to his legacy.

The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions is now accepting nominations for the 2009 Carus Award. Nomination deadline is November 15, 2009. More information on the Award may be found online at <http://tinyurl.com/carusaward>.

The Paul Carus Award includes an honorarium of \$100,000 USD. Recipients may be an individual, community or organization, of any country with no restriction regarding race, gender, sexual orientation or religious affiliation. All necessary travel, accommodations and expenses incurred by the 2009 winner to travel to Melbourne to receive the Award will be paid in full by the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions.

