

15 August 2017 – for immediate release

Youth PoWR 'Light in Dark Times' *Sparking an Interfaith Movement of Hope*



Sunday 20 August 2017 from 2.00pm-5.00pm
Santa Sabina College, 90 The Boulevard, Strathfield

Youth PoWR (Parliament of the World's Religions) is a multi-faith initiative of the Columban Mission Institute, which will bring together hundreds of young people from diverse religions and spiritualities – Aboriginal, Baha'i, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism – and secular society to address the theme *Light in Dark Times*.

Youth PoWR is **by young people** – the members of the Coordinating Committee (The Cabinet) are young representatives from different religions; **with young people** – the speakers and performers are young people; **for young people** – the participants (The Honourable Members) will be young people from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds across Sydney.

Four speakers will address the central theme from their different religious perspectives:

Baha'i – Matin Gouniai, Australian Baha'i Community
Buddhist – Leonard Choy, Temple Youth Leader
Jewish – Rabbi Nicole Roberts, North Shore Temple Emanuel
Muslim – Amna Kara-Hasan, Australian Federal Police

The youth participants will engage with each other on the practical implications of that theme for civic society, for religious communities and for themselves and their peers. They will then vote on concrete proposals to make ours a more compassionate and just society.

The formal deliberations will be interspersed with cultural entertainment, expressing the same theme of compassion and justice in artistic form. Performers: Hope Uniting Band, Bharatanaatyam Indian Dance School and Sikh Martial Arts. Light refreshments will be served allowing greater social interaction over food and drinks.

Join us on Facebook to hear the voices of young people who will be participating in Youth PoWR:
<https://www.facebook.com/Youth.PoWR/>

There is no cost to participate in Youth PoWR 2017. Register at: <https://www.youthpowr.com/>

*Youth PoWR is an initiative of the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations.
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Media inquiries: Jane Favotto, Communications & Media Officer,
Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations tel 0428 802 004, jane.favotto@columban.org.au