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To Whom it may concern,

Re: 2016 World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize

This is a letter of reference for Helen Summers and The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne. Helen Summers studied at an Interfaith Seminary in New York and was ordained in the Cathedral of St John the Divine as an Interfaith Minister in 1997.

Reverend Helen discovered that there was little interfaith activity in Melbourne, Australia, when she returned from New York in 1998 and subsequently founded The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne.

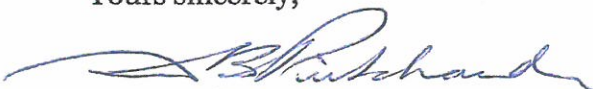
The Centre is a full-time educational and cultural non-profit organization, which develops programs to bring about greater understanding and respect between people of diverse faiths and no recognized faith. The work of Helen Summers and the members is unpaid - all work is voluntary.

The World Interfaith Harmony Week Luncheons have been planned and hosted by The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne for five years. I have been present on the previous two occasions at Queen's Hall, Parliament House, Victoria and witnessed the sincerity and dedication to interfaith understanding and appreciation demonstrated by speakers and participants alike.

This year's event was truly remarkable. Entitled "I'll dine with you" it was attended by 200 people of all faiths, nationalities and cultures who sat at one long table for dinner in a main Square in the heart of the City of Melbourne, witnessed by peak hour traffic and an enquiring public.

I am able to personally attest to the integrity, effort and effectiveness of Rev Helen Summers in continually facilitating creative events that encourage interfaith relations and commend her work to any to whom it may be of interest.

Yours sincerely,



(Rev) Alastair Pritchard
Ordained Minister of the Uniting Church in Australia.