

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EMO honors interfaith leader Salma Ahmad with “Two Pauls Award”

Salma Ahmad, president of the Islamic Society of Greater Portland (ISGP), will be honored with the “Two Pauls Award” on May 12, 2011, at the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) Annual Community Awards & Celebration Dinner. The award is presented in recognition of outstanding work in the ecumenical spirit of community service, dialogue and relationship building.

As a long-time resident of the Portland metro area, Ahmad has been very active in a number of organizations and programs designed to repair and strengthen relations among various ethnic, religious and social groups. Her work and service have helped to provide stability, peace and understanding among different communities. In 2009, she received the FBI’s “Director’s Community Leadership Award.” Since 2003, Ahmad has served as president of ISGP, the oldest official Muslim organization in Oregon. ISGP, an interfaith partner of EMO, aims to promote greater understanding among all Muslims in the greater Portland area, foster cordial relations between Muslims and non-Muslims, and promote the understanding of Islam among non-Muslims. Ahmad is also a founding member of the Bilal Mosque Association and member of Vision Action Network’s “Human Rights Council of Washington County.”

The EMO Annual Community Awards & Celebration Dinner will be held at the Hilton Hotel, 921 SW Sixth Ave., Portland. A reception and silent auction to benefit EMO’s ministries will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and the dinner and award presentations will begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person and tables for 10 are available for \$600. For more information, call Carla Starrett-Bigg at (503) 221-1054, ext. 275, or csbigg@emoregon.org.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon is a statewide association of Christian denominations—including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies—congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.

MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church ■ African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church ■ American Baptist Churches ■ Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ■ Christian Methodist Episcopal Church ■ Church of the Brethren
Community of Christ ■ Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon ■ Episcopal Diocese of Oregon ■ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ■ Greek Orthodox Church ■ Presbyterian Church (USA)
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) ■ Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland ■ United Church of Christ ■ United Methodist Church ■ Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches