

# Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders

TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATION FOR JUSTICE AND LIBERATION

## Invitation to Congress

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Friday 5 February 2016

Dear Colleagues

On behalf of the Leadership Forum, it is my great privilege to formally invite you to participate in the first International Congress for Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders. Our gathering will be held in Kolkata in the first week of October 2016, with a pre-Congress program the week before as part of the experience.

To our Congress we will welcome delegates from every part of the world where Edmund Rice Education makes a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of young people. We are one in mission in a global coalition of almost 300 schools educating over 200,000 young people. Our work has been enriched by the cultures in which the Brothers and others have laboured for generations. Each culture brings a particular insight into the power of this vision. How much richer will we become as we share beyond borders the insights and reality of that vision making a difference in so many different contexts!

Through our gathering, we answer our common call to grow the charism of Edmund Rice; to share the extraordinary riches that our differing cultures have brought to this charism over many generations and to take part in the formation of a new expression of the work of Edmund Rice education based on global partnership and solidarity. We proclaim that we can all be stronger by sharing our diverse and rich cultural insights into our common vision. We embrace and nurture our new identity as global partners; one community in mission united by a common purpose and heritage.

Core to the vision of Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders is our common vocation to proclaim education as liberation for all in our world, particularly those who are marginalised and disenfranchised; liberation and possibility for those who crave full participation in a world of 'haves and have nots'. Given this vision, it is extremely appropriate that we gather under the title 'Educating and Encountering Humanity'. Central to our Congress experience will be deep engagement not only with each other, but with richness and beauty of Indian culture and tradition, as well as the wonderful work of our schools in India.

Registration for the Congress will open in early March and be coordinated through your local EREBB Leadership Forum Member. Please visit [www.erebb.org/congress](http://www.erebb.org/congress) for further information.

Please keep our Congress intentions in your prayers and we look forward to potentially welcoming you to Kolkata.

With every best wish



**Dr Wayne Tinsey**

**Chair**

**Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders**