

News From The Dalai Lama Foundation —

October 2009

Periodically the Dalai Lama Foundation features an organization whose peaceful mission is aligned with ours.

Have a suggestion for a future organization that you would like to see featured? [Please let us know.](#)

Creative Commons

—Better ways to share for the common good

Sharing and creating for the common good are major goals of The Dalai Lama Foundation, and that's why most of the materials we create are offered under Creative Commons licenses.



The *commons* is an area in a human settlement that is used by everyone and “belongs” to no one individual. For example, there may be a fenced area in or near a town where individuals can graze their cows or goats. In the US there are historical examples, like [Boston Common](#)—where this was the practice in the 1600s.

The proper utilization of a *commons* is dependent on the goodwill and cooperation of all citizens — if one individual overuses the commons, then all will suffer. First described in 1968, this situation is called the [tragedy of the commons](#).] Proper use of a commons depends on cooperation, and mutual respect.

Creative Commons “CC” was founded in 2001 and is a nonprofit organization that works “to increase the amount of creativity (cultural, educational, and scientific content) in ‘the commons’—the body of work that is available to the public for free and

legal sharing, use, repurposing, and remixing.

CC provides free, easy-to-use legal tools that give everyone from individual creators to large companies and institutions a simple, standardized way to grant copyright permissions to their creative work. The CC licenses enable people to easily change their copyright terms from the default of ‘all rights reserved’ to ‘some rights reserved.’”

CC estimates that by the end of 2008, over 130 million documents had been published under Creative Commons licenses.

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ccLearn is a division of Creative Commons, that is dedicated to realizing the full potential of the internet to support open learning and open educational resources. ccLearn is developing brand new tools to integrate Creative Commons into open education.

Click the video box below to [view a description](#).



Creative Commons Continued

OK, so what does this mean you can do with Dalai Lama Foundation learning materials? Well...

- As long as you give “written” credit to the Foundation and/or other creators of the materials; and
- as long as you distribute them without making a profit (though you can recover the cost of printing or distribution); and
- you may modify the materials by adapting, adding to or streamlining them;
- as long as you also distribute the materials under the same CC terms;

We have one additional provision—you must contact us (and all other previous authors) so that we can also benefit from (and perhaps distribute) your modified work.

One exception to this is that our video segments do not contain the “you may modify” provision – you must use our video segments in their entirety without modification. This is because our videos are primarily interviews, and are “whole-istic” — it would not be fair to make video “quotes” outside the context of the entire interview.

Furthering Universal Peace

During the recent Vancouver Peace Summit, hosted by The Dalai Lama Center for Peace & Education in Vancouver, Canada, representatives of four organizations that carry the Dalai Lama's name (Foundation for Universal Responsibility, The Dalai Lama Foundation, The Dalai Lama Center for Peace & Education, The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics & Transformative Values) met to discuss ways to enhance our collaborative efforts in bringing forth educational initiatives in the areas of human values and interreligious harmony.

In organizations, real power and energy is generated through relationships. The patterns of relationships and the capacities to form them are more important than tasks, functions, roles, and positions. --Margaret Wheatley

For more information about each of these organizations, please visit their websites:

The Foundation for Universal Responsibility



The Dalai Lama Foundation



The Dalai Lama Center for Peace+Education



The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values



Let's Be Friends



Contact the Foundation by email at info@dalailamafoundation.org
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