

MAYORS FOR PEACE (https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/) (October 10, 2026)

* Founded: on June 24, 1982 at the 2nd UN Special Session on Disarmament held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

* An NGO (nongovernmental organization): headquartered in Hiroshima, Japan, in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

* Member cities/towns: 8,584 in 166 countries and regions / membership fee is 13 USD/year

* Member cities/towns in western Massachusetts (and year joined): Agawam (2006) / Chicopee (2007) / Deerfield (2026) / Easthampton (2005) / Fitchburg (2026) / Gill (2026) / Greenfield (2005) / Holyoke (2005) / Leverett (2005) / New Salem (2026) / North Adams (2007) / Northampton (2005) / Pelham (2026) / West Springfield (2007) / Whately (2026).

* Mission: The purposes of "Mayors for Peace" is to contribute to the attainment of lasting world peace by arousing concern among citizens of the world for the total abolition of nuclear weapons through close solidarity among member cities as well as by striving to solve vital problems for the human race such as starvation and poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation.

* How to join: https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/about-us/joins/
(Contact the New England Representative, below; share this link with your city's mayor or town's select board).

The Botanic Garden Project -- Growing Seeds from Survior (*Hibaku*) Trees

*Distribute and nurture seeds from atomic bomb survivor trees (*hibaku* tree): The Secretariat distributes seeds from *hibaku* trees, which stand in Hiroshima and Nagasaki as silent witnesses, to member cities. Our aim is to raise public peace consciousness through citizens, so we request member cities to plant them in places where many citizens frequent, and to encourage communities to participate in the nurturing of these trees as a symbol of peace: Pamphlet (12 page full color)

*How to apply (member cities/towns only): If a member city wants to receive seeds from *hibaku* trees and agrees to accommodate the requests above, please contact Bruce Stedman for assistance. (Please share this information with your city or town's mayor.)

*For more information contact: Bruce Stedman, Mayors for Peace, New England Representative. Amherst, MA / 301-602-3684 / brucestedman1@gmail.com