

“Peace is Possible”



**“Peace is possible... it can begin simply over a game of chess and a cup of tea.”
---Mattie J.T. Stepanek**

Peace Certification Program

www.MattieOnline.com

Message from Jeni Stepanek, Ph.D.

Executive Director,

Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation

Why does *Peace Certification* matter?

Peace Certification by the *Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation* makes a statement about your choices for peace as an individual or group.

Your participation and peace journey shows that you want to explore peace, and be an agent of lasting and good change for our world.

Peace Certification helps you move from "attitude to action" in peace for one's self, for groups, and for diverse communities of all sizes.

Who can become *Peace Certified*?

- ***Individuals, Families, and Small Book Groups*** -- parents and family members, educators, politicians, community and business leaders, clergy, school staff members, healthcare and childcare providers, and more...
- ***Groups and Communities of all sizes*** -- classrooms, schools, youth groups, scout groups, retirement groups, social clubs, businesses, non-profits, neighborhoods, cities, and more...

REFLECT: You choose to become a *Peace Seeker*.

- We share materials with you that support you in exploring and reflecting on Mattie's message of Heartsongs, hope, peace, and choice.
- You explore our *Peace Tips Guide* and one or more of Mattie's poems or books as an individual or community group.

RESPOND: You choose to become a *Peace Maker*.

- You shape that message and respond to it through your words and choices, as you create and carry out your own *Peace Plan* (a *Lesson, Activity, Attitude, and/or Action Plan*).
- We will provide feedback if requested as you create your *Peace Plan*. *Peace Plans* can be small or large in scope. They may include a bulletin board, a book discussion group, a community peace event, or even a fundraiser. Addition examples can be found in the *Peace Tips Guide*.

REACH OUT: You choose to become a *Peace Bringer*.

- Together, we show others your commitment to peace through our *Peace Certification* page celebrating your completed *Lesson, Activity, Attitude, or Action Peace Plan*, and your 'What Next?' statement.
- We encourage you to share your *Peace Plan* with local leaders and media.

Additional information:

Peace is not about a specific moment in time, but about our journey in life. Peace should be more than a project or a lesson plan or an event. Our *Peace Certification* program supports you in a peace journey — as a peace seeker, a peace maker, and a peace bringer.

My son, Mattie, believed that, “*Peace is possible, if we choose to make peace something that matters for all people in all spaces of the world.*” He also understood that while ending wars and bullying and violence is essential, peace begins within each of us when we can be ‘okay’ with who and how we are as a person. Peace is nurtured through our homes and our schools, and it is shaped through our experiences in the places we work and play and pray.

Like Mattie, I believe and celebrate that peace is possible, and I recognize that peace involves education. It requires reflection, and commitment, and kindness, and patience. Most of all, peace involves choices — personal choices and choices made with and for others. For peace to become real and lasting, it needs to become a way of thinking, and speaking, and doing, and being. Peace is rooted in what we say and do, but grows through who we are as individuals, and as people living together in one world.

Peace Certification – part of our *Pathways to Peace Program* — offers individuals, families, groups, and communities of people the opportunity to learn more about specific elements of Mattie’s message of hope and peace. It also provides you with materials and suggested activities that help you begin a peace journey that can last far beyond any class or meeting or dinner or event. And, we support you in celebrating peace through a personal connection to Mattie’s message, and through publicizing your endeavor and activities on our Foundation website.

An atmosphere of peace and kindness in classrooms and the community matters. ***Peace Certified*** people and communities become role models. By moving from “attitude to action” they educate children, teens, and adults in the important matter of personal choices that affect oneself, one’s neighbors, and one’s world.

Participating in our ***Peace Certification Program*** is a way to encourage peace as a deliberate and chosen way of thinking and speaking and acting. It can also help youth and adults understand how ***bullying interrupts peace***. Bullying is not just a youth issue; it is a reality that affects people of all ages.

Peace is for all people. And, peace *is* possible, if we choose to learn more about attitudes and habits that nurture peace, and if we choose to tend to the realities that foster peace, such as balancing the basic needs of all people. I encourage you to make a commitment, participate in this program, and make peace *your* choice.

**With hope and peace,
Jeni (aka “Mattie’s mom” & “Mama Peace”).**

For more information visit www.MattieOnline.com



We offer two program levels for Peace Certification:

Basic Program ---

\$50 per individual, family, or group

Enhanced Program ---

\$100 (families & small book clubs)

\$250 (small groups)

\$500 (large groups)



Peace Certification **BASIC Program** (\$50) for individuals, families, and groups includes:

- Our 24 page **Peace Tips Guide**
- Our 4-page **Peace Plan Guideline Form** to get you started on your plan
- Networking opportunities
- Support in developing your certification lesson or activity plan
- Peace Certification certificate
- Peace Certified badge for your website, Facebook, or social media page
- Your Peace Certification Journey shared on our website
- Discount on books and select *Pathways to Peace* materials
- Option of sponsoring a Gift Brick in Mattie's Peace Garden for only \$159

Peace Certification **ENHANCED Program**

for families & book clubs (\$100), small groups (\$250), and large groups (\$500) includes:

- Our 24 page **Peace Tips Guide**
- Our 4-page **Peace Plan Guideline Form** to get you started on your plan
- Networking opportunities
- Support in developing your certification lesson or activity plan
- Peace Certification certificate
- Peace Certified badge for your website, Facebook, or social media page
- Your Peace Certification Journey shared on our website
- Discount on books and select *Pathways to Peace* materials
- Option of sponsoring a Gift Brick in Mattie's Peace Garden for only \$159
- Families & Peace Clubs: choice of inspiration card, bookmark, or bumper sticker
- Small groups: choice of book -- *Heartsongs*, *Journey Through Heartsongs*, or *Messenger*
- Large groups: choice of two books -- *Heartsongs*, *Journey Through Heartsongs*, or *Messenger*
- **Peace Chat** with Jeni Stepanek and representative(s) of the group seeking Certification
 - Purpose: to support participants in understanding Mattie's message & certification journey
 - Logistics: usually with one or more group representatives who share information with others
 - Location: usually online but occasionally in-person or at Mattie's Park & Peace Garden

Learn more at www.MattieOnline.com ---- Sign up in our **Peace Shop**