



Hello! I'm a Kiwanis Doll

The Name “Kiwanis” was coined from a Native American expression, “Nunc Kee-wanis”, which means, “we build”. It is one of the three major service organizations. Since 1919, it is focusing on service – specifically service to children.

The first Kiwanis Club was established in Detroit, U.S.A. on January 21, 1915. Kiwanis Club of Tokyo was established on January 24, 1964 as the first Kiwanis Club in Asia-Pacific Region. As of October 2024, there are 41 Kiwanis Clubs with around 1,940 members in Japan. .



**The Japan District
of Kiwanis International**





What is a Kiwanis Doll?

A blank doll of 40cm in height and 50g in weight. The only thing it is wearing is a small label of the service organization, Kiwanis.

Still the doll supports and encourages children with illnesses. More than 120,000 dolls were donated to hospitals, etc. Kiwanis Dolls are all handmade.

History

1988	Born in Nunawading Club, Melbourne
1994	Spread in Europe
2001	Adopted as the First Lady Miki's project Arrived in Japan Exhibited at the International Volunteer Year Fair in Tokyo
2002	The first bunch of Kiwanis Dolls donated To St. Luke's Hospital in Tokyo
2003	Appeared in an NHK radio program
2005	Covered by a news paper "Yomiuri Shinbun" A TV program on Kiwanis Dolls broadcasted nationwide
2006	Exhibited at the Annual Meeting of the Japan Pediatric Society Trademark registration Exhibited at the Meeting of the Japanese Society of Child Health
2009	The 1 st Kiwanis Doll Symposium was held
2016	Name changed from Kiwanis Doll Symposium to Kiwanis Doll Festival
2019	Appeared in JK RADIO TOKYO UNITED on J-WAVE COME TOGETHER
2020	Over 100,000 dolls donated within Japan



How is it used?

① Doctor's demonstration

- With internal organs drawn, the doll can demonstrate what is happening inside the body.
- The doctor can show the procedure using the doll.

② Keeping Company

- The child can draw his/her favorite face (mother, him/herself, animation character, etc.) to keep company.



Where is it used? (as of March 31, 2022)

Mainly used in hospitals and nursing schools,
But used by healthy children such as in nursery schools as well.

