

Name:

Ami Aoyama

Office held:

District 76 PR Manager

Clubs:

Kichijoji, Mitaka Little Leaders (prospective)

Personal history and achievements inside or outside Toastmasters:

Ami Aoyama joined Toastmasters in Canada at age 18 when she was an international student at university. After she came back to Japan, she founded 16 Clubs in 10 years mainly in Tokyo, Kawasaki and Yokohama. Ami achieved the Distinguished Toastmasters award (DTM) at age 26. In her career life she works for the corporate communications at a Japanese securities firm. She is also a mother of two children.

**Message for prospective Toastmasters:**

“Believe or not, I was very bad at interpersonal communications, both with my classmates and teachers. I spent my whole childhood with the feelings of isolation and self-negation. However, at age 18 the moment has come; encountering Toastmasters in Canada.

Until that time I was not even given any opportunities to speak in public. I was impressed by the fact that everyone was entitled to make speeches equally at a Toastmasters Club regardless of skills, and the fact that I was able to receive a positive feedback from the members. Without Toastmasters I would not have worked for corporate communications, a job which requires interpersonal communications. Without it my family would not have been here either because I had been avoiding being with people before joining Toastmasters. It is no exaggeration that Toastmasters has changed my life :)

I chose to take the position of PR Manager this term because I really would like as many people in Japan as possible to know that Toastmasters is here as an available choice for them. Seeing is believing. If you are reading this page and are interested, I would recommend visiting a Club meeting – you never know what comes next!