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To all media organizations

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Toastmasters International District 76 2013 Speaker of the Year Award goes to Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara

Tokyo, JAPAN : Toastmasters International District 76 (Representative: Kiichiro Ohmi) presented 2013 Speaker of the Year Award (official name: Communication and Leadership Award) to Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara, a doctor and Honorary President and Chairman of St. Luke's International Hospital. The video of the awarding ceremony will be shown to the public on November 16th in the Toastmasters International District 76 All Japan Fall Conference in Fukuoka city.

Toastmasters International District 76 presented 2013 Speaker of the Year Award to Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara, a doctor and Honorary President and Chairman of St. Luke's International Hospital. He was awarded not only for his achievement in the medical field, but also for his significant contribution to increasing people's awareness of health through public speaking and writing, and for exercising a great leadership.

The awarding ceremony was held at St. Luke's International Hospital. Its video will be shown on Saturday, November 16 in Toastmasters International District 76 All Japan Fall Conference at the Papillon 24 Gas Hall in Fukuoka city. Anyone can join the conference and it costs 1,000 yen for non-Toastmasters members. Reception and keynote lecture start at 13:30 on November 16th, the Japanese Speech Contest starts at 15:30 and the awarding ceremony of Speaker of the Year award begins 16:30.

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit educational organization which trains members' communication and leadership skills through public speaking. It has 290,000 members in 122 countries. The Speaker of the Year Award is given by Toastmasters Japan, the District 76 of Toastmasters International.



About Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. Founded in California in 1924, the organization currently has more than 290,000 members in 144 countries. In Japan, the first club was founded in Tokyo in 1954. Nowadays there are 144 clubs and about 4,000 members attend the club meetings. The governor of Toastmasters Japan is Kiichiro Ohmi.

Toastmasters International Website: <http://www.toastmasters.org/>

Speaker of the Year Award (official name: Communication and Leadership Award)

Speaker of the Year Award is the supreme award presented by Toastmasters Japan to a non-Toastmasters member. The award honors an outstanding leader and/or communicator who gives a positive influence to the society or the group through public speaking and contributes to the Japanese society. Another purpose for giving this award is to publicize the award winner.

The award was created in 2012 and first presented to Dr. Donald Keene, a scholar of Japanese literature and a professor emeritus at Columbia University.

About the first Speaker of the Year Award: <http://www.district76.org/ja/media/press/20121026.html>

About Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara

Dr. Hinohara graduated from the Medical School of Kyoto Imperial University in 1937, and completed its master course in medicine. In 1941, he joined St. Luke's International Hospital as a doctor of internal medicine. He later served as head of the Internal Medicine Department, and then hospital director. The doctor made great efforts to train health-care professionals and raise their awareness. He also promoted a new lifestyle for the aging society and increased people's awareness about health. He received the Order of the Secret Treasure, Gold and Silver Star in 1993, and the Order of Culture in 2005. He is presently Chairman of St. Luke's International Medical Center and Honorary Director of St. Luke's International Hospital.

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