

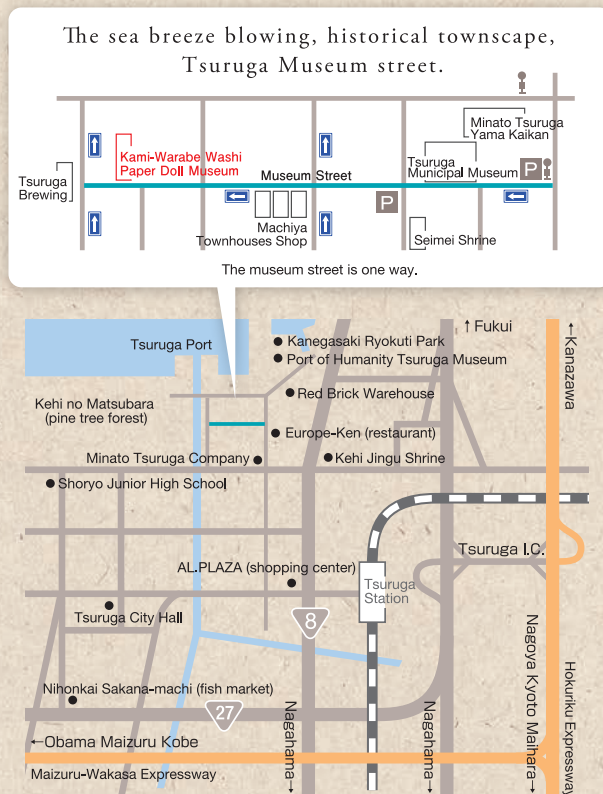
My thoughts on Kami-Warabe

I have been attracted to Japanese washi paper since I was young. It might be fate from my childhood that you can see my works now. I lived in the peaceful era of early Showa and went through the turbulent era during the war and the post-war, and I started making Kami-Warabe paper dolls as my children entered elementary school. Without me noticing, I was creating a unprecedented world of Kami-Warabe paper dolls, and it was a process of trial and error, but I created Kami-Warabe paper dolls that made use of the unique characteristics of washi paper. There are no eyes on the dolls' body, and I thought it would be better to have no facial expressions so that viewers can imagine their emotions vividly just by their physical expressions. Even if the finish is not satisfactory, at least you can feel the liveliness of the figures by their physical expressions. I also made effort to create small animals like dogs and cats. As a person who has lived through both the war and post-war eras, I have been expressing the preciousness of peace and life with Kami-Warabe over half a century. I'll be very grateful if you could feel empathy towards my wish for peace through my Kami-Warabe figures.



Eiko Takagi

born in 1922 (Taisho 11th), Eiko Takagi invented a creative Japanese paper doll without facial expressions. She lectured at the NHK Cultural Center and has appeared on TV programs like "Fujin Hyakka" and "Oshare Kobo" several times. Furthermore, she holds exhibitions at famous department stores throughout the country such as "Matsuya Ginza" and "Kyoto Daimaru". She continues to carry on with her creative activities.



[Access]

Take the Gurutto Tsuruga Shuyu Bus from JR Tsuruga Station to Yama Kaikan

Take the Community bus Kaigan-sen or Shigaichi-Junkan-sen from JR Tsuruga Station to Yama Kaikan

[Note]

Both smoking and photography are prohibited in the museum. Eating and drinking are also not allowed.

Kami-Warabe Washi Paper Doll Museum

13-14 Aioi-cho, Tsuruga City, Fukui Prefecture, TEL: +81-770-37-1150

Hours 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[closes at 4:00 p.m. from November to March]

Admission fee Adults: ¥200 [for groups of 20 or more, ¥150 each]

Children: [elementary school students and under] FREE

Closed Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and new year holidays
[open on national holidays]

[Management Office] Minato Tsuruga Co., Ltd. TEL. 0770-20-0015

Kami-Warabe Washi Paper Doll Museum





The world of Kami-Warabe in a traditional atmosphere

The world of Kami-Warabe is expressed vividly in sceneries of old fashioned traditional children's play with seasonal nature features, and in settings of old stories that have been handed down. The Kami-Warabe paper dolls created by Mrs. Eiko Takagi have no face; however, the children's singing, cheers, and even the conversation among them can be heard. The work is reminiscent of the original landscape of Japan and will soothe the viewers' soul with nostalgia and kindness.



Kami-Warabe Washi Paper Doll Museum

As one of the "Machiya" traditional wooden townhouses revitalization projects, we renovated a part of the private house facing the museum street that preserves the vestiges of old days in Tsuruga, and opened it in 2005 (Heisei 17th) as Kami-Warabe Washi Paper Doll museum. We are excited to offer you the chance to enjoy looking at the world of Kami-Warabe in a traditional atmosphere.