

MYONICHIKAN

A symbol of the Jiyu Gakuen tradition



A Brief History of the Myonichikan

In April 1921, husband and wife Yoshikazu and Motoko Hani established Jiyu Gakuen in Mejiro (in today's Nishi-Ikebukuro, Toshima Ward area). At that time, the famous American architect Frank Lloyd Wright was in Japan to build the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, and the couple asked him to design the school building that would embody the educational philosophy of their school.

The school was later to be relocated to a larger campus in Higashi-kurume City. The Mejiro school building (built by Wright) was named Myonichikan (Hall for Tomorrow) and was used by female graduates for a variety of activities.

In 1997, it was designated an Important Cultural Property by the Government of Japan and was refurbished so that it could be preserved as a cultural property and at the same time used by the school. It is currently used by graduates for various activities and is open to the public for tours and as a place for public lectures, concerts, and meetings.



Second floor dining room



First floor hall