

KEY CLUB®

History timeline

- 1925: The first Key Club meets, at Sacramento High School in California.
- 1939: Florida association forms, becoming the first Key Club district.
- 1943: Key Club movement achieves “International” designation. Delegates to the first Key Club convention formally vote to form the International Association of Key Clubs, electing Malcolm Lewis the first president.
- 1946: In New Orleans, Louisiana, 250 delegates to the 3rd annual Key Club International Convention adopt a new constitution and bylaws. Major Emphasis Program “Children: Their Future, Our Focus” is developed.
- May 1946: The first issue of the Keynoter magazine is published.
- December 1946: The first Key Club in Canada is formed, at Riverside Continuation School, Windsor, Ontario.
- September 1950: The first Key Club Week is observed.
- December 1952: The 1,000th club is chartered.
- 1956: In Washington, D.C., the 14th annual convention in features a “boyish popular” U.S. Senator John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts. When the future U.S. president enters the convention hall, delegates storm him with banners bearing his state’s name.
- May 1967: The first Key Club outside the United States and Canada is chartered, at Government High School, Nassau, Bahamas.
- 1968: 2,610 members attend the international convention.
- 1977: Female students are admitted into Key Club membership.
- 1987: Kiwanis allows female membership.
- 1991: The first female member is elected Key Club International president.
- 1992: Key Club’s membership reaches 146,972 members in 4,013 clubs in 17 nations.
- 1997: Key Club launches its first Web site.
- October 1998: Key Clubs raise more than \$1.2 million for UNICEF to fight iodine deficiency disorders (IDD).
- 1998: The first Key Club strategic plan is developed.
- 1999: Membership tops the 200,000 mark.
- 2000: Key Club celebrates its 75th anniversary.
- 2005: Key Club’s membership reaches 243,422 members and 225 new clubs are chartered.
- 2008: Key Club members raise more than \$1.3 million to fight HIV/AIDS in Swaziland.
- October 2008: Key Club exists in 28 countries, with membership of 244,175 in 4,930 clubs.