

Crafts for the Fourth of July!

Doll MAG

July/August 2014

learn our top
stop-motion
animation tips

*Nautical
picks for
vacation
wear*

KANANI: An
exclusive
interview!

PLUS!
It's Doll Mag's
third birthday
celebration!





Kanani nails the beach-y vibe in this portrait done of her by Sarah Davis. Read all about her on page 9!

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Contest

Meet a Reader: Meghan and Kaya

Each month, we ask our readers to answer a set of questions for their doll for the chance to be featured in the upcoming issue. This month's winner is Meghan and her doll, Kaya!

DM: What are three words to describe yourself?
K: Adventurous, brave, and a tomboy!

DM: What is your dream job?
K: To be an architect.

DM: How do you celebrate your birthday?
K: My owner {Meghan} throws a huge party; all of my doll friends are invited too!

DM: What is your favorite piece of advice?
K: Never let anyone tell you who you have to be.

Letter From the

Editors

Doll Mag July/August 2014 Volume 4, Issue 1

Editors: Bella and Lulu
In-Field Reporter: Lulu
Art Director: Bella
Communications
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Special thanks to...
Interviewee Anjanette

Want to contribute?
Please contact us
thedollmag@gmail.com

On the Cover

Isabella and Coconut show their Fourth of July spirit in coordinating nautical outfits. Isabella is wearing the Beachside Outfit and Coconut is spotting pieces from the Beachside Accessories, both released in 2003.

Love the Earth!

 Read this online instead of printing it out.

Unlimited access to books, Lulu, and a notebook with colorful pens to write with.

-Bella, Co-Editor-in-Chief

My beloved stuffed animal, Mimi, an escape yacht, and Bella.

-Lulu, Co-Editor-in-Chief

Dear Readers,

Doll Mag is celebrating a big milestone this summer – **our third birthday!** From our very first issue {which may or may not be buried deep in the archives of Lulu's blog} to the one you're reading right now, the two of us can't believe how far Doll Mag has come since 2011. To celebrate, here are three of the biggest lessons we've learned along the way...

- 1. Doll fans are very supportive.** More often than not, we've found that people who love dolls are incredibly friendly and oh-so kind! In other words? We're talking about you! ☺
- 2. Not everything goes as planned.** We could list all of the times we have had to change an article last minute {i.e. the day of the deadline}, but it all comes down to going with the flow.
- 3. Creative differences can be good.** We certainly don't agree on everything, but at the end of the day, both of us have something to learn from each other!

Have an amazing summer!

xo,
Bella and **Lulu** ☺

If you were stuck on a
DESERT ISLAND,
what would you want with
you {not including survival
necessities, of course!}?

NEXT ISSUE'S QUESTION: What is your typical brown-bag lunch?

Bella's blog >> chicandpetite.wordpress.com | Lulu's blog >> theawesomeadventuresoflulu.wordpress.com
Email >> dollmagblog@gmail.com | Site >> thedollmag.wordpress.com | Pinterest >> <http://www.pinterest.com/dollmag/>

A reminder that Doll Mag is in no way affiliated with any of the companies mentioned, including but not limited to Mattel, American Girl, and Etsy.

BITS & Pieces

A peek behind the scenes in the doll and Doll Mag world!

doll mag birthdays this issue

- AG doll Kaya / Summer
- Doll Mag Model Sienna / July 17th
- Doll Mag Model Isabella / July 24th
- Editor Bella / July 24th
- Doll Mag Model Gwen / July 25th

- Doll Mag Model Bri / August 9th
- Doll Mag Model Ruthie / August 22nd



FUN FIND OF THE MONTH!

Are you celebrating a birthday this summer too? Party planning and décor will be a breeze with this downloadable collection from Libby Lane Press - just print, cut, and go!

American Girl Doll Inspired Birthday Party Collection; \$45 from Libby Lane Press on Etsy

Celebrate Online!

The birthday fun doesn't stop in this issue; continue to check back on the Doll Mag website for even more garden party festivities. Hope to see you there!



Shop Owner Spotlight

Shop Owner: Anjanette // Shop: Love Ellie Bean {Etsy}

How do you come up with the ideas for your pieces?

Usually, I find fabric I love first and wait for the fabric to "tell me" what to make. That sounds so mystical, but what I really mean is this: different fabrics lend themselves to different types of clothing pieces by their color, drape, weight, texture, etc., so I really try to make things that suit the fabrics that I have fallen in love with.

What are your favorite color combinations?

I adore light pink, so most of the fabric I buy is either pink or [a color that] goes well with it. Pink goes so well with brown, light blue, lavender, light green, black... see? It's hard to branch out when I've found such a winner starting color!



Heat Busters

It's summertime! Even though it's hot, your doll doesn't have to be left inside all day. Follow our helpful tips and use our sweet styles to keep her safe and looking great! By Lulu; designed by Bella. Clipart from Melonheadz.

Hot Weather Tips

Keep Away from the Heat.

You should **keep heated hair products** {i.e. straighteners, curling irons, hair dryers, etc.} away from your doll. Her hair is different than yours, and it won't go back to its natural style after you add heat. Water is the best way to keep your doll's hair from getting tangled!

The Sun Burns Dolls Too.

We love bringing our dolls on road trips in the car, but we're also **careful to avoid putting them in too much sun**. If you leave them in the car for too long on a hot summer day, the poor doll could be left with serious frizzy hair and softened vinyl {No worries though - it won't melt!}.

No Oil!

Sure we ALL want to share with our dolls, but **using oil based make-up on her could lead to disastrous results!** The color from the makeup will be absorbed by her vinyl, and she'll be stained. The same goes for hair brushes; the oil from your hair could make your doll's hair fall out, so keep the brushes to yourselves.

Don't Forget.

If your doll is in need of some **professional TLC**, you can send her to AG's doll hospital or ask an adult for help!

Doll Eyes and Water are a "No."

As much fun as it is to bring your doll to the beach, **make sure you have her eyes covered with "sunglasses" or a towel whenever you're really close to water**. If it gets in your doll's eyes, they could get damaged or get stuck in one position!



Turn the page for some summer friendly styles!

Hot Weather Styles

Messy Top Knot

- First, pull your doll's hair into a ponytail on the top of her head.
- Twist your doll's hair into a bun, and secure with elastics.
 - Pin down any stray hairs or use a damp washcloth.



French Braid Twist

- Start by French braiding half of your doll's head until you reach the end. Secure with an elastic.
- Repeat on the other side.
- Twist the two braids together and tie off with an elastic.



Braided Loop Bun

- Start by twisting your doll's hair into two pigtails.
- Braid each pigtail.
- Tie off the ends of the two braids together with an elastic.
- Pin the attached braids to the top of your doll's head.
- Secure any loose hair with water or bobby pins.



MAKE THE *net*

- Start by cutting two pieces of netting a few inches longer than your desired width.
- Cut two dowels about 28 inches tall.
- Loop the end of one piece of netting around a dowel and secure with glue.
- Repeat with the other dowel.
- Do the same with the other piece of netting.



MAKE THE *ball*

- To start, you'll need a Styrofoam ball or a small sports ball, such as a tennis ball.
- Cut strips of white felt of all different lengths.
- Glue the strips across the ball using hot glue or craft glue, letting each strip dry before applying the next.

bump SET SPIKE!

What's a better way to spend a summer afternoon than a match of volleyball? Easily adaptable, these crafts will have your doll a volleyball star in no time.

food for the FOURTH

Cookouts are an essential part of summer, so let your doll join in on the fun. Whip up these festive dishes to celebrate the Fourth of July!

Written and photographed by Bella.

tasty COLESLAW

1. Measure your "serving dish," and cut thick white craft foam to fit inside. Test and adjust as needed.
2. Cut out thin one to two centimeter long pieces of green, orange, and yellow tissue paper.
3. Spread a layer of hot glue or craft glue on the foam and put down the tissue paper pieces. Add glue and more tissue papers for a layered effect.
4. Cut out small squares of purple felt and dab hot glue on them. Add to dish.



flag CAKE

1. Cut out a 3.25 by 4.5 inch rectangle from tan craft foam. Cut out two 0.75 by 4.5 and two 0.75 by 3.25 inch rectangles from the foam for the border.
2. Cut out a 1.5 inch square from blue craft foam. For the stripes, cut out two red and two white rectangles {about 0.5 by 3 inches} and two red and one white rectangles {about 0.5 by 4.5 inches} from respective foam.
3. Arrange blue square and stripes on the largest rectangle. Glue.
4. For the stars, glue down a grid of mini white pom-poms on the blue square.
5. Use hot glue to stick together the border and the top of the cake.
6. Finally, glue white yarn around the edge of the top for frosting.

classic BURGER

1. Cut out four 1 and 5/8 inch wide circles of tan felt.
2. On one circle, use light beige thread to sew "seeds" on the bun.
3. Take another circle, and use tan thread to sew the two circles together, adding cotton stuffing before finishing the knot. Repeat with the other circles.
4. For the burger, cut out two matching circles with wavy borders on brown sticky felt. Stick them together.
5. Make desired toppings from other colors of foam and felt. Use hot glue to assemble burger.





SAY ALOHA

AG's ultimate summer-lovin' girl, Kanani, is just as cool as she seems from afar. We got all the details when interviewing her; here's what she had to say about her home, family, and friends!

By Lulu · Photo from blog, Talking with Tami

DM: Kanani, we know you love your home of the Hawaiian island, Kaua'i. What's your life like there?

Kanani: I love how beautiful everything is on the island! I'm extra passionate about the wildlife, and I've been working hard to help protect the Hawaiian Monk Seal. I also love all the beaches, especially because I get to practice my paddle boarding whenever I want!

DM: It's clear to us that you value your family. What's your relationship like with them?

Kanani: We're very close, and we try to reconnect at our family reunions. My cousin Rachel comes to visit often; although she felt a little homesick on her first visit, by the end of the summer, we had many fun adventures to remember! She and I always manage to have plenty of fun.

DM: We've heard that you help out at your family's shaved ice shop - what's that like?

Kanani: It's not always fun, but I love to come up with new combinations of flavors. Just giving a customer an extra tasty cone of shaved ice can brighten your day!

DM: What's something extra special about living in Hawaii?

Kanani: There are SO many things I could say, but I think it's awesome how every one is welcoming and caring. You might be invited to join in a luau even when you're just walking by!

LEARN SOME HAWAIIAN

- Aloha / Hello, good-bye, and love.
- Luau / A celebration with foods, music, and dancing.
- 'Ohana / Family

DM: Thank you so much, Kanani! Any parting words for our readers?

Kanani: Have an amazing summer, and start each day with the aloha spirit!

Those are words of wisdom we're sure to follow this summer!



Swimsuits from Etsy shop, Lori Liz Girls
and Dolls

stylish in the SUN

Don't let the hot weather beat you down! It's easy to stay stylish even on the warmest of days at the beach. Just follow our tips and rock a smile to glow in the summer sun!

BY BELLA AND LULU; PHOTOS FROM RESPECTIVE SHOP OWNERS

for the VERSATILE DOLL



This swimsuit is perfect for the girl that *always* wants to change up her look! The one-piece, headband/shawl, and swim skirt provide endless possibilities for summer fun.

\$16.95 / FROM THE ETSY SHOP, LINNY ROSE.

A swimsuit with these attention grabbing stripes needs nothing else but sandals to ensure the perfect day at the beach.

From the Crafty Sewing Bee



for the CHIC CUTIE

Any style-loving doll will appreciate the gorgeous ruffle detail on this swimsuit. Simple, yet classic, this set also comes with a towel to use after a day at the beach!

\$18.00 / FROM THE ETSY SHOP, MENA BELLA.

Your doll will look nothing less than fashionable when you pair this swimsuit with tortoise sunglasses. An easy, and relatively cheap, update!



From American Girl

for the **GIRLY GIRL**

What girly girl wouldn't love an abundance of ruffles, flowers, and bows? Combined with its bright jewel tones, it's easy to imagine your doll lying on the beach in this cute bathing suit.

\$17.50 / FROM THE ETSY SHOP, WEELINE.

Clearly, with a suit this fun, all that's needed is a tote bag to hold your doll's beach essentials! Easily whip one up with this instant download.

From Daydream Doll Boutique

for the **BARGAIN HUNTER**

When your budget is small, finding an affordable {and cute!} swimsuit can be hard. Not to worry, though, shops like Peanut Butter Blossom, have bathing suits for under ten dollars. Frugal fun for the win.

NO LONGER AVAILABLE; SIMILAR SUITS ARE \$6.00 / FROM THE ETSY SHOP, PEANUT BUTTER BLOSSOM.

If you have more money to spare, an adorable cover-up could be a worthwhile investment. Bonus points if it has added details, like a ruffled neckline!

From Twirly Doll Design



for the COLOR LOVER

What could be better for a doll that adores color than this eye-catching suit! From the neon rainbows to the bright stars, patterns such as these are an easy way to bring more color to the pool.

\$12.00 / FROM THE ETSY SHOP, NAYA'S DESIGN.

When picking out sandals to go with such a busy swimsuit, it's best to pick out one color and use that as a guide {like this deep purple}.

From Lorelie Creations



for the JETSETTER

Finally, for a doll that travels all summer, it would be wise to choose a swimsuit that is classic, like this one with a simple pattern. No matter where she is, she'll be the most stylish swimmer there!

**\$9.00 / FROM THE ETSY SHOP,
BELLA AND HOOT.**

If your doll needs to cover up, a trendy maxi dress is the way to go. Our advice? Stick to the same color palette to ensure total beach bliss.

From Circle C Sewing



what amusement PARK RIDE are you?

1. It's the hottest day of the summer! What are you doing to stay cool?
 - a) Grabbing a cone with your fave flavor.
 - b) Heading to the pool with your BFFLs.
 - c) Sliding across a slip and slide.

2. Your summer style consists of...
 - a) A cute graphic tee, shorts, and flip-flops.
 - b) Bright and loose sundresses with matching sunglasses.
 - c) You like to change it up - your closet is stuffed with a variety of styles!

3. Your ideal summer treats are...
 - a) S'mores - a classic.
 - b) Milkshakes - you just love to have them with friends.
 - c) Popsicles - there's so many flavors!

4. The thing you're looking forward to most this summer is...
 - a) Getting to read the giant stack of books and magazines by your bed.
 - b) Hanging out with your buds! Since school's out, there's plenty of time.
 - c) Crossing things off your list of new things to try.

5. Your family's heading to the beach! You can't wait to...
 - a) Build the best sandcastle ever and relax in the sun.
 - b) Race across the waves.
 - c) Jump off the deep dock for the first time.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY
DOLL MAG!



MAKE IT move

Your dolls can come to life in stop-motion animation movies! With our easy step-by-step guide, you too can become a stop-motion expert.

BY LULU / MODELED BY THE EVER AFTER HIGH DOLLS



Step 1: Plan

We started our summer movie by planning the many elements involved! First, you will want to figure out a theme. Obviously, we ended up with summer, but there's plenty of options! {Think of hobbies, holidays, books, and movies for inspiration}.

Next we chose our models: Lulu's collection of Ever After High Dolls! We prefer smaller dolls with more articulation because it makes the movements look more realistic. It was now time to get to work!



Step 2: costumes

Once we had a plan set, we made costumes for our stars. For this video, we made outfits that match each other; they also add to the theme. Along with the additions of ribbon, sparkles, and lots of other fun craft supplies, these costumes allow our video stars to shine. Don't forget the fun hairstyles!

If you make an animation, we would love to see it! Email us at dollmagblog@gmail.com.

step 3: sets



To finish off the design of your animation, add a great set! It can be as simple as a background of bright scrapbook paper or as complicated as an abundance of accessories and toys. Make sure you test out your set with the height of your camera to ensure no important details are left out while filming.



Step 4: filming

Animation movies are just a series of pictures. If you want a doll to be waving, move her hand a little, snap a picture, move it a little again, take another picture, and so on. For our animation, we used lots of hand movements and spins to show off the cute costumes. Make sure you keep the camera grounded on a tri-pod or a cardboard box!



Step 5: put it together

Make the pictures into a video using a computer program or app like iMovie. If you don't have access to one of those, you can use Power Point as well {It's our option for everything}. Don't forget to top it all off with some cool tunes!



see the finished video
on our blog, as part of
our month long b-day
celebration!



SHIP shape

Summer is the perfect time to try out one of our favorite trends: nautical! From stripes to anchors, there's no doubt you'll be rocking the boating look this summer.



Nautical Blue Anchors Skirt

Wendy's Whimzies {Etsy}

Sailor Dress with Detachable Collar

Gomunk Creations {Etsy}



Striped Sailor Hat
Naya's Designs {Etsy}



Blue Bubble Dress

Sew Like Betty {Etsy}



Navy Blue and Polka Dot Flats

Starabella Doll Design {Etsy}



Blooming Nautical T-Shirt

Sew Fun Doll Clothes {Etsy}



Learn how to make this photo archway on the next page!

A Dollightful BIRTHDAY

Doll Mag's birthday would be nothing without a proper celebration! Your votes determined our birthday party theme – Secret Garden; here's the final result.

By Bella and Lulu. Modeled by Cece, Gabby, Josie, Hannah, Ruthie, Sally, and Isabella



MAKE THE skirts

Start by cutting a piece of ribbon long enough to be tied around your doll's waist. Attach a fake flower to the ribbon with hot glue or fabric glue. Cut a strip of tulle that is about 8 inches long and tightly tie it onto the ribbon. Keep tying strips of tulle close to each other until you've covered the entire length of the ribbon. Tie it onto your doll like an apron.

MAKE THE archway

Learn how to make *tissue paper flowers* later this month on the Doll Mag blog!

Begin by cutting two fifty inch long pieces of floral wire {please use caution and have an adult around to help!}. Bend them in identical archway shapes. Connect them using short pieces of stem wire, again using adult assistance as needed. Tie the two wires together at the bottom with ribbon. For stability, place the wires in small jars so that they can stand. To decorate the archway, use pipe cleaners to attach tissue paper flowers to the top.

MAKE THE goodie bags

Make labels for each invited guest and glue them to small gift bags. Add decorations, such as flower stickers. Finish off by stuffing the bag with tissue paper and plenty of goodies.



DOLL FUN AND GAMES

Long road trips are always better with an issue of *Doll Mag* in hand! You'll be at your destination in no time when you have fun with these activities.

By Lulu / Pictures from American Girl Wiki



1. Kailey Hopkins



2. Jess McConnell



3. Lanie Holland



4. Nicki Fleming



5. Mia St. Claire

Can you match up each former Girl Of The Year with her fun fact?

A. Has a best friend named Tess

B. Has three older brothers

C. Is an animal lover and skier

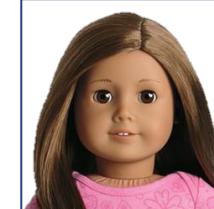
D. Plays guitar and loves soccer

E. Lives in Massachusetts

ANSWERS:
1A, 2D, 3E,
4C, 5B



These AG-themed cards are the perfect size to bring on a long car trip, but are still packed with plenty of fun for you and your doll!



TO MAKE/PLAY: Print and cut out the cards, and put them in scrambled rows upside down to play Memory.

GREETINGS

from

Whether you're traveling around the world this summer or simply taking a "staycation," bring some international flair home with these gorgeous dolls whose companies are based in other countries.

THE UK A Girl for All Time

Fans of the AG historical dolls, listen up: A Girl For All Time is another great doll line that takes the doll-owners on a trip through history! Their characters, Matilda, Amelia, and Clementine, follow the adventures of a single family throughout three different generations. Besides the adorable dolls, there are novels to add more details to the stories, set in places and times like King Henry VIII's court, the Victorian Era, and even World War 2. We'll be keeping our eyes on these cuties!



SPAIN Paola Reina

There's a huge array of these adorable Spanish dolls! From babies and toddlers to fairies and princesses, these dolls are simply gorgeous. Every one of the Paola Reina dolls are made in Spain, using only European materials, so they're not only packed with play, but unique qualities too! They all have hand-painted faces and carefully thought-out outfits. Really, what else could you ask for?

In the September/October issue of

Doll Mag...



TOP OF THE CLASS

Back-to-school shopping for your doll will be easy-peasy with our tee-shirt finds.



Smooth Sailing

Caroline Abbott may be the newest historical in the AG family, but she has still won the hearts of doll fans everywhere! Read our exclusive interview with this cutie.



together forever

Many questions have been raised about AG's revamp of the historical line. Get all of the facts straight in our article.

Double Dutch

Nope, not jump roping! Master the art of the Dutch braid just in time for the first day of school – then try even more complicated styles!

