



150



**150 YEARS OF THE
FACULTY OF PRIMARY
AND PRESCHOOL
EDUCATION (TÓK)**

A WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

"Instead of finding pleasure in making orders and laying down restrictions, give children the freedom to act."

(Mrs. Pál Veres)



Dear Friends and Students,

Thank you for honoring the Faculty of Primary and Preschool Education (TÓK) with your attention as we celebrate our institution's 150th anniversary.

As the first state-sponsored teachers' college to provide instruction in early education, TÓK dedicated itself to this task in 1869 following a landmark public education law championed by Hungary's first Minister of Education, József Eötvös (1813–1871). As befits a flagship institution, TÓK has always remained true to its original mission throughout our nation's turbulent history. Since 2000, we have continued to preserve our past as an independent faculty of Eötvös Loránd University.

In 1968 TÓK expanded its profile in Primary Education to include training in Preschool Education; in 2010 we broadened our program even further by offering a BA degree in Early Childhood and Infant Education. Our students can therefore immerse themselves in the best methods for instructing and caring for children from infancy to sixth grade.

For the past 150 years our programs have evolved to reflect the demands of a changing society while also striving to develop an academic network that extends throughout the field of Childhood Education in both Hungary and abroad, from our neighboring countries to more far-flung international institutions. We take great pride in ensuring that every aspect of our training programs in continuing education contributes to the dissemination of the latest research methods.

Our highly respected traditions seamlessly accommodate our modern techniques: the Faculty's aim is to encourage the kind of playful attitude and openness toward others that day cares, pre-schools and primary schools expect in the 21st century. An atmosphere of curiosity and receptivity toward science and the arts characterizes our Faculty, as is shown by the richness of our degree programs: 2017 marked the addition of a specialization in Visual Arts and Culture to the many fields from which our students can choose.

Thanks to the broad array of activities led by our staff and lecturers, our students can develop their talents in student circles, our Faculty choir, the Musical Stage Program or in any of the other artistic, literary, theatrical and athletic programs that enrich life at TÓK. The Student Council plays a decisive role in organizing events at our institution; a brief summary of the events held at our Faculty can be found in this publication.

Eötvös Loránd University's Faculty of Primary and Preschool Education welcomes all who wish to benefit from the long-established traditions and innovative spirit that make studying at TÓK a unique experience. Our door remains open to students eager to participate in our rigorous academic work and research while enjoying the quality student life found at Eötvös Loránd University.

DR. ÉVA MÁRKUS

Dean

A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR PROGRAMS

In compliance with the law mandating the integration of upper education institutions, the College of Primary and Preschool Education's campus joined forces with Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) on January 1, 2000. Since 2009, our institution has operated as the Faculty of Primary and Preschool Education. Integrating into ELTE was preceded by numerous events that determine our programs even today.

• FIRST STEPS IN TEACHERS' TRAINING

Our 150-year-old history began with the 1868 Law of Public Education which ratified the establishment of teachers' training programs. The first of its kind in Hungary, the Teachers' Training Course opened its doors in the autumn of 1869 and offered a three-year, intermediate-level training program for male public school teachers. Soon afterward a state-sponsored teachers' training program was established for the instruction of female public school teachers. The first advanced level, three-year course in teachers' training began in the autumn of 1959. As of 1975, future educators received their diploma upon completing a three-year course in college-level studies: from this point on our institution was known as the Budapest Teachers' Training College. The next significant change to our program occurred in 1995, when our directors and lecturers led the way in creating a general, four-year course in primary education that spanned a selection of elective field specializations. In compliance with European education laws, the field of primary school and preschool education officially became BA-degree programs in September, 2006.

Attaining a BA in Primary, Preschool or Infant and Early Childhood Education empowers our students to continue expanding their knowledge within a Master's degree program: in 2007 our Faculty joined ELTE's Faculty of Education and Psychology (PPK) in offering an MA program specializing in Early Childhood Education, which has been available since 2016.

• TRAINING IN PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Beginning in 1968 an advanced, two-year training course in Preschool Education was established as an affiliated department of the Preschool Training Course located in the city of Kecskemét. Soon afterward, this initiative formed the second pillar determining our institutional profile. A practice preschool was built next to the Training College in 1975. By 1990 instruction in Preschool Education had reached the three-year, college level. The faculty launches its English Kindergarten Education program in September 2019.

• TRAINING IN INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Between 2009 and 2011 our Faculty launched an advanced professional degree in Infant and Early Childhood Education, an initiative that has formed the third pillar of our BA-degree programs since 2010.

• TRAINING IN ART AND VISUAL CULTURE EDUCATION

Since 2017 our Faculty has further broadened its expertise to offer training in Art and Visual Culture for teachers enrolled in a single-cycle program. Completing this training course enables educators to instruct the subject of Art and Visual Culture; this training course can be completed along with any education field offered by ELTE's Center for Teachers' Training.

OUR BUILDING

Originally constructed in 1911, the building that houses our Faculty today still greets our students year after year on the Buda side of the Danube. Throughout its history, a practice school, practice garden and boarding school were also found beneath its roof. Due to the rapid growth of our student body, in 1975 the city of Budapest granted the Faculty a school building on the Pest side of the Danube which provided more space for our expanding needs until 2007.

In World War II our Buda campus suffered serious damages. After reconstruction a new practice school was added to our building in 1982, which was then followed by the addition of another wing in 1990. The 2017/2018 school year marked the complete renovation of our building's exterior, thereby allowing us to greet our guests and students with a fresh, modern facade.

Photo: Krisztina Juhász



Photo: Pál Gerber



SPECIALIZATION PROGRAMS IN CON- TINUING EDUCATION

Participants can apply to our specialization training programs in continuing education after completion of a BA- or MA-level degree. The subjects studied in our programs expand and broaden students' previously acquired skills and knowledge, thereby ensuring an in-depth level of professional training in a chosen field. Our training programs encompass a minimum of two or a maximum of four semesters.

OUR CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

September 2019

- Introducing English Language Elements in Preschools •
- Mentor Training in the Practical Guidance of Early Childhood and Infant Education •
- Education in Experience-Based Environmental Sustainability •
- Ethics and Cultural Norms •
(for primary school educators, grades 1–6)
- Mentor for Games and Play •
- Preschool Instructor in Environmental Science •
- Instruction in the Arts for the Smallest Age Groups •
- Specialization as a Preschool Minority Language Educator in German •
- Specialization as a Primary Minority Language Educator in German •
- Leader in Preschool Education, Preparatory Program for Professional Exam in Education •
- Innovations in the Practice of Preschool Education •
- Professional Exam in Education •

Further information
can be found at the following
website: felvi.hu

TÓK FACTS AT A GLANCE



- 150-year past
- 500–600 new students every year
- 75 faculty lecturers and 47 staff members
- 10 departments
- 3 BA-level programs,
1 MA-specialization
- Single-Cycle Program in Education, Short-Cycle Program in Education
- 2 specializations in minority language education, 10 field specializations in primary education, 7 preschool specializations
- 5 minors in field specializations for primary education, numerous continuing education programs in various specializations
- Doctoral School in Education (ELTE TÓK – ELTE PPK)

OUR COMPETITIONS

Numerous champions can be found among our students, many of whom have achieved first-place awards in national (or Carpathian Basin-wide) academic and athletic competitions, either as individual or team competitors. To mention just a few of the forums where TÓK students test their mettle:

The Ferenc Kazinczy Competition in Proper Articulation

Kodály Symposium and Day of Amateur Music

National Hungarian University and College Championship (swimming, freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling, women's volleyball)

National University and College Storytelling Competition in World Folktales

National János Szendrei Mathematics Competition for Primary and Preschool Educators

Muster of Academic and Artistic Student Associations

National Competition in Native Language Instruction

National Folk Song Competition

National Competition of Academic Students' Associations (OTDK; in various categories)

National Competition in Art Education

Our students naturally score highly in Faculty competitions as well, including the **Best of the Class Preschool Teacher**, the **Best of the Class Primary Teacher**, English- and German-language creative and translation competitions, and other contests in storytelling, proper articulation, spelling or literature.

MISSION STATEMENT

As 2019 marks the 150th anniversary of its establishment, the Faculty of Primary and Preschool Education at Eötvös Loránd University remains committed to combining our traditions first begun in 1868 with the most innovative methods in primary school education, a dedication to high-quality preschool programs and the training of infant and early childcare providers in the most modern approaches to caring for the very youngest. Our programs reflect the colorful perspective, open heart and eager curiosity shown by a small child taking his or her most essential steps on the path to early, preschool and primary education.

In cooperation with both national and international institutions, we continue to research and explore the field of early childhood development. Our long-term commitment to preserving our Faculty's central role in this professional network ensures the continued training of educators capable of providing high-quality instruction tailored to the needs of a changing society. Maintaining close contact with Hungarian-language primary and preschool institutions throughout the Carpathian Basin is a decisive part of our mission. We also find it imperative to prepare teachers dedicated to the preservation of native language education for Hungary's minority groups: other than our considerable experience in ethnic German-language courses, our Faculty prepares educators to pass down the language and customs of Hungary's minority Serb community. Our broad array of specializations will soon be expanded to include similar programs in Slovak, Slovenian and Croatian. The addition of teacher training programs in Visual Arts and Culture has further enriched our Faculty's profile in education and research. Our far-flung international network allows both our students and lecturers to broaden their horizons through either study or research. Beyond our successful program in bilingual early childhood education, our continuously expanding access to Erasmus Mobility Programs and English-language courses for our entire Faculty as well as the launching of our English-Language Program in Preschool Education further signify our dedication to participating in the international education community.

Our Faculty has a strong presence in talent development, as shown by our broad array of student academic programs, tutorials and support of artistic and athletic activities that create a well-rounded foundation for advancing to career or academic opportunities.

In support of cultural values and social responsibility, we encourage participation in a series of student clubs, art circles, popular productions by our Musical Theater and sporting events.

Photo: Krisztina Juhász



It is our goal to train educators who:

demonstrate a responsible attitude and dedication toward maintaining universal human values, ethical norms and our nation's future • are prepared in both theory and practice for a professional career that ensures high-quality, childhood development • combine a thorough foundation in culture and the arts with the critical thinking skills of a keen intellect • regard the protection of physical and mental well-being as childcare's primary task • communicate at a high level in Hungarian while being able to converse fluently in at least one foreign language • use digital technology fluently • are capable of continuously improving their professional skills and basic knowledge.

INTRODUCING TÓK'S STUDENT COUNCIL (HÖK)

The Student Council (HÖK) at Eötvös Loránd University's Faculty of Primary and Pre-school Education has been an integral part of everyday life at our institution for years and serves the primary goal of helping students in social, academic or public affairs. A number of committees within HÖK are responsible for handling these tasks, such as the Social Welfare Committee, which selects recipients for regular or emergency financial aid or professional, academic and community achievement (ISZTK) scholarships. Members of the Academic Committee aid students in study-related issues and questions. The Foreign Affairs Committee updates students on opportunities to study abroad. The Event Organization and Cultural Committee handles community activities at TÓK, including the organization of various academic and entertainment events.

Beyond these essential duties, TÓK's Student Council places great emphasis on furthering an effective level of communication between the student body and the Faculty's leadership, a process that occurs on a daily basis and has resulted in a high level of productivity.

HÖK EVENTS

Throughout the years many events organized by HÖK have evolved into Faculty traditions.

Before the beginning of the academic year: **Orientation Camp**

for first-year students, who participate in programs and contests organized by HÖK. The goal of this event is to allow new students to get acquainted with their classmates, TÓK and HÖK members.

November: **Freshmen Ball.**

A traditional event during which TÓK students perform the waltz in elegant formal dress. Held in cooperation with other ELTE Faculties, the Freshmen Ball allows new students to build networks throughout the rest of the university.



When not organizing its customary events, HÖK regularly holds charity fundraising events for the needy and organizes entertaining events in a range of themes. Every year HÖK also holds **Talent Day**, an additional opportunity for students to express their special abilities.

LET TÓK ENTERTAIN YOU!

• ELTE TÓK MUSICAL THEATER

Our illustrious musical director and conductor, Endre Gerenday, established TÓK's Musical Theater in 1981 with the aim of creating a forum for artistic expression that would extend beyond our students' daily academic work. The Musical Theater allows those with a talent in music or drama to develop their abilities within a more professional framework; since it was first launched, TÓK's Musical Theater has staged a staggering array of productions in every possible genre, with special attention to inspiring the highest level of professionalism from its performers. Our ensemble is led by widely experienced experts, including the Head of our Singing and Music Department and the Director of the Hungarian State Opera.

The Musical Theater's extensive repertoire is best demonstrated by the highly successful, annual or biannual (depending on the complexity of a given work) productions it has staged ranging from opera to musicals, including Donizetti's

Il campanello di notte, János vitéz (John the Valiant),

János Hány, The Beggar's Opera, My Fair Lady, Cabaret,

Fiddler on the Roof, Man of La Mancha, Les Misérables,

West Side Story, The Sound of Music, Abigél,

Stefan, the King and Jesus Christ Superstar, which

will be performed for the second time in 2019. While most of the Musical Theater's 380 productions have been held at TÓK, our troupe has performed throughout Hungary, in Germany and ten times in Transylvania.



• PROSCENION DRAMA STAGE

As of October, 2018 TÓK's Proscenion Drama Stage has held 11 premiers, 226 stage performances and countless events highlighting drama-based pedagogy that have been enjoyed by a total of 11,203 viewers. The Drama Stage has also been responsible for numerous memorial ceremonies and performances that were primarily held at our Faculty building, but also took center stage twice at EFOTT, the largest national event for university students, ELTE's Liberal Arts Days and three times at the Lágymányos Campus Eötvös Days, where our troupe was proud to represent TÓK. Throughout the years, TÓK's Drama Stage has appeared at a growing number of national and international theater events, where it showcases its talents in judged competitions against other acting companies.

But let our members describe their close feelings for TÓK and ELTE in their own words:

"We don't credit our results to the troupe, but rather look at our accomplishments as a group effort by both TÓK and ELTE. After all, most of our members either study at TÓK or got their degrees there, which is how they came to join us. TÓK was the first home for our constantly changing and growing community and this is a debt we'll never forget."



Digital Technology Theme Week (Department of Digital Education)	During Theme Week students and lecturers can work on a variety of digital projects and thereby demonstrate digital tools and methods that can be applied to the classroom.
Conference on Robotics and Coding at the Primary-School Level (Department of Digital Education)	Other than the methodology of coding, participants gain further exposure to the latest innovations in the field of digital technology.
National Folk Song Competition (Department of Music and Singing)	As a part of our Faculty Days, our primary and preschool students perform at the National Folk Song Competition before a panel of experts. On many occasions competitors from our foreign partner institutions (from Serbia and Ukraine) have participated in this event.
Year-End Recital Concert (Department of Music and Singing)	The last Thursday afternoon at the end of every spring semester is marked by TÓK's year-end concert recital including performances by both choruses, chamber choirs, our folk dance ensemble and instrumental or singing productions.
English Translation Competition (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	Every spring students compete in translating a short prose work from English to Hungarian.
Workshop in German Language Games (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	A workshop held during Faculty Day events for the purpose of familiarizing students with playful techniques in teaching vocabulary and grammar.
English Drama Afternoon (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	As a part of Faculty Day every primary and preschool English-specialization class performs a brief dramatization of their choice, using costumes, backdrops and props that they prepared themselves.
Methodology Afternoon and Book Fair (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	A workshop on methodology for the teaching of English and usually held as a part of Faculty Day events. Guest lecturers are invited to hold training sessions in particular topics for all those interested.
Training program for primary or preschool teachers specializing in German or Minority Language Education (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	A training session traditionally held by TÓK's German-language specialists as a part of a continuing education program for educators who are collecting credits for career advancement purposes.



Celebration of the Hungarian Language (Department of Hungarian Language and Literature)	Other than competitions in pronunciation, poetry recitation and storytelling, a literature contest and spelling tournament is also held, rounded out with literary and musical events as well as book readings with contemporary authors in the afternoon.
Mathematics Tea Time (Department of Mathematics)	This event focuses on mathematic games and puzzles that develop logical thinking skills.
Cohabitation Day (Department of Education)	The aim of this event is to deepen a sense of social sensitivity, cooperation and acceptance in acknowledgement of the many values and rich array of differences that can be discovered all around us when prejudices are conquered.
Portraits of Educators (Department of Education)	A lecture mainly organized for students in their final year, this event includes conversations with deeply committed educators who relay the personal motives or childhood experiences that inspired them to teach in primary or preschool.
Conference on Instilling Democratic Values (Department of Social Sciences)	The Conference on Instilling Democratic Values was first launched in 2018 with the aim of becoming a new Faculty tradition.
How to Think Differently? (Department of Social Sciences)	A conference on how to develop thinking skills in young children.
Day for Infant and Early Childhood Providers (Department of Natural Sciences, Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	A professional event including lectures by participating experts who expose listeners to a wide variety of topics with the intention of broadening their perspectives on the field of Infant and Early Childhood Education. Our students also receive the opportunity to let their skills and talents shine at this event.
Huba Bálványos Research Workshop in Visual Arts Education (Department of Visual Arts Education)	This conference is attended by departmental and guest lecturers from both Hungary and abroad who are teachers and experts in Visual Arts. Our department regularly organizes exhibits of work by students or professional artists in our Huba Bálványos Gallery.



EU Code Week (Digitális Pedagógiai Tanszék)	Activities geared toward popularizing coding are held at this event for both Faculty students and primary schoolchildren.
Conference on Music Education (Department of Singing and Music)	Regularly held at the end of January, this conference on music education enjoys great popularity among both teachers and students.
Throw Away Everything and Learn/ Teach Languages! (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	In celebration of the European Day of Languages (September 26th), the Department of Foreign Languages organizes this event for the purpose of encouraging students to learn foreign languages.
Day of German Minority Groups (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	A regular event exploring issues related to Hungary's German minority groups (including workshops on methodology, book readings with authors, book launchings, etc.) and held during the autumn semester by the German section of the Department of Foreign Languages.
Erasmus Afternoon (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	A joint event organized by the Department's German and English sections with the goal of encouraging Faculty students to study abroad as a part of the Erasmus Scholarship Program.
Departmental Presentation Afternoon (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	An event held by the Department's English section in preparation for the Faculty TDK competition. Second-year students specializing in English present their sophomore research papers in front of their classmates and teachers.
English Pronunciation and Prose/ Storytelling Competition (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)	Contestants read aloud two English-language texts, including one mandatory literary prose work and one chosen, shorter text, preferably selected from children's literature.
National Mathematics Competition for Future Primary School Teachers (Department of Mathematics)	TÓK's four-member team and two students specializing in mathematics participate in this competition. Our individual scores are equally excellent.
Masters-Level Education Meeting (Department of Education)	A program that provides those intending to complete an MA-degree in Education (with a specialization in Early Childhood) to meet with the lecturers and department.



<p>German Advent Afternoon (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)</p>	<p>Every year new activities are explored at this event in celebration of Advent, including pronunciation contests, a poem recitation and storytelling afternoon, drama festival, or handicrafts.</p>
<p>German Authors and Translators Competition (Department of Foreign Languages and Literature)</p>	<p>Announced in January, this competition allows students to choose from classical and contemporary poems, short stories and tales written in German and translate the selected work into Hungarian. Students are encouraged to choose from children's literature or works by Hungarian-German authors as well.</p>
<p>Christmas Concert Recital (Department of Singing and Music)</p>	<p>Held on the last Thursday of the autumn semester, the Christmas Concert Recital includes performances by both Faculty's choirs, chamber choirs, folk dance and other instrumental or singing performances.</p>
<p>Conversations with Contemporary Authors (Department of Hungarian Language and Literature)</p>	<p>An afternoon for reading aloud literary works written by the Faculty's students and lecturers.</p>
<p>The Carpathian Basin Kossuth Oration Competition (Department of Hungarian Language and Literature)</p>	<p>Originally established in 1999, TÓK's Department of Hungarian Language and Literature has continued to preserve the traditions embedded in this competition since 2016. Contestants make a prepared and a mandatory speech in front of a panel of well-known experts.</p>
<p>Mathematics Saint Nick (Department of Mathematics)</p>	<p>Students surprise their classmates or the practice school's classes with playful, humorous exercises and gifts.</p>
<p>MA in Education: Research Presentation (Department of Education)</p>	<p>MA-level students specializing in Early Childhood at the Department of Education present their research in front of a professional audience, followed by a feedback session.</p>

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

• DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

The Department is an active participant at ELTE Fesztival, Open House programs at ELTE TÓK and ELTE'S Hungarian Summer University in the Carpathian Basin, while additionally welcoming and hosting guest lecturers and students from abroad.

• DEPARTMENT OF HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

The Department's lecturers routinely organize readings given by contemporary authors as well as musical literary events. Our guests have included the renowned folk musician, Ferenc Sebő, and the contemporary authors András Cserna-Szabó and Balázs Szálinger.

• DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Primary Teachers' Club: Typically characterized by a high number of participants, roughly 60 students join this club to satisfy their curiosity regarding new methods in mathematics education.

Preschool Educators's Club: Launched two years ago by the Department of Mathematics, this event is growing in popularity.

• DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Conversations on Tolerance: Thematic discussions that follow film screenings. The topic always reflects upon a current issue or challenge in the field of education.

Workshop for Preschool Educators: The aim of this event is to familiarize practicing preschool educators as well as other professionals with daily experiences in education. Everyday situations in preschools are analyzed and possible solutions are discussed.

The Workshop's Facebook page can be reached at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/ovodapedagogia.muhely>



Photo: Krisztina Juhász

• DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Workshop Conference on Child Philosophy: a professional conference.

• DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS

Throughout the year the Department of Visual Arts routinely holds art exhibits in its Huba Bálványos Gallery.

PROJECT DAYS

As a part of projects, lecturers and students gain experience in planning and conducting a project based on one central theme.

CONFERENCE OF ACADEMIC STUDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS (TDK)

The Faculty's Conference of Academic Students' Associations (TDK) is organized in the second half of November every year and allows students to present their research papers within a formal section. Based on the quality of students' written research and their ability to present their ideas orally, a panel selects competitors who not only win the Faculty prize, but also submit their work to the National Competition of Academic Students' Associations. Papers selected at the Faculty and national level are published in a volume of research studies.

TÓK TRAVELERS

ELTE TÓK offers both students and lecturers numerous mobility opportunities to a wide selection of foreign institutions. Our students can apply for partial study abroad, professional training practices, summer university programs and short academic trips (research, conference participation) beginning in the second semester of their studies. At present the Faculty maintains connections with a network of 50 institutions within the European Union and continues to encourage students from beyond the EU to attend our programs.

The **Erasmus+**, **Campus Mundi**, **CEEPUS** and **Makovecz Program** all provide scholarships in support of academic study abroad. It is our experience that these international programs prepare our students to tackle the practical aspects of every day life with an independent spirit of adventure that encourages both professional and linguistic development: not only do our students become acquainted with another country, they also have the opportunity to make lifelong friendships.



"It was an unforgettable, incredible experience that changed me forever."

FROM OUR STUDENTS

"Despite the process that was required for handling the necessary paperwork and administration, I can only recommend that everyone take the opportunity to test him- or herself in a strange but safe environment. I came home far richer thanks to all the new experiences and teaching practice I gained along the way."



www.tok.elte.hu

Cover photo:
Dr. Pataky Gabriella