

ANNA CSIKÓ

## ELTE Confucius Institute

The ELTE Confucius Institute, which has been a Model Confucius Institute since December 2015, has been Hungary's leading Chinese language teaching institution and cultural centre since its founding in 2006. The institute's activities in 2022 focused on three main areas: education, science and culture. In addition to these, projects supported by the Government of Hungary and the Confucius Institute Centre continued to be a major focus.

In 2022, online courses continued to be a major focus of the institute's courses, and collaboration with our corporate partners also continued in 2022. In addition, in 2022 we started teaching in a new city, Szentendre, in two new schools. In 2022, we continued to teach on the basis of the teaching system introduced in September 2018. In addition to the modular courses, Business Chinese and HSK language exam preparation courses were also popular, with a total of 2,357 students registering for the various language courses in 2022.

In 2022, there were four HSK and HSKK exams covering the HSK 1–6 and HSKK 1–3 levels, in March, July, October and December. A total of 739 individuals took part in the exams, a record in the history of the institute. In 2022, the institute was again awarded the 'Excellent Language Testing Centre' label.

In July 2022, our partner university, Beijing Foreign Language University, held an online summer camp open to both high school and university students, which was attended by 26 students. In October 2022, our partner university organised an autumn online camp and in November 2022 a winter online camp. A total of six students participated.

In December 2021 was the 15th anniversary of the foundation of the ELTE Confucius Institute, but due to the coronavirus epidemic, the celebration took place only on 21 June 2022 in the Aula Magna Hall. The event was attended by Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Culture and Innovation Eszter Vitályos, Deputy State Secretary for Higher Education Balázs Hankó, State Secretary for the Hungarian Diplomatic Academy and the Stipendium Hungaricum Program Orsolya Pacsáy-Tomassich, Chargé d'Affaires of the

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Hungary Liu Bo and Counsellor for Education of the Embassy Chen Kun.

On 26 April 2022, we managed to hold an in-person *House Conference of Young Sinologists*.

With the support of the Ministry of Culture and Innovation and the Centre for Language Education and Cooperation, the 9th training of the Central and Eastern European Regional Teacher Training Centre took place from 17 to 20 June 2022, with participants from 14 countries. During the training, the Central and Eastern European Chinese Language Teachers Association was founded. The association has 34 founding members from 11 countries. The 10th-anniversary training of the Central and Eastern European Regional Teacher Training Centre took place from 17 to 21 November 2022, with 71 trainers from 10 countries.

In 2022, *Ink and Brush*, a book of the works of the students of the institute's painting course, was published, as was a commemorative volume titled *History of the ELTE Confucius Institute 2006–2021*, two volumes of *Far Eastern Studies* (Vols. 13 and 14/1), the latter containing publications in English, and the 15th volume of the Confucius Chronicle magazine.

In addition to carrying out its priority tasks and educational programmes, the ELTE Confucius Institute in 2022 also provided the public with colourful cultural programmes. More than 50 different events were organised throughout the year. Last year, free lectures and calligraphy, painting, taiji and kung-fu courses with different Chinese themes were held online and in person, giving visitors the opportunity to learn more about certain aspects of Chinese culture. In the year 2022, the institute set a record for the number of art education classes offered with 1.5 hours of Chinese calligraphy and painting classes at the beginner and advanced levels held three times a week.

In 2022, the institute also participated in large-scale national events, including the Researchers' Night, the Earth Day Festival organised by the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden and the Children's Day in the City Park, which attracted thousands of visitors. In addition, it held its own events, including an in-person Confucius Day celebration in September and a Lunar New Year celebration online.