"... for the individual, education and learning is a road to personal development and a richer life ..."

(IFLA)

New Electronic Educational Resources in the Neumann House

Hungary's accession to the European Union has brought about major changes in the country. New opportunities are opening up for employment and learning, and we have to take advantage of these possibilities. It is of great importance in this respect to enhance one's knowledge, to acquire IT competencies and to take part in life long learning. The related challenges affect all social strata and almost all age groups. The Neumann House is doing its best to contribute to creating chances, to transfer knowledge and to develop skills and competencies.

The John von Neumann Digital Library has built in recent years a significant collection from classic and contemporary literature, fiction and non-fiction, essays on the history of science and bibliographies. In the near future we would like to put more emphasis on finding as many ways as possible to put this collection to use. We would like to teach the players of education - both teachers and students - to make the best use of the resources on the Internet.

It is among our plans to establish multimedia sites based on thematic selections of our materials, to compile virtual exhibitions, to provide digital lessons and similar illustrative-explanatory educational applications.

The most comprehensive enterprise among our educational materials, named "Festive days", is a rich collection of literary and art works that is related to festive dates in the calendar – this material is to be found in the Digital Knowledge Database of the Sulinet (Schoolnet) programme.

In December, 2004 we opened a Virtual Exhibition of Bálint Balassi compiled for the 450th anniversary of the poet's birth and the 410th anniversary of his death.

In the presentation I would like to describe some other plans related to education and to invite libraries and schools to co-operation on these projects.