

The **Palladion** is a civil NGO based in Budapest, which aims to research and provide access to the classical cultures of the ancient Mediterranean. Its members are classicists, archaeologists, Egyptologists and museum educators with decades of experience in studying and teaching Egyptian and Graeco-Roman art and culture.

Palladion offers a growing range of programmes, both online and in person, designed to engage young people interested in the classical cultures of the ancient Mediterranean. In addition to open-access content on its website, Palladion organizes school competitions, hosts summer camps, participates in a mentoring programme for high school students, and provides internship opportunities for university students. All programmes are either free of charge or available at a very low cost.

## Online content

The Palladion's **education platform** displays reliable information on the cultures of the ancient Mediterranean world in a fun and interactive way suited for a young audience. The platform is built up of three main modules.

### Online collection

Descriptive pages of ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman artefacts from museums all over the world. Object data-sheets include a picture gallery, museum and collection information, easy to read descriptions, fun facts and ideas for further study. Open access images are used and copyright and license information is duly indicated.

### Fun activities

Pages focusing on different aspects of the classical world through interactive activities: online quizzes, puzzles, memory games, arts and crafts ideas and language exercises in Latin. The activity pages provide instant feedback, and can be used both for individual practice and for classroom activities.

### Glossary

A mini glossary to help with difficult names, terms and concepts in a simple yet professional approach.



## School competitions

The Palladion also hosts an annual online competition on ancient Greek, Roman, and Egyptian history and culture, designed for teams of schoolchildren aged 11–18. Running throughout the school year, the competition features three interactive study courses, each focusing on one of these civilizations. These courses are published consecutively on the platform and include a series of engaging activities that help students explore each topic and historical period in depth.

Each year's courses are connected by a common theme that provides a unifying arc for the entire competition. Recent themes have included communication, mythical and real animals, maps and spatial perspectives, and everyday life.



Each course is followed by an online test and is complemented with various arts and crafts activities.

Students can also compete in a complex quiz game with questions focusing on the year's theme. For learners of Latin, the Palladion organises a competition of creative translation.



At the end of the year, all contestants receive certificates and prizes, while the winners are invited to a museum education workshop led by the organizers. The award ceremony is complemented by an exhibition showcasing the participants' creative works.



The award ceremony is not only an occasion to celebrate the winners, but also an excellent opportunity for community building: it enables teachers and students to connect, exchange ideas, compare experiences, discover shared interests and discuss problems and difficulties.



## Arts and crafts classes

The Palladion's arts and crafts classes use an ancient artwork or a story from classical antiquity as their starting point. Through interactive games and activities, they encourage participants to explore the historical period and culture, while the hands-on creative sessions inspire discovery and artistic expression.



## Summer camps

Each year, in collaboration with Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, the Palladion organizes a four-day summer camp for high school students aged 16–19 who are considering studying the classics at university. This interdisciplinary programme offers insights into specialized fields such as Ancient Greek and Latin, Assyriology, Egyptology, Hebrew Studies, and Religious Studies. At the same time, it provides students with an opportunity to connect with peers and start building professional acquaintances.



## Palladion internship for university students

Palladion offers internship opportunities to university students specializing in relevant fields such as classics, archaeology, Egyptology, art history, and cultural management. Interns gain hands-on experience by contributing to Palladion's educational programmes, creating online content, and assisting in organizing events. Internships are available both at Palladion's Budapest headquarters and remotely, with international positions also offered. Participants develop skills in event management, teamwork, and collaboration while exploring practical applications of their studies in the ancient world. Additionally, they receive professional guidance to support their academic research.



## Mentoring programme for high school students

Palladion participates in the Non Scholae mentoring programme, launched by high school and undergraduate students who previously took part in Palladion's educational initiatives. The programme connects high school students with university lecturers, fostering personal interactions and discussions while helping them make informed career choices. At the end of the programme, students have the opportunity to present their initial research findings at the Non Scholae Festival, a classics conference organized by and for high school students.



## Collaboration



Many of Palladion's programmes are developed in collaboration with higher education institutions.

The annual school competitions are organized jointly with the University of Pécs, while the summer camps are hosted at Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest.

In 2024, a one-year Knowledge Exchange program with the Department of Greek and Latin at University College London led to the first English translations of Palladion Kids content being made openly accessible on the website. Additionally, Palladion welcomed its first international research assistant, a former UCL student, who played an active role in creating new resources.

Palladion is committed to sharing knowledge, skills, and experience on making the cultures of the ancient Mediterranean more accessible and engaging for younger audiences. It also aims to expand its methodological approach internationally by providing translations of its study materials, developing teachers' manuals, and organizing best-practice workshops on the creative, methodological, and technical aspects of its work.

### Core concepts

- Understanding the ancient world brings us closer to understanding our own.
- Classical civilizations offer valuable lessons on cultural connectivity, tolerance, and the shared roots of European cultural, intellectual, and artistic traditions.
- Learning is most effective when it is collaborative and game-based. Engaging younger generations requires the right themes, tone, and visuals.
- Textbook learning should be enriched with community-building and real-life experiences.
- Knowledge should be openly accessible to everyone, regardless of social or financial background.