

IT LITERACY IS NECESSARY

Nowadays, the Filipović Academy is recognizable throughout the region and is a leader in informal education. Through thirteen accredited seminars, we motivate teachers to think about the rapid development of technologies and software as learning tools



“Today, the status of informal education in Serbia, in all social segments, is quite high, much higher than in most countries that made the former Yugoslavia”, says Bratislav Filipović, MSc.oec. Director and Proprietor of the Filipović Academy, and adds: “The Filipović Academy gave a significant contribution to that and in the last 15 years, has educated over 30,000 students.”

“When we started our work, our mission, informal education was a taboo topic. We have come across many obstacles and misunderstandings (read: ignorance). At that time, we set ourselves a task or rather a goal that we have been successfully accomplishing for over a decade and a half now,” Mr Filipović adds.

Who needs continuous professional development? Which professions are you focusing on?

— Continuous training is definitely mandatory for everyone, regardless of the profession. The Filipović Academy is recognized for its training of education workers, although at the very beginning of our work, we were very active in education and re-training of the beneficiaries of the National Employment Service. However, at one point, we made the decision to base our work and activities exclusively on the education system, and expand into digitization, and promotion and application of modern technology. Today, we educate teachers through thirteen of our accredited seminars - we introduce them to modern technology, and motivate them to think about in line with the times in which we live, where the rapid development of technology and accompanying software is very pronounced.

We motivate them and to move them to unconditionally and on a daily basis apply all aspects of didactic materials



CORPORATE



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and to understand that their curricula can no longer be realized exclusively through traditional teaching without the use of contemporary teaching aids and programmes.

How much is the knowledge that educational experts have to possess changing and what new trends have you observed?

— Teachers possess a very good knowledge but they have to supplement their knowledge via various training, seminars, and courses and to differently articulate this acquired knowledge, as well as to use newly obtained skills and use and implement contemporary technology. Elsewhere in the world, education is the top priority in a society or a state. Nursery, elementary and high school teachers and university professors have huge importance for our society and the state of Serbia. The society that we live in depends on them, their work and their effort.

This is something that they have to understand, as well as those that run this country. Our state has an evident problem in not understanding the importance of teaching staff, hence, they treat them very superficially with educational staff often feeling degraded and neglected. Nobody is asking for their opinion, they have been stripped off many rights and burdened with unnecessary bureaucratic activities.

Which seminars are you planning in the next period? How willing are your students to perfect their knowledge and accept innovation?

— The seminars that we are preparing for the next period of accreditation re-

Today, you cannot have quality teaching without using contemporary technology