

# Difficulties and Solutions of Music Education in Higher Vocational Colleges

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## Abstract

The development of higher vocational colleges has been paid more and more attention by the state and society. It has become the teaching goal of higher vocational colleges to cultivate qualified talents with high quality and skills that meet the needs of society and industrial development. As an important part of quality education, music education can improve students' comprehensive quality and promote students' all-round development. Paying attention to the role of music education is becoming more and more important in the process of improving higher vocational education in the new era.

## Keywords

Higher Vocational Colleges; Music Education; Optimization Path.

## 1. Introduction

Music education is an important part of art education, and it is a basic education that takes aesthetics as the core and aims at improving students' aesthetic accomplishment and other comprehensive qualities. Music education in higher vocational colleges plays a positive role in promoting students' aesthetic ability, improving their personality, forming a correct outlook on life and promoting their all-round development and healthy growth. However, in terms of the current situation of music education in higher vocational colleges, there are many problems that need to be paid attention to and optimized.

## 2. The Role of Music Education in Higher Vocational Colleges

(1) An important means of moral education. Music education in higher vocational colleges plays a very important role in cultivating students' comprehensive quality, is an effective supplement for students to improve their technical ability, and provides a means and platform for students to improve their comprehensive quality. Moral education is an important part of quality education. The development of music education can edify students in music appreciation, improve their musical aesthetic ability, and help them form positive and healthy thinking patterns and good behavior habits, so as to further establish correct values. Moral education is particularly important for students in higher vocational colleges.

(2) An important platform of aesthetics. Music education can be used as an important platform for aesthetic education in higher vocational colleges. With its unique teaching content and learning form, music education can fully display the charm and function of aesthetic education, so that students can improve their artistic aesthetic ability under a relaxed and pleasant learning experience. For higher vocational colleges, while cultivating applied and practical talents, it also gives full play to the educational function of music education, so that students can develop in a balanced way.

(3) An important aid to innovation. Cultivating innovative talents to meet the needs of social development is the educational goal of higher vocational colleges. The unique expression form and teaching content of music can stimulate students' learning enthusiasm, stimulate students' imagination and expand creative cultivation space in beautiful music melody. Therefore, music education can promote the improvement of students' imagination and creativity, and play an important auxiliary role in developing innovative education and cultivating innovative talents.

### 3. Problems in Music Education in Higher Vocational Colleges

(1) Not enough attention. At present, vocational colleges mainly focus on practical and practical technical courses, and pay insufficient attention to music education. The lack of music education curriculum has become a common problem in higher vocational colleges. Even if some higher vocational colleges offer music education courses, there are many problems, such as low attention, low capital investment, poor teaching equipment and so on.

(2) Teaching materials are outdated and teachers are scarce. At present, in the process of music education in higher vocational colleges, the selection of teaching materials is relatively backward, and the teaching materials do not keep pace with the times. At the same time, due to the lack of effective manifestation of the spirit of the times, the effect of music education in higher vocational colleges is not good. Taking vocal music textbooks in higher vocational colleges as an example, there are many typical masterpieces of vocal music, but because of their few categories and relatively single content, they can't meet the realistic needs of students' sound physical and mental development at this stage, and they can't effectively meet students' diverse needs for music. In the long run, it is easy to lead to low efficiency of students' music learning, and it is difficult to fully mobilize their enthusiasm and initiative, thus affecting the level and quality of music education in higher vocational colleges. At the same time, the music teaching materials in higher vocational colleges lack pertinence, and there is no targeted setting from the educational characteristics and teaching objectives of higher vocational colleges, which leads to the lack of scientificity and logicity of the teaching materials, and can't show the characteristics of music education in higher vocational colleges to the maximum extent.

Due to the insufficient attention paid to music education in higher vocational colleges, the shortage of teachers in music education in higher vocational colleges has become a common problem. Teachers engaged in music education in higher vocational colleges also have many problems, such as unsystematic knowledge system, inaccurate grasp of the law of music education in higher vocational colleges, and unable to better control the degree of students' learning and understanding of music professional knowledge in the teaching process, resulting in limited effect and low quality of teaching and education.

(3) Single teaching means

At present, in the process of music education in higher vocational colleges, there is a problem of single means and methods of music education. The rapid development of modern science and computer network technology has injected new vitality into the development of music education in higher vocational colleges. However, the traditional classroom explanation teaching method is difficult to improve students' learning enthusiasm, and this single backward teaching method runs counter to the modern educational concept. At present, most higher vocational colleges still use the traditional teaching mode, mainly "spoon-feeding" and "indoctrination" teaching mode, and even don't start with the actual situation of students' physical and mental development, and focus on "one size fits all" teaching method, which can't meet the practical needs of students at different levels for music knowledge. The polarization of students' music knowledge learning is serious. Solid learning can keep pace with teachers' teaching and deepen their understanding of knowledge. However, students with weak

foundation can't deeply understand the content of music teaching, and their interest in learning is even more difficult to be stimulated.

The teaching methods of music education in higher vocational colleges are mainly the traditional mode of classroom teaching, teachers analyzing and explaining theoretical knowledge and students understanding and memorizing. In music education, it is obvious that this mode is too monotonous, which leads to students' low learning enthusiasm, weak sense of participation and low satisfaction with music education. Traditional teaching methods can't meet the needs of students for music education, which affects the teaching effect.

#### (4) Old teaching facilities

At present, in the process of music education in higher vocational colleges, there is a problem that the construction of teaching infrastructure lags behind, which makes it difficult to provide high-quality and good music education environment for higher vocational colleges, and can't meet the actual needs of current higher vocational students for music learning. With the deepening of the popularization of education, many higher vocational colleges have expanded their enrollment and the number of students has increased. However, the construction of music education infrastructure is difficult to meet the pace of enrollment expansion in higher vocational colleges. Even though some higher vocational colleges make appropriate music equipment investment, due to the lack of good equipment maintenance system and management mechanism, music education infrastructure can hardly give full play to its teaching promotion role, thus affecting the level and quality of music education in higher vocational colleges. Therefore, due to the lag of teaching infrastructure construction, music teaching activities in higher vocational colleges can't be carried out normally, and music teaching activities are often in the course of mechanical theory.

Music education is an elective course and supplementary teaching content in the curriculum system of higher vocational colleges. Compared with technical courses, it is at a disadvantage in both teaching environment and the allocation of teaching facilities, and it cannot provide a good environment and facilities for students' music learning. At the same time, higher vocational colleges do not pay attention to the storage and maintenance of music teaching facilities, which also leads to the equipment can not meet the teaching needs and the music teaching can not be carried out smoothly.

(5) The curriculum is unreasonable. At present, in the process of music education in most higher vocational colleges, there is a problem that the music education curriculum is unreasonable. At present, many music education courses in higher vocational colleges are mainly elective courses. In addition, students choose their own elective courses according to their own interests, and music becomes an unrestricted elective course. Students with high musical literacy will choose music education courses, while students with low interest will choose other subjects. Thus, the arrangement of music education curriculum is based on students' self-interest consciousness. At the same time, some higher vocational colleges don't pay attention to the educational value of music courses, the requirements of curriculum resources are relatively low, the evaluation system of music courses is not perfect, and the interaction between teachers and students in the classroom is not smooth, which can't fundamentally reflect the educational value of music teaching in higher vocational colleges, resulting in unsatisfactory music education results. In addition, some teachers are not strict enough in the management of music courses, and even some students can't attend classes on time. It can be seen that the unreasonable setting of music courses leads to the weak effectiveness of education.

(6) Lack of practical space. At present, there is a problem of insufficient space for music education practice in the process of music education in higher vocational colleges, which can't realize the coordinated improvement of students' music literacy and music appreciation ability,

and is not conducive to the comprehensive cultivation of students' comprehensive ability in higher vocational colleges. At present, the main goal of music education in higher vocational colleges is to cultivate students' musical literacy and musical practice ability. However, as far as the reality of music education in higher vocational colleges is concerned, the teaching goal of music deviates from the reality of music education, and the teaching goal is biased. Most higher vocational colleges focus on the teaching of students' classroom theoretical knowledge, but neglect the cultivation of students' musical practice ability, which will gradually become an important factor affecting the sustainable development of music education in higher vocational colleges.

#### **4. Analysis on the Dilemma and Countermeasures of Music Education in Higher Vocational Colleges**

##### **(1) Accurate discipline positioning and improve the degree of attention**

Accurate positioning is the foundation of development, and it is also the core element to clarify the development goals and unite the development forces. The orientation of music education major in higher vocational colleges can be summarized as follows: at the level of education, position yourself at the level of higher music education, and be at the highest level of vocational and technical music education; On the educational goal, we should emphasize the application of knowledge and cultivate practical, popular and skilled compound talents. In the major of music education, it is necessary to emphasize the value orientation of the market, closely contact with the needs of the society, and be different from the academic value orientation of music education in higher professional colleges, the value orientation of teacher training in music education in higher normal colleges and the value orientation of general education in music education in ordinary colleges and universities, with emphasis on cultivating compound mass literary talents. On the basis of targeting and positioning, the music education major in higher vocational colleges should further highlight its characteristics, foster strengths and avoid weaknesses; It is necessary to recognize the disadvantages of music education majors in higher vocational colleges, so as to avoid falling into the predicament of similar development goals of music education majors in general colleges and universities; It is necessary to give full play to the advantages of the close combination of students in higher vocational colleges and market demand, form a development goal different from that of music education majors in other types of colleges and universities, and focus on the popular social needs and urgent social needs, so as to cultivate technical applied talents that meet the market demand.

Music education, as an important part of quality education in higher vocational colleges, plays an important role in improving students' aesthetic ability and moral quality, as well as in cultivating students' comprehensive quality and all-round development. Therefore, we should attach great importance to music education in higher vocational colleges, integrate music education into the human body Department of higher vocational colleges, improve the curriculum, increase investment, stimulate teachers' vitality and promote the development of music education in higher vocational colleges.

##### **(2) Update the content of teaching materials and improve the strength of Teachers**

It is necessary to update the content of music teaching materials in higher vocational colleges in time, and compile the teaching materials according to the actual situation of students' physical and mental development in higher vocational colleges, so as to better meet the practical requirements of improving students' comprehensive ability and maximize the effect of music education in higher vocational colleges. Higher vocational colleges should actively cater to the current development trend of the times, and incorporate the music education content embodying the spirit of the times into the music textbooks of higher vocational colleges, so as to reflect the teaching characteristics of higher vocational colleges to the maximum extent.

The compilation of music teaching materials in higher vocational colleges should be distinguished from music teaching materials in Colleges and universities, highlight the main characteristics of practicality and application in higher vocational colleges, strengthen the humanistic spirit and guiding connotation of music education in higher vocational colleges, and focus on the cultivation of students' sound personality, so as to improve the aesthetic ability and appreciation ability of students in higher vocational colleges. In addition, the compilation of music teaching materials in higher vocational colleges should follow the scientific and logical principles, and fully reflect the teaching philosophy and educational purpose of higher vocational colleges.

Actively introduce music teachers with solid professional knowledge and strong professional ability to enrich the music education team in higher vocational colleges. Pay attention to the training and further study of in-service music teachers, improve teaching ability and improve teaching skills, and accumulate teaching experience. Professional teachers with high quality and high ability can better achieve the teaching objectives and education objectives.

### (3) Innovate teaching forms and enrich teaching means

It is necessary to innovate and enrich the means of music education in higher vocational colleges, build a multi-teaching mode based on guidance and inspiration, and attach importance to the role of "layered teaching method" in promoting the level of music education in higher vocational colleges. Higher vocational colleges should firmly grasp the opportunity of the current information globalization development, combine music education with modern science and technology and computer network technology, inject new vitality into the development of music education in higher vocational colleges, gradually reform and innovate the traditional classroom teaching mode, improve students' learning enthusiasm, mobilize students' initiative and enthusiasm in music learning to the maximum extent, and realize the integration of music education mode and modern education concept in higher vocational colleges. At the same time, in the actual teaching process, higher vocational colleges can guide students to actively participate in music classroom teaching, let students improvise and create music in the form of group discussion and partner competition, improve students' music creation ability, better implement and practice the concept of quality education in the actual classroom teaching links, and reflect the unique charm of music classroom teaching in higher vocational colleges.

Relying on new technology and new technology platform, we should innovate new teaching methods, enrich teaching content, change traditional teaching mode, improve students' participation in classroom teaching, guide students to actively integrate into teaching, give full play to students' thematic role in class, enliven classroom atmosphere, let students enjoy the learning process, stimulate students' thirst for knowledge and improve students' satisfaction with music education.

### (4) Speed up the construction of infrastructure and improve the teaching environment

It is necessary to speed up the construction of music teaching infrastructure in higher vocational colleges, lay an important teaching foundation for improving the level and quality of music education in higher vocational colleges, so as to maximize the value and effect of music education in higher vocational colleges, and thus make music education undertake the educational responsibility of promoting the all-round development of students in higher vocational colleges. On the one hand, higher vocational colleges should strengthen the hardware infrastructure construction of music education, such as musical instrument investment, music teaching venue construction, etc., and guide students to apply their learned music knowledge to practical life practice, and constantly consolidate their music knowledge in musical instrument practice, so as to realize the deepening development of music education in higher vocational colleges and provide a good external basic framework for the smooth development of various music education activities. On the other hand, it is necessary to

strengthen the construction of music education software in higher vocational colleges, build a group of high-quality and powerful music teachers, and provide important teacher talent support for the sustainable development of music education in higher vocational colleges. Higher vocational colleges should strengthen the training and education of music teachers, and gradually improve teachers' teaching ability, music literacy and ideological and moral cultivation, so as to improve the level of music education in higher vocational colleges.

Higher vocational colleges should increase investment in music education, create a good music education environment, update music teaching facilities, and improve the software and hardware environment of music education. Make use of teaching resources, formulate scientific teaching plans and create a good soft environment, so that students can feel the charm of music and immerse themselves in music education. We should enrich campus cultural activities, guide students to love music and life, and improve their comprehension, perception and aesthetic ability in the activities. At the same time, we should improve the configuration of teaching facilities in higher vocational colleges, increase the investment in music teaching facilities, and make use of advanced teaching facilities to enrich teaching contents and forms, so that teaching activities can meet students' learning needs.

#### (5) Allocate teaching resources and expand practice space

It is necessary to standardize the allocation of music teaching resources in higher vocational colleges, gradually improve the structure system of music teaching in higher vocational colleges, and scientifically arrange various music teaching plans from the overall situation of teaching development. First, higher vocational colleges should take students' actual interests as the starting point, create diversified music curriculum teaching contents, gradually integrate the components of western music, classical music and popular music, strengthen the curriculum construction related to music education, and deepen the breadth and depth of music curriculum education. Secondly, it is necessary to scientifically adjust the structure of music education in higher vocational colleges, combine the reality of current social development, and formulate a scientific and orderly talent training program guided by market demand, so as to realize the eclectic curriculum of music education in higher vocational colleges and highlight the training characteristics of music education in higher vocational colleges. Thirdly, by increasing teaching practice, we can gradually expand the fields of music education, such as performance courses and dance courses, based on music courses. Students' theoretical ability and practical ability are placed in the same position, so as to strengthen students' comprehensive musical ability.

We should actively expand the practice space of music education in higher vocational colleges and create a good music education environment for students. Therefore, while attaching importance to the theoretical classroom construction, educators in higher vocational colleges should strengthen the second classroom expansion to improve students' musical literacy and ability, and carry out music education activities in higher vocational colleges with rich contents and various forms, so that students can feel and love music in practice and realize the sublimation of music education value. On the one hand, higher vocational colleges should actively encourage students to participate in school music club activities, such as classical bands, rock bands, national bands, etc., and take club organizations as an important carrier to improve students' music literacy and ability, so as to realize the two-way interactive development of students' theoretical and practical abilities. On the other hand, higher vocational colleges can hold music lectures, regularly invite famous musicians at home and abroad to give lectures, aim at the problems existing in students' music education and study, and then answer questions, so as to realize the effective connection between students' campus music education and social music education.

## 5. Conclusion

To sum up, there are many problems in music education in higher vocational colleges that need to be improved. As higher vocational colleges play an increasingly important role in promoting and meeting the needs of social development, it is increasingly important to improve the level of music education in higher vocational colleges. Truly understand the role of music education, optimize the structure of teachers, improve software and hardware facilities, improve teachers' teaching level, lay a solid foundation for music education in higher vocational colleges, and then cultivate technical talents with high comprehensive quality and all-round development for the society.

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