

On the Educational Value of Music Curriculum in Middle Schools

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Abstract: As an indispensable and important field of humanities, education, especially music education, plays a vital role in the elementary education stage to improve humanistic quality. This paper analyzes and studies the value of music curriculum from the aspects of the position of music education in education and the role of human spirit.

Introduction

In the early 21st century, the upsurge of educational system reform makes the exam-oriented education transform to the quality-oriented education. To improve the national quality, moral education has become the primary goal of education. To regard the establishment of national spirits of self-esteem, self-reliance, and self-confidence as an important content, ideological and political education alone is not enough. In the category of moral education, music education plays a necessary role. With the formulation and implementation of the new curriculum standard, music education has received more and more attention in school education.

1. Music Education under the New Curriculum Standard

The formulation and promulgation of the "Music Curriculum Standards of Full-time Compulsory Education" (experimental draft) in 2001 pointed out the direction for the reform and development of music teaching and education in China. It is a great beginning of the reform of basic music education and marks that the reform of China music education has entered a new stage^[1]. With the promotion of quality education and the continuous reform of basic education curriculum, music teachers in primary and secondary schools have also engaged in the new music teaching reform.

In 2011, "Music Curriculum Standards of Full-time Compulsory Education" (experimental draft) (revised edition) proposed the value of music course, expanded the "curriculum nature", and integrated ten "curriculum basic concepts" into five. Among them, it insists on the proposal of "music aesthetics as the core" and puts the concept of "emphasizing music practice" into the second place. Meanwhile, it further improves the value system of music curriculum.

2. The Value of Music Education in Middle School

The famous educator of the former Soviet Union Suchomlinski pointed out: "for art, especially music, its moral content is its soul, the meaning of its existence. Music lessons in schools, in all their forms, should be designed to develop the student's spiritual life, to help them understand the world, to form their world view, to raise their moral standards."

As a fundamental part of music education, basic music education is fully respected for training children to become musicians. However, its value is obviously not for training musicians, but for educating people. Music education no longer serves artists and professionals. With the deepening of the research on the theory of quality education, people's understanding of its aesthetic education becomes getting deeper and deeper. In the process of comprehensive quality education, improving the status of aesthetic education in schools has become a necessary task.

2.1. The Value of Aesthetic Education

Aesthetic education is usually called aesthetic appreciation education or aesthetic feeling education. It means aesthetic education through music, art, dance, drama and other aspects, the popularization of aesthetic knowledge and aesthetic education through the law of beauty. Music education in aesthetic education has very rich connotations and is an important part of social aesthetic education and quality education. Thus, exploring the role of music education in the quality education of teenagers and playing the function of music education should be the theme of implementing comprehensive quality education for music educators^[2].

In the world of art, music is a unique one, which is the best form to express and stimulate emotions. Music is the closest art to society, an important part of human social life, and also a spiritual product of human society. Aesthetic education is the most important educational function of music education. In "Music Curriculum Standards of Full-time Compulsory Education", it points out the concept of taking music aesthetics as the core. This concept should be the basic idea of music education, run through the whole process of music teaching, imperceptibly cultivate students' good sentiment and sound personality. Therefore, music education is not only a simple singing and listening, but also a course of entertainment and relaxation. Music teachers should fully play the particularity of music education and tell students the true, the good, the beautiful and the false and the ugly of the world by all means of beauty. Thus, students can understand and create beauty in the experience of music, so as to shape the soul, personality and quality of beauty.

Ignorance cannot make people pure, and ignorance cannot make them noble. The aesthetic of music lies in cultivating sentiment. While imparting knowledge and skills, music education also changes the aesthetic value orientation of the educated through aesthetics. In the integration with music, students can feel the beauty of life, continuously recognize and discover beauty in the ordinary learning, and further create and display beauty with ordinary things, which makes students' emotions develop harmoniously. It can be seen that the value of music education for middle school students is not reflected overnight. Just like learning mathematics and physics, it focuses on cultivating students' logical thinking instead of just for learning a few formulas, and getting high marks. Similarly, music education is not just about singing or playing a musical instrument well. It focuses on shaping people's minds and beautifying their characters.

2.2. The Value of Moral Education

Moral education is the soul of music education, and music education is the carrier of moral education. It plays an important role in shaping sound personality, forming a good personality, mastering certain basic knowledge of music, cultivating sentiment, improving psychological quality, and promoting the comprehensive development of students so as to establish correct values, outlook on life, and world outlook.

Music is to record and express human emotions, which is an art of time. However, our musicians use notes to leave memorable moments in the long river of time, and use music to praise the great and small love of the world, national and hometown emotions, the great, the life as well as the society. In our music, there is more emotions that cannot be expressed by literature and other disciplines. To cultivate qualified socialist successors, it is not only possible to conduct ideological and political education. Using music to cultivate the spirit of collectivism cannot be replaced by other disciplines in moral education. The "Yellow River Chorus" shows the passion of Anti Japanese in the period of Anti Japanese War, which is no worse than any literary works. On the contrary, it gives students full imagination and allows them to imagine the scene of high morale in their minds.

Music is an important human culture, a carrier of self-expression, and a common "artistic language" and spiritual wealth of human society^[3]. Music education is called "the education of rites and music" in ancient China. "Rite" is the external standard of human behavior, and "music" is the inner harmony of human minds. The education of rites and music is the humanistic education of the normalization and artistry of life, the harmony and unity of inner disposition and outer behavior. This kind of education is different from the modern knowledge education. It aims at cultivating

perfect personality and cultivating a person who is polite outside and harmonious inside, so music education is a kind of humanistic education. "The cultivation of rites makes people behave well", which is the cultivation from the outside to the inside; "The spread of music makes people clear", which is the cultivation that works on the heart and clarifies the mind. Since people gradually realize the role of music in education, many people have spent great efforts to study the role of music in improving the overall quality of people and promoting their comprehensive development, and have achieved many gratifying results^[4].

As a necessary part of basic education, the value of music education not only lies in the music itself, but also is a part of comprehensive development. International Society for Music Education holds that music education can effectively develop human potential, stimulate creative impulse, improve the quality of life, and sublimate the spiritual realm; The rich diversity of music around the world brings opportunities for international understanding, cooperation and peace. Moreover, music is a bright pearl in the treasure house of human culture. In the long history of human development, music has played a very important role in social development, national rejuvenation and comprehensive development of humans in its unique way. It is impossible to imagine a society and a nation without music, as well as an education without music and a life without music.

Conclusion

Xian Xinghai, people's musician said: "music is the greatest joy in life, a clear spring in life, the melting pot for molding one's temperament. "In a word, music is an art of emotion. In music, the clear rhythm, beautiful melody, abundant harmony, wonderful timbre are fully used to express affection. Therefore, music can directly touch students' emotional center, shock students' souls, and its penetration and influence on students' emotional world, moral sentiment and moral idea are great.

In conclusion, apart from teaching professional knowledge and inheriting music culture, music education is more about letting people learn to understand and communicate with the inner and outer world through music, so as to improve the quality of life and show the beauty of human nature towards the harmonious realm of the supreme good^[5]. Music curriculum has multiple values. Music is not only an expression of sound, and the value of music education is not only reflected in that it is a medium of emotional communication. Music education can improve personality and quality, and cultivate excellent talents with comprehensive development. It has become an important content to enhance the work of art education and deepen its teaching reform to improve understandings, change concepts and conduct the music education seriously. We should fully understand the unique role of music education in quality education. With a strong sense of historical responsibility and urgency, we need to reform with determination and work hard for the greater development of middle school music education^[6].

Music education and aesthetic education in middle school complement each other and promote each other, which is the requirement of today's quality education. Through vivid content and beautiful music melody, music enables students to perceive the beauty of music, so that students can cultivate their emotions while improving their aesthetic cultivation, thus achieving the purpose of educating people.^[7] The aesthetic ability is also an important function in the process of quality education. The improvement of aesthetic ability is formed in the process of exploring the laws of things, and it is also a powerful creativity.^[8] Therefore, in the teaching process of music aesthetic education, it is important to make full use of the moldable and abstract characteristics of music to develop students' thinking, so as to provide good conditions for creativity.

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