Research on the Weakness of College Dance Teaching and Its Innovative Solutions

Juan Gao
Art College of Xi’an University, 710065

Abstract—With the development of the economy and the progress of society, people’s pursuit of spiritual life is growing. In recent years, how to enrich people's material and cultural life has become a national strategy. In the new era of economic and social development, in the context of the improvement of people’s quality life, China's higher education has entered a key stage of development and transformation. As an important part of higher education in China, college dance teaching shoulders the heavy responsibility of providing high-quality professional dance talents to the country. This paper makes a brief analysis of the weakness in the college dance teaching, and puts forward its own opinions on the solution.

Keywords—College, Dance Teaching, Innovation

I. INTRODUCTION

Material civilization and spiritual civilization are two aspects of social civilization. After years of development, we have made remarkable achievements in constructing material civilization, whether it is the country’s economy or people’s material living standards have been unprecedentedly improved. However, the material civilization will not be prosperous if it lacks the nourishment of spiritual civilization because spiritual civilization and material civilization complement each other. Emphasizing the importance of building spiritual civilization is the only way for social development in the new era.

China’s college dance teaching started long ago. After years of continuous development and improvement, it has formed a unique teaching style and teaching standards, and has providing a large number of high-quality professional dance talents to the society. However, the achievements belong to the past. In the new historical period, the social requirements for professional talents have undergone substantial changes. This has been clearly reflected in the reform of higher education teaching in China. How to implement the general requirements of education and teaching reform in the new era, and make college dance teaching a platform to expand students' comprehensive quality and enhance students’ artistic appreciation and artistic creativity, which has become the top priority in college dance teaching transformation.

II. CURRENT STATUS OF COLLEGE DANCE TEACHING IN CHINA

As a branch of art teaching, dance teaching has distinctive features that distinguish it from other courses. Dance teaching seems simple, but the course content is rich and the teaching is difficult. At present, many colleges in China have dance courses. In general, dance teaching has few innovations in recent years, and it still follows traditional education and teaching. The author believes that the current problems in our college dance teaching are mainly:

A. Limitations of Teaching Resources

The development of teaching work is inseparable from the corresponding teaching resources. This is especially true for dance teaching. There are many dance categories, each with unique temperament and features. Due to historical and other objective reasons, the previous colleges' investment in dance teaching was obviously insufficient. First of all is the funding. The dance teaching in many schools is very simple. In some professional dance schools, this problem may be relatively better, but the construction of dance majors in most colleges is not optimistic. The problem of insufficient funds has troubled the development of the dance profession for many years. As a part of art teaching, dance teaching is often in the last positions of some colleges and universities. The hardware conditions of dance teaching cannot be improved all the year round. Although many schools have established dance major, it includes a very limited variety of dances. Secondly, there are still some prejudices about dance teaching. Some school leaders also have some prejudices about the development of dance teaching. In their view, although dance teaching is a component of college education and teaching, its main function is auxiliary, and it cannot be compared with traditional subjects in importance. Whenever the discipline construction and development are mentioned, the first and foremost focus is on strong traditional disciplines such as computers and communications, and dance teaching is rarely mentioned. Some schools' requirements for dance teaching are merely to maintain the status quo, lack of scientific, reasonable, unified planning blueprints, and there is no clear thinking on the overall development of dance teaching, many ideas are not practical. Some leaders believe that dance teaching is mainly to cultivate students' sentiment, so that students just need to have fun in learning, and it is not necessary to be systematic and complicated. These views are very wrong. However, due to the special administrative structure of colleges in China, professional dance teachers have limited say in disciplinary construction. In many cases, the ideas of discipline construction and development are completely dominated by administrative leaders. Finally, the teacher construction of college dance teaching is also relatively backward. Dance is a discipline with strong professional and comprehensive requirements. It requires teachers to have not only the knowledge of dance major, but also the knowledge reserve of other related professions. Some people compare dance to the language of the body. Good dance can often cause the audience to resonate strongly through body language. This effect is not simply achieved through dance techniques, but is the result of a full-scale effect. This role includes the basic literacy of dance, humanistic literacy, emotional control, appeal and stage experience, etc. which any deficiency of them may lead to the weakening of the
overall effect of the dance. In addition, dance teaching is different from dance itself. The word teaching contains rich connotations. Many dance teachers have professional skills, but they often do not get the recognition of students in education and teaching. The occurrence of this situation has a direct relationship with the structure of higher education in China. Many dance teachers are not from the normal colleges. They lack rich classroom teaching experience and only have professional skills. Unfortunately, this problem is often overlooked by most people. They can't see that dance teaching can be disassembled into two aspects of dance and teaching, and the dance teaching is simply classified into dance. At present, the lag problem of the construction of dance teachers in China has been very serious. What is even worse is that the majority of dance teachers have little chance of re-learning and training after they have taken up their jobs. Their knowledge systems and educational level is in a self-adjusting stage for a long time, and can easily form a closed state if there is no external force or external knowledge. In this state, it is difficult for them to find their own shortcomings to feel the gap with the outside to continuously improve their own theoretical and practical cultivation in communication and to make breakthroughs in education and teaching.

B. Neglect of Cultural Teaching

Dance and culture are inseparable. In a broad sense, dance is a part of culture, and dance is a symbol of cultural quantification and materialization. The neglect of cultural teaching does not only exist in dance teaching, but the biggest drawback in college education. In the context of the previous exam-oriented education, cultural teaching is difficult to quantify, and it is difficult to form a specific assessment system, so it has been neglected for a long time which leads to a lower level all the year round of our higher education. The number of our talent cultivation is increasing every year, but the quality of talent cultivation is often criticized. Many scholars believe that we only have tool-based talents in various subject areas but few master-level talents which due to the lack of cultural teaching in discipline teaching. Culture is the internal commander of a discipline. The disciplines without cultural heritage are illusory. At present, various thinking trends in the society are ups and downs, and various forms of dance are emerging. Many people lack a fair and objective understanding of foreign dances and some new forms of dance. In their view, some weird dances are a fashionable embodiment. The standards for these people to interpret art forms are very shallow. The reason is the result of the lack of culture. Under the influence of the lack of cultural education, students’ values are easily influenced by the external environment because they lack the most basic judgment and cognitive standards.

C. Teaching Methods are too Single

In theory, colleges are the forefront of the trend of thought and information, but throughout the disciplines teaching of our colleges, there is always a huge conflict with the frontier. Especially in the teaching methods, we are still basically using a single teaching mode. In the class, the teacher is in a dominant position, and the students are in a completely passive position. The students have only a little interaction with the teacher. The teacher blindly instructs the students through the classroom explanation and the students can only accept it. This kind of blunt education and teaching methods has become out of place in the new stage of education development, and it is difficult to achieve the expected educational and teaching effects. In some respects, the enthusiasm and initiative of students are even severely limited. Today, although the society vigorously advocates quality education, this old method of education and teaching is still popular, and even is dominant in some dance teaching. At present, many disciplines are applied modern education and teaching aids to help education and teaching reach all corners of student life, but college dance teaching has not broken through the tradition, still maintaining the old rhythm and pace.

III. RESEARCH ON THE INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT METHOD OF COLLEGE DANCE TEACHING IN CHINA

Dance teaching is an important part of art teaching. Through dance teaching, students’ spiritual temperament and moral cultivation can be improved, and students’ inner and outer beauty can be cultivated in subtle ways. Scientific, orderly and extensive dance teaching in colleges can gradually nurture students’ minds and hearts, so that their spiritual world can be developed, imagination and creativity can be expressed, which is very conducive to cultivating students’ good aesthetic taste and sensibility of life. As far as the author believes, the innovative development of college dance teaching in China should focus on the following aspects:

A. Strengthening the Objectives of Thoughts

We must do a good job in the dance teaching of colleges. First of all, we must clearly define the orientation of college dance teaching in order to have a clear and profound understanding of some problems in education and teaching. College dance teaching allows students to learn not only knowledge, but also humanistic qualities and personality. We can’t just inculcate knowledge as the whole of college dance teaching, but we should put most of our efforts on the cultivation of students’ learning ability and the improvement of comprehensive quality. As the performers of education and teaching, the majority of teachers must fully recognize the rich connotation and extension of dance education and teaching, and implement the requirements of quality education in an orderly manner and infiltrate into the every step of dance teaching.

B. Consolidate the Foundation of the Teachers Construction

Earlier, due to the limitations of the conditions, the talents of college dance teachers in China were in short supply. Many dance students took the teacher's stage directly after graduation and began their teaching career. Many of them have accumulated education and teaching from nothing. Although the problem has been improved a little, but overall our college dance teachers have a low level of comprehensive ability. We should open up a path for the improvement of teachers’ abilities in many channels and all aspects, and let teachers improve in communication and learning, and have a clear and profound understanding of the development and reform of dance teaching in the new form in exchanges and collisions. Take advantage of others’ strengths and make up own weaknesses, so as to improve the overall quality of the teacher team.
C. Pay Attention to the Application of Information-Based Teaching Methods

After years of development, information-based teaching methods have been widely used in the field of education and teaching. Today, with the rapid development of science and technology, teachers shoulder a special historical mission in cultivating students’ innovative spirit. To cultivate students’ innovative spirit, teachers themselves must be good at innovation. If teachers lack innovative thinking, then the discipline will lose its soul and motivation. The application of information-based teaching methods in education and teaching includes many cutting edge scientific and technological achievements. The application of information-based teaching methods has effectively improved the deficiencies in traditional dance teaching, enriched the classroom content of dance teaching, and presented rigid and difficult-to-representation of professional knowledge in front of students in a flexible and diverse way. At the same time, information-based teaching methods have also strengthened the connection between teachers and students, effectively improved the classroom atmosphere. The application of information-based methods can enable teachers to produce high-quality courseware with rich content, various forms and close to students’ preferences. At present, foreign college dance teaching has adopted a large number of teaching aids and means such as micro-classes, MOOCs, etc., breaking the limitations of time and space on dance education whose effect is extraordinary from the application point of view.

IV. CONCLUSION

The problems in college dance teaching in China have aroused widespread concern among social stakeholders and the education community. At the critical moment when the current education and teaching reform is gradually deepening, how to do a good job of innovative reform of efficient dance teaching and promote the healthy development of college dance teaching is a historical issue faced by every dance teaching worker.

REFERENCES