A Brief Discussion on the Professional Qualities that Undergraduate Students Majoring in Music Should Possess

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Abstract: As an art subject, music features professionalism, technicality and creativity. With the professionalizing of music education in the current era, the public has higher demands for specialized schools in music teaching. And as for students majoring in music, they ought to constantly enhance their music art capability and music accomplishment so as to get a better opportunity embarking on their music career. However, as a matter of fact, it is still less optimistic for the cultivation of professional accomplishment of undergraduate music-majoring students at present. Therefore, the problem of how to enhance students’ professional quality catches colleges’ attention. This paper analyzes the present training condition in professional accomplishment of undergraduate students majoring in music in terms of the professional accomplishment, and explores the training ways for the undergraduate students majoring in music.

1. Introduction

Due to the fact that music professional accomplishment is the sum of the capability and accomplishment in music, and professional accomplishment of music-majoring students is directly related to whether the student can achieve a promising development achievements, so in order to promote the professional accomplishment of music majored students, colleges should not only focus on students’ theoretical knowledge study, but also on students’ music creation ability and cultivating reading competence. Only in this way can they help students draw inferences in professional learning and promote their professional accomplishment genuinely. Yet today’s colleges still have some deficiencies on cultivating professional accomplishment for music major students, which will certainly lead to a bad influence on improving the overall level of music major students. This paper generally analyzes the professional accomplishment that students majoring in music in colleges should possess, and lay a solid foundation on enhancing students’ professional capabilities and qualities on this basis.

2. Professional qualities that students majoring in music should possess

2.1 Professional capability

2.1.1 Professional theoretical basis

The study of professional theoretical basis is the prerequisite before enhancing the professional accomplishment for students majoring in music, and theoretical elementary knowledge is the main content for every music major. Currently, with the steady increase in professional refinement and clarification on professional music education, more and more related music theories are emerging. To those students who learning music, their music creations are based on the professional music theory itself. Lacking of solid theoretical knowledge in music, students cannot create their own music and thus hard to be accredited by others. Professional theoretical knowledge is the foundation of music creation, and also an imperative part of music expression. Creativity and ingenuity are the core of music without any doubt, and all the features and characteristics of musical works are applied to theoretical knowledge, only thus can promote the attractiveness of a musical work. Hence, students
majoring in music should learn theoretical knowledge earnestly, creating more distinctive musical works and generating others’ empathy.

2.1.2 Practical ability

As for students majoring in music, learning theoretical knowledge is to get better understandings of musical works, to create musical works better and to perform music works better. Therefore, in order to strengthen students’ professional accomplishment, they should constantly practice in the terms of theoretical knowledge basis. Amongst the colleges’ music major education, they stress more on students’ productivity and performing ability in music. Inspiration and creativity are based on the composition of all types of music and music creation, only through a long period of practice can achieve the effect which is called “practice makes perfect”. Performance is the key to embody the student’s practical ability, only through proficiency in performance can a student exert his level of music normally. In addition, instrument performing is also an aspect of showing a student’s practical ability and instrument performing has a close contact with creating a music work. Thus, students majoring in music should constantly enhance their practical ability from the aspects of performing and creating.

2.1.3 Professional learning and comprehension ability

No matter which major it is for students, learning ability plays the decisive role in student’s professional ability and is directly related to his final performance, students majoring in music’ learning ability is without exception too. Students not only need to study professional theoretical knowledge in music, but also the content of practice. In the process of learning, they should draw inferences, explore actively and ask for teacher’s advice modestly if something couldn’t work out by themselves. Meanwhile, observe carefully and summarize the effect of learning constantly during practice, improving the shortcomings so as to lay a solid foundation in enhancing students’ professional level in music learning. Comprehension ability is also an important quality for students majoring in music, only comprehend the essence of musical work can students make a better musical work. The comprehend ability of musical work is directly connected with a student’s achievement in the field of music. There is a certain relation between student and comprehend ability, however, comprehend ability can be nurtured through efforts.

2.2 Accomplishment

2.2.1 Creative thinking

Music as an art expression form, it can express delicate emotions and sensibility to people’s life, pregnancy and things which are around them. Creativity is a significant evaluation standard in deciding the quality of a musical work, one should have a strong attractiveness and uniqueness in work creation to make the work different from others and more unique if the work is accredited by other people. Under the environment of aesthetic pluralism, people are paying more attention to the innovation of musical work. A unique musical work can emerge from numerous of works, bringing listeners a different feeling. College students majoring in music should constantly enhance their creative thinking to create music boldly and make music with an open mind, so as to create more quality musical work and promote the whole music industry in a good environment.

2.2.2 Humanistic quality

Music as an art expression form, the main aim of it is feeling expression. Delicate and abundant humanistic feelings are embodied in musical works, and this determines the level of a music in a large extent. For students majoring in music, learning music not only needs specialized theories but also humanistic knowledge. In order to promote comprehensive quality for students majoring in music, one of the effective ways is tamping their humanistic quality. The more humanistic knowledge they store, the more flexible they can be applied to different elements. Accordingly, for the sake of presenting a profound musical work and showing it in different levels, students should present the humanistic feelings inside the work.

2.2.3 Self-examination and self-improvement

Self-examination and self-improvement are also two important qualities that students majoring in music should possess. When creating, performing or expressing musical work, students always have
some shortcomings inevitably. Requiring an art to be perfect is difficult, or impossible in some sense. Supposing students majoring in music want to improve their performance and music creation, they need to learn how to examine themselves thoroughly and correct their imperfections. Only this leads to some breakthroughs and grow stronger. In the process of music learning, students needn’t to make their works extremely perfect, sometimes it is more interesting to see some defective work. Hence, during the self-examination, students should consider what kind of flaws can be kept. Only in an authentic and relaxed status to express musical work can make the work more empathetic.

3. The present situation of the cultivation of professional quality of students majoring in music in colleges and universities

3.1 Weak cultural knowledge

Music major has a huge difference comparing with the general enrollment currently, for they have a lower requirement on cultural knowledge. This inclines to the weak cultural knowledge students majoring in music have and many of them think cultural knowledge is less important, even existing the phenomenon of looking down on specialized theoretical knowledge learning. Some students set learning professional skills as their priority but not the cultural knowledge learning, of course this is an inappropriate idea. Having this kind of thought, many students get strong specialized skills but lacking of cultural knowledge.

3.2 Students have a more active thinking and a more liberal personality

Students majoring in music have a strong self-awareness and a liberal thought. They like expressing themselves and better able to express their inside feelings, and they love to catch others’ attention, pursuing the development of personality. Those characteristics make them convey and express their musical feelings much better. However, some of them overly pursue their personality and this leads to a lack of self-discipline. This also leads to a phenomenon making them have a weak discipline consciousness, which means lay more emphasis on personal development and ignore the development of groups.

4. Ways for cultivating comprehensive quality of college students majoring in music

4.1 Infiltrating humanistic education into professional curriculum

Nowadays, many of the colleges think little of the humanistic education, while some of the colleges understand the importance of humanistic education and offer courses about humanity, but the effect of this is not significant. As for students majoring in music, they consider enhancing their professional skill as the main task, spending more time and vigor in professional music curriculum. Therefore, they pay less attention to learn humanistic courses leading to no promotion in humanistic quality. So in order to rise the comprehensive quality for students majoring in music, teachers need to integrate humanistic spirit and knowledge into teaching content during music learning. In this way, students can learn professional knowledge and understand deeply about the humanistic spirit in musical works at the same time, also can comprehend the musical works in the terms of spirit so as to know about the stories behind musical works, so that they can be edified by humanities and students can get an overall improvement in professional and humanistic quality.

4.2 Combining newborn things with music teaching

In the process of teaching, teachers need to take effective method to train students’ professional accomplishment. Firstly, teachers should emphasize more on activating student’s interest in learning music so that students can take part in classroom teaching actively. For example, they can use multimedia or some popular applications like “Tik Tok” or “Kuai Go” (short video sharing apps) during teaching. Students can communicate in groups and create a short video while the video should be based on real life, and teachers select three videos which considered the best. After selecting, students who creates the work need to talk about the inner idea and feelings expressed by the musical
work and where does the inspiration come from etc. Launching such activity not only enhance the communication between teachers and students, but arouse the students’ enthusiasm in learning music, furthermore, the act also cultivates students’ self-innovation ability and intangibly promotes students’ key competences in music.

4.3 Launching the music activities in colleges

In order to promote students majoring in music’ professional quality and music creation ability, colleges should launch more music activities for jumping out of the constraint on classical classroom teaching, and students can enhance their professional ability through self-made musical works. For instance, by means of launching music activities in campus and students’ active participation, it is beneficial for building a good campus culture and enriching students’ campus life, activating the passion for creating musical work, moreover, it can promote students’ practice ability in music and have a significant meaning for enhancing students majoring in music’ professional quality.

5. Conclusion

All in all, as for undergraduate students who major in music, professional quality is the requisite condition for music development, and in some extent it determines whether a student can achieve the favorable accomplishment or not. Hence, teachers also should lay stress on cultivating student’s professional quality which includes theoretical basis of music, practice ability, professional study, comprehensive ability, idea of innovation, humanistic quality, self-examination and self-improvement etc. All of these are beneficial for students create a better musical work and lay a solid foundation for promoting the development in music industry.

References