# Vocal Music Education: the Reference and Application of Choral Aesthetic Education to Music Education in Colleges and Universities 

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#### Abstract

Through aesthetic education, we can shape students' core character and promote their all-round development. As an important part of this process, music is based on the core socialist values, and it is practical and diverse. Through the activities in the music class, we can truly achieve this goal, enhance their aesthetic ability, and cultivate their humanistic accomplishment and patriotic spirit.


## 1. Foreword

With the continuous development of the society, quality education has become the top priority of today's Chinese education system. Through in-depth research and discussion, we can effectively guide and guide the quality education of college students, so as to improve their comprehensive quality, and help to promote China's education cause to make greater progress. Among them, music teaching, as an important way, plays a vital role in quality education. Through music education, we can help students to obtain excellent artistic accomplishment, and cultivate their positive personality. With the reform of music education, we hope to improve students' comprehensive music quality through this way, so as to achieve the goal of quality education. With the progress of society, people pay more and more attention to students' aesthetic education. Chorus is a very effective method, it can let students personally feel the charm of art, and can stimulate their enthusiasm for art. Therefore, in most cases, colleges and universities will regard chorus as an important method of quality education. In addition, this method can not only cultivate college students' aesthetic taste, enhance their innovative thinking and keen observation, but also help them to establish a perfect personality, so as to improve the overall level of the country.

## 2. Overview of College Chorus Education

### 2.1 Mode of Chorus Education in Colleges and Universities

At present, the chorus education in Chinese colleges and universities adopts two modes: one is the student choir, which is composed of non-music major students, and the other is the students of music majors. Both models are available to all school students and are recruited. The college student chorus
is composed of all kinds of college student associations, guided by professional instructors. Chorus courses and rehearsals are held every week, aiming to promote the development of college club activities, as shown in Figure 1 Compared with other schools, the choirs of music schools pay more attention to cultivating students' professional skills, and their members are all from music majors. Many music schools use chorus as a required course- -chorus and conducting, and students majoring in vocal and instrumental music should learn this course. In many schools, especially in preschool education majors, chorus is regarded as an important art education course ${ }^{[1]}$. Just as follows table 1.


Figure 1: Choral practice
Table 1: The development mode of college chorus education

| The development mode of college chorus education |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Choir classification | Choir group composition | Expand the mode |
| Student choir | Non-music major students | Professional teachers to guide and <br> hold regular drills |
| Professional choir | Music major student | Develop professional skills |

### 2.2 Curriculum of College Chorus Education

At present, the development of chorus education in colleges and universities focuses on the establishment of campus choir, but the curriculum also varies according to the needs of professional and non-professional students. At present, the courses of chorus education in domestic universities mainly include singing, appreciation and conducting, and the priorities of these three courses are different, just as follows figure 2. Usually, a choral course consists of three parts: basic knowledge of music, singing skills, and singing practice. Because many non-music students lack music foundation, their need for music knowledge is more urgent. Therefore, in the work singing course, teachers will focus on cultivating students' basic music skills, including learning and applying some basic music theory knowledge, such as mastering the simple notation and staff, as well as mastering the rhythm and beat. Music majors usually have a solid musical foundation, so they need to improve their musical skills and cultivation. To help these students improve their singing skills, teachers will focus on singing training and actual performance so that they can better show their timbre ${ }^{[2]}$. Usually, only choirs from music schools offer courses on appreciation and conducting skills. The choral conducting course aims to help students better understand and analyze choral works and develop their musical skills. This course mainly covers the history of choral music and the analysis of works, and aims to cultivate students' mastery of music expertise. In addition, this course also pays more attention to
cultivating students' basic knowledge of music. Obviously, the choir of college students has a great demand for singing chorus works, and the choirs of music professional departments need more comprehensive chorus education.


Figure 2: College chorus education curriculum setting map

## 3. The Function and Function of Choral Activity in College Music Education

Higher education aims to cultivate students' professional skills and comprehensive qualities, among which professional education includes compulsory courses and elective courses, just as follows figure 3. The comprehensive quality covers the ideological and moral, humanistic quality, situation and policy, career planning and other aspects. Art education, appreciation and activities are crucial to the promotion of humanistic quality. By participating in these activities, we can better understand the charm of art and be able to play their role. Choral art has become a very popular activity in our campus ${ }^{[3]}$. By holding college chorus activities, we can bring many benefits to our students. First, they are easy to organize, rehearse, display, and can attract more people to attend. In addition, they can help students enhance their patriotism, inspire them to work together, enhance their musical literacy and aesthetic taste, promote their physical and mental health, and lay a good foundation for their personal growth. In short, the university chorus activities can not only contribute to the external publicity of the school, but also make contributions to the society. Therefore, it is particularly important to hold choral competitions in universities. This paper will deeply explore the importance of chorus activities in the construction of university campus culture, in order to better organize and implement such activities, so as to promote the development of college students' humanistic quality and aesthetic taste ${ }^{[4]}$.


Figure 3: The comprehensive quality of college chorus education

### 3.1 Enhancing Students' Patriotic Enthusiasm and National Pride

With the development of The Times, higher education is becoming more and more popular, and people's comprehensive quality has also been improved. In recent years, the government has been pushing for high levels. Such as the development of education, and the continuous expansion of the scope of enrollment, but at present, many college graduates are still the single-parent families of the post-90s. Although many people in the cognition of traditional culture still has certain limitations, but in the aesthetic education, the traditional culture of the Chinese nation still plays a vital role, including aesthetic education, classic literature, art, etc., these can provide a new perspective for children, let the children to better understand and respect the culture. Chorus is a traditional art form, and its creation originates from the ancient cultural tradition. Through singing, one can feel the emotional and spiritual pleasure of the music. In colleges and universities, students can not only experience the physical and mental pleasure brought by music, but also deeply appreciate the charm of music culture through the chorus activities. By singing and presenting classic choral works, we can enhance students' national pride and awaken their love for their country. Art can be seen as a profound way of thinking, which can help us to understand the world better. Although the world today is in a period of peace, we should still cherish the values contained in the traditional culture, and strive to integrate them into our daily life. For example, when we hear the classic music of "March of the Volunteers", "Yellow River Chorus" and "Ode to the Motherland", and enjoy the five-star red flag flying high, we can inspire our infinite love and pride for the motherland ${ }^{[5]}$.

### 3.2 Cultivating Students' Team Consciousness and Cooperative Spirit

Human beings are a social animal. In the process of socialization, we not only need the help of each other, but more importantly, we have a spirit of teamwork. Today's higher education puts more emphasis on teamwork and encourages students to participate in various associations and student union organizations, which can not only improve their personal ability, but also enable them to learn and communicate in the team, and cultivate a good team association. Work and the collective spirit. By participating in college chorus activities, we can improve both artistic and team awareness, which is very useful for cultivating students' team spirit. In "Only us in the chorus, no me", Professor Wu Lingfen stressed that the chorus singing must be balanced and coordinated, including intonation, rhythm, speed, breathing and so on. In order to achieve the best results, we must pay attention to the cooperation between the various parts and the individual and the team. For example, the "Chorus in the chorus is only for us, without me" singing requires this balance. In the chorus performance, the collective consciousness and the collaboration ability are very important ${ }^{[6]}$. Furthermore, teamwork and collaboration ability are essential for a successful chorus during the performance. At the same time, being along with other members also helps to improve their skills and promote each other's learning. Therefore, the chorus competition held in colleges and universities can provide an opportunity for college students to exercise their team cooperation spirit. Participating in this competition allows students to better understand the value of the team, and enhance their sense of collective cooperation and coordination ability. At the same time, the competition can also make students better feel the cohesion of the team and easier to communicate with other students, thus achieving a sense of achievement.

### 3.3 Improving Students' Musical Accomplishment and Aesthetic Taste

Today's higher education is crucial to cultivating students' all-round development, and the basis of this development is the cultivation of their practical ability. In a broad sense, practice is the core of education. It can not only enable learners to master scientific knowledge, but also allow them to obtain
practical experience, let them have a deeper understanding of society and love their career more. Beautiful life experience often comes from our deep love and pursuit for beautiful things ${ }^{[7]}$. Some people believe that beauty is an emotion that cannot be expressed in words. It originates from an internal emotion, thought, emotion and emotional response. At present, many universities offer art courses, including music appreciation, film and television, and chorus. In addition to the art troupe and the choir, there are many other student groups. These activities can not only enhance the students' aesthetic taste, but also enrich their artistic knowledge and vision, and improve their artistic accomplishment. By participating in these activities, students can better tap their potential and bring them to the extreme. This is a rare opportunity, especially in the art show. The members will sing according to the requirements of the score, and try to adjust the pitch, pitch, rhythm, speed and strength to achieve the best results. They really get deeper into music, not just into hearing. Only through in-depth performance and singing, can we truly experience the charm of music, and enter the world of music. Therefore, long-term participation in chorus rehearsal can help students to accumulate music knowledge, improve music cultivation, and cultivate correct aesthetic standards, outlook on life and values. Music can bring people physical and mental pleasure, improve people's emotional accomplishment, and help people to distinguish between true and false, good and evil, and beauty and ugliness. The choral works sung by college students are all carefully selected excellent works. They have been widely popular after the test of time. The more they sing, the more moving and the more wonderful they sing. By singing choral works for a long time, college students can not only improve their sentiment and aesthetic taste, but also find the direction and motivation to study. This helps to improve the personal musical accomplishment and artistic taste, just as follows figure 4.


Figure 4: The purpose of college chorus activities

## 4. Implementation Strategy of the Education of Aesthetic Education in Colleges and Education

### 4.1 Optimizing the Allocation of Resources and Teach Students in Accordance with Their Aptitude

At present, most choral conducting courses in universities adopt traditional teaching methods and lack flexibility and diversity. This has led to the inability to individualize teaching based on each person's musical background and knowledge pool. In order to improve the effectiveness of chorus courses, teachers need to adopt more flexible methods for individualized teaching. In order to make students truly feel the charm of music, we suggest that teachers pay special attention to their understanding and appreciation of music in class. In addition, we recommend that teachers give them sufficient music knowledge support so that they can maximize their potential. By strengthening the training of students' musical foundation, we can help them to deeply understand the meaning of music, and further improve their musical cultivation. To help students who have a weak foundation in music but are interested in chorus, teachers should focus on their musical foundation. Mastering the musical foundation is the key to learning and understanding music. For those non-music students, teachers can choose excellent league members to help them learn chorus, so that they can exercise their practical application ability and optimize resource allocation in the help process. The school can provide non-music students with a path to a professional choir, which will help to improve their learning enthusiasm and contribute to the school to build a professional choir.

### 4.2 Strengthening the Construction of Teachers

As the core of chorus education in colleges and universities, their ability and skills are very important. If their ability can be improved, it can lay a solid foundation for the art education in colleges and universities. However, according to our study, both professional and non-professional choirs will often rely too heavily on conducting for their choral teaching. Conducting is an indispensable part of the choral course, and they must consider musical theory, playing skills and musical appreciation ability. With only one teacher, it is likely to cause inefficient teaching and reduce the quality of the whole class. In order to achieve the best teaching results, we need to strengthen the training and management of teachers, and ensure that every course is taught by professional teachers. Building a team of high-quality teachers can not only improve the professional skills of teachers, but also improve the teaching quality, so as to achieve a higher level of teaching effect.

### 4.3 Improving Teaching Efficiency by Combining with Network Teaching Methods

At present, choral teaching is changing and is no longer limited to the traditional teaching model. The classroom atmosphere is active and energetic. Due to the large number of students, the teacher can better understand the learning needs of each student. In addition, teachers can use more interactive and practical content to help students better understand and master the course content. "Internet + " era, we are vigorously promoting the network technology into the chorus and command course, it not only provides more resources for learning, but also for a variety of teaching mode provides more possibilities, such as situational teaching, PBL teaching, etc., to arouse students 'learning enthusiasm, active classroom atmosphere, and cultivate the students' ability of autonomous learning and solve problems. With the popularization of network platforms and communication tools, the communication between teachers and students has become more convenient and no longer limited by time and space. Especially in the current epidemic period, the importance of online education is becoming increasingly prominent, and the chorus class should also be combined with it to improve the classroom efficiency. In 2020, universities will launch online chorus conducting lectures and
"cloud chorus" performances to make up for the lack of inability to gather to listen to the lectures of conductor experts and excellent team singing due to the epidemic. During this period, some teachers used the new media technology platform to convey the learning content to the students in advance in the form of video, so that they could directly observe and study the comprehensive rehearsal method used by excellent conductors. By using network tools, teachers and students can cross the limitations of time and space, greatly improving the convenience of interaction. In addition, these tools provide more learning opportunities and time for students with a weak music foundation.

### 4.4 Carrying Out More Chorus Publicity and Performances to Popularize Aesthetic Education

Due to the lack of campus culture, it is difficult for students to apply the knowledge in class to reality. Therefore, we suggest that in addition to improving the quality of chorus courses, schools and teachers should also pay attention to the promotion of chorus in campus culture. By holding choral competitions and performances on campus, we can attract more college students to appreciate and feel the charm of chorus, add the color of choral culture to the campus, and make full use of its aesthetic education effect, to realize the aesthetic education in colleges and universities. In this way, we can not only attract more students to participate in the chorus competition, but also promote the construction of aesthetic education in universities. Through the chorus performance, we can evaluate the effect of the chorus course, encourage students to participate actively, and help teachers to better summarize experience, and adjust the teaching content and methods as needed. In addition, the choirs participating in such activities can not only enhance their professional skills, but also develop their practical skills, such as collaboration, communication, management, organization, etc. In addition, the school can strengthen the choral atmosphere on campus by inviting external choirs to perform. This can not only help to promote aesthetic education, but also can provide reference and appreciation opportunities for the school choir. In this loving and harmonious campus, we are committed to expressing our feelings through a chorus. To achieve this goal, we can organize various forms of choral cultural exchange activities. In the new media era, we often record micro-videos adapted from the chorus, and hold various flash mob activities to attract more people to participate. In this way, students can sing at any time and place to fully show the aesthetic value of campus chorus activities. In order to improve students' artistic accomplishment, universities should hold regular campus chorus competitions to encourage their interest in music, and to inherit and promote national culture through participation. In order to achieve the expected goal of aesthetic education, teachers should adopt various methods and hold various forms of chorus competitions. In order to better meet the needs of college students, we should combine their personal interests and potential potential to develop specific art courses. Through these courses, we hope to stimulate the interaction between teachers and students and cultivate students' multifaceted abilities.

### 4.5 Increasing Intercollegiate Exchanges

By expanding the scope of chorus courses in colleges and universities, we can not only promote the concept of aesthetic education more effectively, but also stimulate students' interest in participating in chorus activities, cultivate their creative thinking and aesthetic ability, provide them with a broad platform for them, and promote the development of chorus education. Choral is an ancient art form originating religious origin and has a long history. However, in China, choral art develops relatively late and is influenced by political factors. Nevertheless, the chorus still has a strong musical atmosphere and brings a strong sound effect. Therefore, in the study of chorus teaching, we should integrate the excellent skills of both the East and the West to help students to better appreciate and understand the chorus, just as follows figure 5.


Figure 5: Implementation strategies for choral education

## 5. Conclusion

Chorus education plays an important role in colleges and universities. It can not only popularize art education, but also promote students' aesthetic education. Although different students have different needs for choral courses, but through choral education, we can make them more promoted in the art. Chorus education is an important part of the construction of aesthetic education in colleges and universities. Therefore, teachers should teach students in accordance with their aptitude and combine the latest teaching methods to maximize the aesthetic education effect of chorus education.

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