Exploration on College Piano Teaching Reform under the Ideas of Quality Education

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Abstract: Reform is the driving force for the steady development of education. In order to improve the students’ Ideological and moral cultivation, promote the healthy development of students’ body and mind, and improve their piano creation and performance ability, in view of the problems existing in the piano teaching, this paper studies the main contents and basic strategies of piano teaching reform in colleges under the concept of quality education. The main contents of the reform include: educational concept, teacher’s role, teaching method, curriculum system, practical teaching and teaching evaluation. The basic reform strategies include: stimulating students’ interest in learning piano, strengthening the cultivation of students’ innovative ability, strengthening the design of innovative works in piano teaching, paying attention to the cultivation of students’ humanistic quality, paying attention to the cultivation of students’ independent learning ability, and giving play to the advantages of information technology in piano teaching.

1. Introduction

Quality education is an educational model aiming at improving the quality of educatees, which attaches importance to people’s ideological and moral values, ability cultivation, personality development, physical health and mental health. In accordance with the actual needs of human development and social development, quality education comprehensively improves the basic quality of all students, respects students’ subjectivity and initiative spirit, and pays attention to developing people’s intellectual potential and forming people’s sound personality. The piano is a keyboard instrument originated from the western classical music. It is widely used in solo, ensemble and accompaniment performances. Piano, known as the king of musical Instruments, plays an important role in modern music teaching. The purpose of piano teaching in colleges is to enable students to master more skills and learn more playing knowledge in piano performance, to help students to establish the ability of understanding, observation and innovation, and to lay a foundation for learning piano and improving artistic accomplishment in the future. Reform is the driving force for the steady development of education, and quality education is the pioneer idea to ensure the direction of teaching reform and development. Therefore, college piano teaching should carry out the idea of quality education, abandon the thought of lagging behind education, accumulate the experience of teaching reform, broaden the way of education, and implement the goal of teaching reform.

2. Problem on College Piano Teaching

Quality education is a teaching activity based on the promotion of students’ comprehensive quality, the deepening of students’ professional potential and the expansion of students’ piano career. From this point of view, the following problems still exist in college piano teaching:

(1) Paying too much attention to the cultivation of piano skills. The essence of piano teaching is to improve students’ ability of music appreciation and perception, and to promote the development of comprehensive quality including music literacy. However, many colleges still adopt the traditional teaching mode, pay too much attention to the cultivation of piano theory and
performance skills, overemphasize the professionalism of piano teaching, and ignore the ideological and emotional value of piano.

(2) The teaching method is too traditional. Many teachers assign a large number of practice pieces to students in the piano class, thinking that only intensive practice can improve the effect of playing. However, the students' ability to accept and digest is limited. In order to meet the requirements of teachers, they practice piano hard every day and have no time to think about their works, which is not conducive to the overall cultivation of students' ability to analyze and appreciate their works.

(3) The improvement of students’ special ability is weak. Students majoring in piano should have strong ability of music appreciation and repertoire playing. However, college piano teaching has always been at a low level, and the regular teaching activities do not pay enough attention to the cultivation and promotion of students’ special ability, fail to provide enough support for the improvement of students’ artistic quality and piano playing and performance ability.

(4) Lack of advanced education concept. Many piano teachers fail to fully understand the spirit of quality education, and their teaching concepts are still backward. They pay too much attention to the teaching of theoretical knowledge and skill training, neglect the emotional edification and music appreciation, so that students can not deeply experience the charm of piano playing; they lack a reasonable teaching evaluation system, so they mainly study the playing skills, not pay attention to musical art.

3. Importances on College Piano Teaching Reform under the Ideas of Quality Education

Under the concept of quality education, more attention should be paid to the cultivation of students’ moral sentiment, learning attitude, artistic quality, professional ability and personalized thinking, which is very important for the overall development of students’ comprehensive ability. After receiving comprehensive quality education, students will be able to treat and solve problems in life and learning with a positive attitude, and their thinking mode will be more active. It is of great significance to improve students’ artistic accomplishment and comprehensive quality through piano teaching.

(1) Improving students’ Ideological and moral cultivation. Good ideological and moral cultivation is the basic requirement for students to improve their piano learning efficiency and expand their piano art career. Teachers should integrate moral education into daily piano teaching activities, based on piano works, arouse emotional resonance, and deepen students’ overall perception of the works. Teachers should pay attention to the psychological characteristics of students and infiltrate the elements of moral education through lively and interesting social practice activities. Teachers should explore the background and the story behind the piano works to enhance students' understanding and emotional recognition of the works.

(2) Cultivating students’ comprehensive artistic accomplishment. As a form of artistic performance which mainly creates auditory aesthetic feeling and expresses emotional thoughts, piano requires performers to have good cultural taste, emotional understanding and cognitive ability. Therefore, the primary goal of quality education of college piano teaching is to cultivate students’ comprehensive artistic accomplishment, including the theoretical knowledge of aesthetics, creation, training and performance, as well as the knowledge of art, literature and philosophy, so that students can become people with profound culture, high taste and rich emotions.

(3) Promoting the improvement of students’ cultural literacy. Cultural literacy is not only scientific knowledge, but also knowledge of humanities and social sciences, including cultural taste, knowledge vision, emotional attitude and humanistic feelings and so on. Piano players need to have superb performance skills, but also should have a profound cultural literacy. Most of the piano works originated in the heyday of the development of western humanism, which is the most artistic form that can reflect the humanistic knowledge and spirit. Students should understand the humanistic knowledge and spiritual connotation behind the works and grasp the essence of piano works.
4. Main Contents on College Piano Teaching Reform under the Ideas of Quality Education

The reform of college piano teaching under the concept of quality education mainly includes the following:

(1) Reforming educational concept. Teaching concept is the basic attitude and concept of teaching activities and the belief of teaching activities. The teaching concept has the theory level, the operation level and the discipline level. Clear teaching concept has guiding significance to teaching activities. Teachers should drive regular teaching activities based on the relevant theories of quality education, pay attention to practicality and professionalism, and insist on regular, scientific and lasting training, so that students can master the playing skills of the piano on the basis of understanding and performing music.

(2) Reforming teachers’ role. When the exam-oriented education changes to the quality education, the teachers’ role also needs to be reformed. In order to meet the needs of students’ quality education, teachers should expand piano teaching vision, realize the change of teaching role, and create conditions for multi-channel reform of teaching methods. Teachers should change from attaching importance to knowledge teaching to students’ development, and become organizers, cooperators, guides and promoters of students’ piano learning, as well as builders and developers of piano teaching resources.

(3) Reforming teaching methods. Teaching methods include the methods taught by teachers and the methods learned by students, which is the unity of teaching methods and learning methods. The concept of quality education is to change the traditional teaching method, combining with the social development needs, and college students’ physical and mental characteristics to constantly innovate piano teaching methods, so as to cultivate the students’ practical ability and innovation ability, and by using the network technology and other auxiliary teaching tool to implement the new classroom teaching mode so as to exert the principal role of students and cultivate the students’ ability of autonomous learning.

(4) Reforming curriculum system. The curriculum system refers to the arrangement of different courses of the same major in the order of the categories, which determines what kind of knowledge structure students will acquire through learning. Colleges should reform the curriculum system, optimize the allocation of resources, and recombine the basic courses of music and the professional courses of piano according to the required courses and elective courses. Teachers should flexibly choose the content of piano basic courses according to the actual needs, and train students’ practical operation ability and innovative thinking ability by combining theory with practice.

(5) Reforming practical teaching. Practical teaching is an effective way to consolidate theoretical knowledge and deepen theoretical understanding. It is an important link to train talents with innovative consciousness, and also an important platform to train students to master scientific methods and improve their practical ability. Teachers should organize students to participate in piano performance competition, let them play in vocal performance, so as to realize the main
position of students. Teachers should let students carry out practical activities for the social music
training market, and for the stage of the mass culture and art market, so as to improve their ability
of on-the-spot response and cooperation.

(6) Reforming teaching evaluation. Teaching evaluation is a process in which teaching process
and results are measured and value judged based on the teaching objectives, in accordance with the
scientific standards and with all effective technical means. Evaluation has the function of
supervision and reinforcement to teachers and students. Based on the concept of quality education,
piano teachers need to conduct a comprehensive teaching evaluation from the perspective of
students’ art accomplishment, basic knowledge mastery and independent learning ability, so as to
promote students to adjust their learning direction purposefully.

5. Basic Strategies on College Piano Teaching Reform under the Ideas of Quality Education

Real quality education can arouse students’ subject consciousness, develop their initiative spirit,
form their spiritual strength, and promote their healthy growth. Quality education is not only to
teach professional knowledge and skills, but also to teach students the skills of survival and
development, to build a spiritual pillar with profound historical and cultural precipitation, and to
comprehensively develop students’ creative potential of understanding and transforming the world.
Under the concept of quality education, the reform of piano teaching in colleges not only improves
students’ piano playing ability, but also comprehensively cultivates their comprehensive quality.
Aiming at the main contents of piano teaching reform in colleges under the concept of
quality-oriented education, this paper proposes the following basic strategies:

(1) Stimulating students’ interest in learning piano. Interest is the best teacher, with learning
interest, teachers can give full play to the initiative and enthusiasm of students, and create a relaxed
and harmonious learning atmosphere. Music art has its own particularity, which can bring
emotional resonance to people. Teachers need to lead students to feel the charm and fun of piano
from multiple perspectives. Teachers should analyze and explain the performance skills through
animation to help students understand the knowledge points in an intuitive way; focus on the
analysis of music terms in the works to cultivate students’ music appreciation ability and feelings of
piano art; actively summarize after class to master students’ interest points and knowledge, and
guide students to actively participate in the classroom.

(2) Strengthening the cultivation of students’ innovative ability. Quality education is an
educational activity which aims to promote the development of students’ quality, improve their
comprehensive level, and pay attention to the cultivation of innovative spirit and ability. It can also
be said that quality education is an education focusing on cultivating students’ innovative spirit and
ability. In the process of piano teaching, teachers must take a variety of ways to continuously
improve students’ innovative ability. Improving inner hearing is a very effective way to innovate,
which lays a foundation for improving the ability of creative thinking. On the basis of respecting the
original works, one can add one’s own perception in the performance process to realize the
adaptation of the piano works, so that the music works can be further developed and conform to the
characteristics and requirements of the times.

(3) Paying attention to the cultivation of students’ humanistic quality. In the process of college
piano teaching, teachers should encourage students to design innovative works, not only to perform
daily piano performance, but also to integrate it into other works, so that piano art can penetrate into
daily life and carry on the inheritance of ideas and culture. In the design of innovative works,
teachers should encourage students to create boldly. For example, the dance works should
incorporate the aesthetic concept of piano to enrich the performance of piano. In the era of the
popularization of the Internet, the design of electronic works should be promoted so as to spread the
cultural connotation of the piano with the help of the Internet. The teacher also comments on the
works designed by the students, so that the students can gain more experience and growth in the
work design.

(4) Paying attention to the cultivation of students’ humanistic quality. Humanistic quality is
mainly composed of humanistic knowledge and skills, humanistic ability and methods, humanistic
spirit and quality, etc. Humanistic knowledge plays a fundamental role and is the foundation on which the other two aspects are formed. The cultivation of humanistic quality is the core content of piano education, which enables students to master the basic skills of piano performance and guide them to comprehend the cultural information contained in the notes and deeply understand the spiritual connotation of the works. First of all, students should strengthen the study of humanities knowledge, strengthen the understanding of life and music, improve the ability to appreciate music. Secondly, teachers should create a good artistic and cultural atmosphere, enrich students’ musical thinking and arouse their musical imagination through situational teaching.

(5) Paying attention to the cultivation of students’ independent learning ability. Independent learning is the student as the main body, through the independent analysis, exploration, practice, questioning and creation methods to achieve learning objectives. The key to promoting quality education is to cultivate students’ independent learning ability, stimulate their thirst for knowledge, maintain strong learning interest and achieve the best teaching effect. Piano is a highly skilled instrument. In the process of learning, students not only need teachers’ guidance, but also need to master independent learning methods. Reading music correctly is the foundation of piano autonomous learning, strengthening melody hearing training is the important content of autonomous learning, and being good at using brain is the key to autonomous learning. Students should constantly update their knowledge and adapt to the development of the times through independent learning.

(6) Giving play to the advantages of information technology in piano teaching. The integration of information technology and teaching is to integrate information technology, information resources, information methods, teaching content and teaching process into one platform under the guidance of modern educational thoughts, so as to better complete the teaching task. The integration of information technology and teaching enriches the piano teaching methods, provides a large amount of information and realistic audio-visual materials, makes the teaching forms flexible and colorful, and enables students to better grasp the learning content, provides a wide learning space, and opens up the piano cultural vision. By means of multimedia teaching and courseware making, teachers can achieve the goal of cultivating students’ creative spirit and ability.

References