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# The Application of Popular Music in College Music Education

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**ABSTRACT.** Popular music is an important part of music education and has a very prominent effect on the development of music in China. Especially in modern times, pop music has slowly entered people's field of vision, and has been stationed in the music classrooms of colleges and universities. This article mainly analyzes some problems and countermeasures in the process of popular music teaching in order to get corrections.

KEYWORDS: Popular music, College music education, Application

#### 1. Introduction

The impact of popular music on our youth is so profound that many college art students choose this major as their major. Colleges and universities in China also attach great importance to the development of popular music in college education. In order to cultivate more music talents, all teachers attach great importance to student learning efficiency. However, there are still some problems in the teaching of popular music in colleges and universities. This article mainly analyzes this article, and puts forward some countermeasures, hoping to help the majority of college music teachers.

#### 2. Existing Problems in Teaching

## 2.1 Backward Teaching Philosophy

The teaching concept of popular music education in China is still very backward, compared with some foreign music education concepts, there is still a big gap. Although many colleges and universities in our country have already made a lot of efforts in cultivating music talents, it should be recognized that the backwardness of teaching concepts has indeed affected the development of popular music. For example, many colleges and universities will stipulate the teaching content and teaching methods of teachers when students enroll, but in fact these methods or content may not be suitable for all assignments and the needs of all students. This reflects that colleges and universities ignore the problem of different characteristics of students in the process of formulating teaching goals and teaching methods. This one-size-fits-all education model is very unsuitable for students' learning and development, and has brought a certain negative impact on the teaching of popular music. Another problem is that many teachers still use their previous educational concepts in the course of teaching, and have not updated their teaching concepts. In this case, it is difficult for students to create and innovate [1]. Moreover, most colleges and universities do not have adequate planning for students after graduation, ignoring students' future development issues, so the knowledge learned by students is usually not very applicable, and this educational model runs counter to modern educational concepts.

### 2.2 Lack of Local Characteristics

We all know that most of China's popular music is imported from abroad, so whether it is in singing or production, it will be greatly influenced by the West, and it is very lacking in our local characteristics and national colors [2]. Most pop music has very little ethnic music, and students have very little understanding of this music. It is difficult to create pop music with national characteristics. In addition, very few of the music teachers in China's colleges and universities understand ethnic pop music, so they have not penetrated the local characteristics too much in the process of creating music, which is not conducive to promoting China's excellent culture. Secondly, many music teachers attach great importance to popular music in the course of teaching, but the teaching of folk music is a pass, which is not conducive to students' deep understanding of popular folk music. In the course of teaching, teachers should increase the time to explain folk music, so that students can feel

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the charm of folk music, so that they can greatly help their future development. Ordinary colleges and universities rarely infiltrate students into national music, so students rarely experience the artistic experience of national music, and are unable to have an interest in national music, which has led to the development of national music stagnating in China.

### 2.3 Lack of Aesthetics

In fact, pop music has always belonged to the art category, but many colleges only infiltrate students' basic knowledge during the course of teaching, ignoring aesthetic concepts. Music is mainly to make people feel relaxed and happy, so teachers must continuously improve their aesthetic consciousness and taste, so as to play a better role in teaching students. Although there is some knowledge about aesthetics in the university's music textbooks, the content is not enough to attract the attention of teachers and students [3]. Many teachers will choose to take this section in the course of teaching, and it will be more difficult for students to learn about aesthetics. In fact, properly infiltrating some aesthetic concepts to students can not only improve their ability to learn music, but also improve their creative ability and innovative consciousness. This is also an indispensable and rare ability in the process of learning music. At present, teachers in many universities in China are teaching according to teaching materials and lack a sense of innovation. Although students have learned a lot of knowledge, they cannot do better in the process of application. Therefore, if teachers want to improve students' music learning ability, they must let students know more aesthetic knowledge and improve their innovation ability on the basis of imparting knowledge.

### 3. Optimization Measures

#### 3.1 Optimize Education Concept

The teaching of popular music in colleges and universities must keep pace with the times and innovate their own educational ideas in order to achieve greater breakthroughs. Colleges and universities should train teachers on a regular basis, instill more advanced teaching concepts, so that their teaching level can keep up with the development of the times. Only in this way can the student's academic performance be improved. Secondly, the music teachers in colleges and universities must add more new ideas in the process of teaching popular music and change their previous teaching methods. Students should be taught differently according to their characteristics so that they can be taught according to their aptitude. It is also necessary to make use of the school's existing educational resources to allow students to obtain a better music learning experience and broaden their learning thinking, which will help to cultivate students' innovative consciousness. Teachers should implement the various teaching methods they have learned during school training to students, create a teaching atmosphere that is most suitable for student learning, and form a scientific classroom system. Teachers should learn the excellent teaching experience at home and abroad to mobilize students' enthusiasm for learning, so that they can give full play to their subjective initiative, so as to enrich the classroom.

### 3.2 National Characteristics

Our country has a long history and culture. Although popular music is imported from foreign countries, it is necessary to fully combine some of the national characteristics of China to join the elements of China so that popular music can develop further. Although popular music has developed very well in China, if you add some Chinese elements to this foundation, it can make pop music icing on the cake. Therefore, colleges and universities must train some outstanding teachers, let them focus on teaching students who study popular music, and infiltrate Chinese elements into the teaching of popular music. If conditions permit, colleges and universities can also specialize in cultivating some music teachers with rich national literacy so that their teaching of students can become more targeted. Of course, no matter what method is used, the purpose of teaching is to make students experience a stronger taste of Chinese music. Only by improving the music literacy of teachers can students' music learning ability be further improved. In addition, teachers also need to make plans for students to study popular music according to their learning abilities and hobbies, so that each student can make progress and the teacher can also train more outstanding students.

## 3.3 Strengthening Aesthetic Practice

In the process of teaching popular music to colleges and universities, colleges and universities should also

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pay attention to infiltrate some aesthetic knowledge to students, so as to improve the comprehensive quality of students and allow them to develop in an all-round way. We all know that the reason pop music is loved by so many people is mainly because its lyrics and melody are very beautiful, so it will spread for a long time. Many popular songs not only have beautiful melody, but also moving lyrics, which are enough to make people fall for it. And to become a music talent, having a high aesthetic ability is the key and foundation. Therefore, the music teachers in colleges and universities must strengthen the penetration of students' aesthetic knowledge, so that they can have the ability of aesthetic analysis through studying music, so that when they come into contact with musical works, they can grasp the beauty and aesthetic concepts. Of course, different works will have different characteristics, so teachers should guide students to experience the meaning of the works from various angles and aspects. In the process of learning popular music, we must lead students to practice and feel a lot, so that students can gradually form a good aesthetic ability.

Concluding remarks: Popular music is a major part of music education in colleges and universities, which has greatly helped the development of college music teaching. Therefore, in the trend of education, college music teachers must strengthen their guidance to students, so that students can appreciate the beauty and essence of popular music, so that they can learn more actively. And teachers must innovate their own teaching methods and keep up with the times to update their educational ideas so that students can make greater progress in the process of learning popular music. Regardless of teaching methods or teaching content, teachers should ensure that they can adapt to the development trend of society, so that students will not derail. Finally, I hope that the popular music education in Chinese universities can achieve better results and go further.

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