

Research on the Application of Guanzhong Ballad in Children's Music Education*

Lin Yan
Xi'an University
Xi'an, China

Shan Hao
Xi'an University
Xi'an, China

Abstract—As a comprehensive traditional art form, Guanzhong ballad contains rich cultural memory and regional cultural connotation of Guanzhong region. It is mostly carried by dialect, and has three forms, such as literature, music and performance. It is entertaining and easy for children. Today's children can't hear such beautiful songs because of fading out of dialect and local culture. This paper expounds the significance of integrating Guanzhong ballad into children's music education, the problems faced by Guanzhong ballad in practical application and the solutions, in order to attract the attention of preschool educators, fully develop Guanzhong ballad resources, introduce children into the instinctive state of learning music with scientific methods, and enhance children's understanding of local traditional music culture, so as to achieve the purpose of natural inheritance of traditional culture.

Keywords—Guanzhong ballad; children; music education

I. INTRODUCTION

Music education can help children enrich the spiritual world, systematically cultivate children's perception ability, form music interest, find beauty, feel beauty, and obtain spiritual pleasure and satisfaction. It is the most direct aesthetic education in kindergarten. Guanzhong ballad has a long history, with strong national and regional cultural color, reflecting the life style, material spirit style, thinking mode and some cultural phenomena of the people in Guanzhong of Shaanxi Province in various times. Therefore, the integration of Guanzhong ballad into children's music education can guide children to understand the music of their hometown, stimulate children's feelings of loving their motherland and hometown, and cultivate children's excellent quality. Next, the paper discusses the application of Guanzhong ballad in children's music education, problems in the process, and implementation methods.

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INTEGRATING GUANZHONG BALLADS INTO CHILDREN'S MUSIC EDUCATION

A. *Experiencing Guanzhong Ballads and Enriching Aesthetic Experience*

Guanzhong ballad, as a native traditional culture, has distinct cultural and regional characteristics. As a comprehensive whole art, Guanzhong ballads take local dialect

as the carrier, take root in the folk by the way of oral transmission, and have three forms, literature (language), music (melody) and performance (expression and action). They are rich in entertainment, distinctive style characteristics and easy for children to accept and learn. They are good materials for cultivating children's comprehensive ability to develop music. The integration of Guanzhong ballads into kindergarten music education enables children to feel the characteristics of regional music in rich music experience activities, such as "his elder uncle, his second uncle, are his uncle; high tables, low benches, are all wood." This Guanzhong ballad has unique local characteristics, which can't help but remind people of the local customs. It has a great significance in enriching music aesthetic experience of children and helping children find the social and cultural life in them. By learning Guanzhong ballads, it can improve children's aesthetic perception, imagination and creativity, so that children can feel the melody, rhythm, beat and other characteristics of ballads, and gradually learn to express their feelings of music with simple body rhythm and language, and enrich their aesthetic experience.

B. *Inheriting Regional Music and Cultivating a Sense of Cultural Belonging*

The reasonable introduction of national culture and art into the curriculum is a direction for the development and innovation of children's curriculum in the future. It is important to develop children's music teaching activities based on Guanzhong ballads, to cultivate children's deep interest and identity in native music culture, and to bring about a sense of cultural belonging. Regional music is an important part of Chinese traditional music. It is of great significance to integrate the regional style and characteristics of music culture into the curriculum for inheriting regional music culture and enhancing children's sense of identity with their hometown culture. Therefore, the kindergarten curriculum should be based on the local culture and integrate the local traditional music culture in time, so that children can further feel the richness and diversity of the regional music culture in listening, enjoying and performing activities. In this way it helps cultivate children's sense of closeness and identity to the regional music culture, and their young mind can infiltrate the rich, familiar and characteristic music culture from childhood.

*Fund: 2018 national innovation and entrepreneurship training program for college students (project number: 103080019).

C. The Consistency of Artistic Form of Guanzhong Ballad with the Development of Children's Rhythmic Ability

As a symbol of childhood, game is also an effective way for children to know and understand the world. There is a kind of game nursery rhyme in Guanzhong ballad, which is spread to a large extent through activity form of game. It can create a relaxed and happy atmosphere, unify, organize and coordinate children's game actions, and help them feel the dynamic and change in music by guiding children's body rhythm. In addition to the above listed "Bench" and "Clapper", another example is "Ji Zhang". The lyrics are: "the moon crossed the river, and I played Ji Zhang with my child cowherd." "Ji Zhang" refers to a kind of children's game popular in the old days of Guanzhong, which means that "in the winter afternoon, children have nothing to do. When they see a child standing in the corner of the wall, several children exchange their hint given with the eyes together and immediately rush forward. First of all, squeeze together. When one can't bear it, the child can lean to one side and squeeze the previous child out of the corner. When playing, one child occupies a corner. Several children squeeze the child out of the corner." When chanting this nursery rhyme, the game can be regarded as body rhythm. Through participating in the process, children unconsciously repeat and strengthen body rhythm, which not only enhances the interest of the ballad, but also improves the coordination of children's body development. Through the above analysis of game ballads in Guanzhong ballads, it can be seen that ballads are presented in the form of game art, which can not only make children feel and experience the internal unity of body movements and ballad rhythm, but also make children understand the traditional folk culture, experience a kind of game activity of heating children in winter in the past, and bring great physical and mental pleasure to children.

D. The Consistency of Music Content of Guanzhong Ballad with the Development of Children's Music Aesthetic Ability

Aesthetic ability refers to the ability of aesthetic subject to carry out aesthetic activities and to do it to a certain extent. Aesthetic ability mainly includes aesthetic sensibility, aesthetic imagination, aesthetic understanding and aesthetic creativity, and musical aesthetic ability includes three aspects: the ability to feel beauty, the ability to express beauty and the ability to create beauty. The material of Guanzhong ballad is mostly from life, which is the most simple, true and natural kind of folk art works, easy to cause children's connection and imagination, thus guide children to develop the ability of expressing beauty and creating beauty. At the same time, children can feel and experience the beauty of rhythm, melody and structure of folk music art through singing.

In addition to above ballads "Bench" and "Clapper", another example is "Wind Blowing". The lyrics are: "nail wheel nail, and wind blows. Grandpa sings, and grandson listens. A swarm of bees came to the door. They stung me. I beat them, and at a stroke there is a big disorder." In the lyrics, "下" (xi à) reads "哈" (hā) in Guanzhong dialect. Another ballad is "Falling Snow". The lyrics are: "floating snowflake, swirling snowflake, God sends white flour, filling jars and pots." The above ballads are full of rhythm, which can make

children fully feel the bright rhythm, produce the resonance of body movements in emotion, and obtain the emotional experience of beauty and music synesthesia, so as to develop children's ability of aesthetic perception, aesthetic understanding, aesthetic imagination and aesthetic creation. By singing songs of different styles and themes, it can arouse children's sense resonance and promote their aesthetic consciousness and artistic appreciation ability.

III. PROBLEMS IN THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF GUANZHONG BALLADS

Word of mouth was the most important way to spread Guanzhong ballads. However, due to the impact of foreign culture, the conflict between the dialect characteristics of nursery rhymes and the promotion of Mandarin, and the influence of new media, this single way of transmission has been greatly affected, which restricts the inheritance of this traditional music form, resulting in rare application of Guanzhong ballads in children's music teaching. First of all, the lack of teaching instruments cannot fully mobilize children's enthusiasm for learning. There is a single teaching material in the teaching process. At present, there is no designated teaching material for teachers to refer to in the preschool music education. There are only the previous music teaching materials. Children do not have books to learn more about Guanzhong ballads. Secondly, in the teaching process, musical instruments are needed to cooperate with the singing of Guanzhong songs to create an atmosphere for learning music. However, the existing educational resources are difficult to meet the needs of children, and the high-quality preschool education resources are relatively scarce. Finally, teachers do not know Guanzhong ballads, nor do they systematically and professionally study Guanzhong ballads, so they cannot achieve creative thinking teaching and a specific planning for teaching process. The teaching effect is greatly reduced.

IV. THE IMPLEMENTATION METHODS OF GUANZHONG BALLAD IN CHILDREN'S MUSIC EDUCATION

A. Integrating Guanzhong Ballads into Children's Music Education Curriculum in the Form of Singing, Chanting and Performing

Guanzhong ballads are mostly based on dialects. They are short in length, harmonious in rhyme, vivid in content, and emphasize on forms and ending rhyme. They are usually spread in oral form. They are catchy, easy to understand and very localized. The national nursery rhymes are lively in rhythm, simple in melody and easy to learn, and mostly reflect the pure inner world of children, which is very interesting and easy to stimulate children's interest in learning. Therefore, the early childhood music education curriculum should make full use of the advantages of Guanzhong ballads, and open the door to integrate Guanzhong ballads into early childhood music education. In the selection of repertoire, three conditions should be met: the enthusiasm, education and interest of repertoire content. According to these three conditions, when choosing the repertoire of Guanzhong ballads, the repertoire selected should not only conform to children's inner world, but

also arouse children's attention and stimulate children's interest in learning. At the same time, it is also able to develop children character of diligence, modesty and studious quality by utilizing the characteristics of rich knowledge and simple truth contained in ballads. For example, "Mimi cat goes to higher place. Golden paws and silver paws do not catch mice but birds. Birds will give her a coat. Let her wear it, but she will not wear it. Call the dog to wear it. The dog is fishing for leeks in the river. The leek flower floats up, calls the baby to wear. The baby does not wear; others wear it and made the baby happy. Birds fly away, and the baby cries." This ballad is euphemistic and catchy. Although it's a simple story, it tells people a truth of life - if one man reach for what is beyond his grasp, he will gain nothing at last. It tells people to be down-to-earth in all life.

B. Integrating Percussion Music into Preschool Music Education

The introduction of Guanzhong ballad, which is rich in various forms of expression, into children's music teaching can make children imperceptibly perceive the unique music language formed by dialect's voice and intonation and the vitality of different rhythm and beat, experience the sense of speed, beat and rhythm of music itself, so as to cultivate a good sense of rhythm. Rhythm is an important part of music. Some people compare rhythm to the skeleton of music to support the flow of the whole melody. For children, rhythm is the earliest perception of music. Every child likes to knock. When communicating with children, it is not difficult to find that percussion music is a popular teaching method among the ways of cultivating rhythm sense. Therefore, according to the characteristics of children's age and hobbies, appropriate percussion instruments can be selected to integrate Guanzhong ballads into children's music education curriculum, and integrate percussion music into the teaching in the form of imitating rhythm, which is a good way to cultivate children's good sense of rhythm.

In practice, it is necessary to choose suitable simple musical instruments for children according to their physical and mental development and hobbies. When choosing practice repertoire, repertoire with strong rhythm and short length can be chosen for teaching. At first, children clap their hands; hit all parts of the body and other movements to express the rhythm of music, so as to help children develop interest in percussion music. Then they can recognize percussion instruments. Let them choose their favorite instruments according to their own understanding of music, and then they can pass on and change in the class, and every child can play every instrument. Then teachers and students work out percussion rules together. The rules can be made by taking children as the main subject, listening to and respect their opinions. Finally, a reasonable and democratic percussion rules can be made according to their opinions. In this way, children have more sense of participation, and they are more willing to accept and consciously abide by them.

C. Improving Teaching Facilities and Focusing on the Construction of Preschool Teachers

In order to achieve better music education, the government's financial expenditure on kindergarten music education is the first condition. The government should increase the investment in preschool education. In the aspect of instrumental music, teachers can purchase effective teaching aids from kindergartens or educational institutions according to the needs of teaching, and can choose instruments made in China with relatively low prices. In terms of teaching materials, the school should collect some excellent ballads of concern from local folk artists. Finally, it should consult with professional music teachers to compile and publish special teaching materials. In addition, it is necessary to strengthen the establishment of preschool teachers. Schools shall encourage teachers to participate in training, systematically learn and master relevant professional knowledge concerning ballads, and study textbooks, relevant materials, papers and documents related to Guanzhong ballads. At the same time, it is essential to change old teaching concepts and traditional teaching methods, communicate and study with other experienced teachers to improve their quality and level.

D. Promoting Communication and Cooperation Among Public and Private Kindergartens and Music Education Institutions

Through the macro guidance of the education department and the government, the three educational resources, in the premise of reducing the conflict of interest, can be reasonably used to promote the three to achieve a common purpose in teaching ideas and purposes, in order to get better development in mutual communication and learning, and introduce Guanzhong ballads more smoothly into the classroom of preschool music education.

V. CONCLUSION

To sum up, the characteristics and artistic value of Guanzhong ballads have a positive impact on the development of children's abilities in all aspects, such as musical ability, aesthetic ability and language expression ability, and enriching children's aesthetic experience. The rich emotions it contains can affect children's emotional world and gradually enrich their hearts. Its story and interest will also stimulate children's desire for performance, so as to cultivate children's performance ability and coordination ability. Therefore, it can not only open up their horizons, enhance their cultural heritage, but also cultivate their emotion of loving traditional culture and hometown by integrating Guanzhong ballads into the music education curriculum for children, and letting children receive the influence of folk culture from childhood. What's more, it is also a good way to protect and inherit Guanzhong ballads through the deep feelings children have established on them and their proficient dialect expression.

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