

# On the Positive Role of Public Art Education in the Formation of College Students' Socialist Core Values

Zhizheng Yuan

Art Institute, Shangluo University, Shangluo, 726000, China

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**Abstract:** Public art education has become an important education content of current college quality-oriented education in China. It could improve college students' overall qualities and harmonious development, and thus college students could form socialist core values. Based on this, this paper discusses about public art education, and elaborates the positive role of public art education in the formation of Chinese college students' socialist core values.

With the changes of international situation and China's reform and opening up, the rapid development of socialist market economy has brought evident achievements for China's socialist modernization, but we shall also see both opportunities and challenges. Only by adhering to socialist core values, can we better master the direction of construction. Socialist core values are the kernel of socialist core value system, reflect the fundamental nature, basic characteristics, rich connotation and practical requirements of this system, and are exquisite compression and concentrated expression of this system. Thus, establishment of socialist core values is the highlight of the Communist Party of China in terms of ideological and cultural construction in this new century, and also provides a new perspective for ideological and political education for contemporary college students.

## I. Position and role of public art education in promoting the formation of values

### 1. Enrich spiritual life and enhance cultural quality

Art itself has the function of cultural inheritance. The course of human development can be inherited in a cultural form through rich cultural connotation and historical culture. Art enriches spiritual life of human beings constantly through its characteristics. Thus, public art education has become an important component of current college education and one of effective means to promote college students' overall development as it could not only train humanistic spirit of contemporary college students but also enhance their cultural quality and overall quality. By appreciating the role of Chinese and foreign outstanding cultures in colleges, students could improve their knowledge structure, enrich their specialized cultural knowledge, expand their cultural quality effectively, understand comprehensively worldwide art culture, enrich spiritual life effectively, and thus enhance their cultural quality.

### 2. Improve aesthetic ability and promote healthy development

Public art education can improve students' aesthetic ability, and is also an important way to help students establish correct values, aesthetics and personality. Scholars have once pointed out that: improving aesthetic ability is an effective way to change the perceptual into rational. As an important link and means of aesthetic education, public art education could improve aesthetic ability and consciousness of contemporary college students effectively, and is an effective means to help students' healthy development of body and mind. Public art education can be carried out through basic art courses and organizing students to appreciate excellent art works, so that students could enhance their aesthetic perception through visual and auditory impacts and relieve pressure of student life. By organizing effectively students to appreciate art works, colleges could make students develop aesthetic taste unconsciously, establish correct values, world outlook and sound personality, have self-regulation ability, promote healthy and positive development of their body and mind, and be better and wholeheartedly involved in college learning.

### 3. Cultivate innovation consciousness and train creative ability

Currently, the rapid development of education puts forward higher requirements for

contemporary college education. While training overall development of college students, colleges shall cultivate students' innovative spirit so that students could meet demands of current society with high quality. Art itself is a type of innovation and creation. The essence of public art education is not traditional "cramming" education, but to guide students constantly and stimulate their potential to create new results and thus realize self-value. To successfully stimulate students' potential consciousness, students shall be trained to have very keen sensory awareness and rich imagination ability. Thus, we could firstly train students' imagination ability and perception with artistic creation thinking. Improvement of students' aesthetics in terms of association, emotion and humanity etc by public art education could promote students' perception and imagination effectively, make contemporary college students have more flexible thinking, better stimulate students' innovation ability, and enhance their self-confidence to better show themselves.

#### 4. Improve ideological and moral consciousness and establish correct values

The soul of art is emotion, and it can be said that each art work contains very rich emotions. Besides, public art education could express emotions that can't be expressed in words in many forms, improve emotional exchanges and communication effectively, make students be influenced in rich emotional environment, improve their ideological and moral consciousness effectively, train their ability to tell right from wrong, and thus lead them to establish correct values and outlook on life, constrain and control themselves strictly with correct concepts and take correct socialist values as their moral code. Therefore, public art education plays an irreplaceable role in ideological and political education for college students and helping them establish correct values.

## **II. Public art education promotes effectively the formation of college students' socialist values**

### 1. Make clear objectives and role of education and improve consciousness of public art education

Public art education has the essence of training students' overall development, and is carried out for all students in colleges. Thus, before carrying out public art education, we shall make clear objectives of education and take improving college students' overall qualities as a primary task. Moreover, a large amount of practical activities shall be carried out to make students appreciate outstanding art works, learn more art knowledge theories, enhance their aesthetics, and finally establish correct socialist core values. Public art educators could provide outstanding Chinese and foreign art works for college students to appreciate, and guide them to understand and learn creative thinking of these works. Through impacts of multiple cultures, students could improve their thinking ability, train their innovation consciousness, enrich their aesthetic consciousness, be eager for beauty unconsciously, feel, express and create beauty spontaneously in continuous practical activities and thus promote effectively their overall development. College administrators shall improve the consciousness of public art education, make clear objectives and tasks of public art education, perfect public art education system and links, strengthen faculty building, and increase relevant input required in public art education, so as to carry out college public art education smoothly and give play to its role.

### 2. Establish public art education management system and improve guidance and supervision

It has been clearly pointed out in Guidelines for Public Art Course in National Regular Institutions of Higher Education that: professional public art course management organizations shall be established in regular colleges and universities in order to ensure teaching quality of public art course. Thus, colleges shall set up relevant management institutions, and build specialized management teams and public art education management system, in order to provide better guidance and supervision for public art education. Each college could combine with their actual situations, plan public art education, and establish corresponding accountability system; while college leaders shall carry out regular check and evaluation of public art education, and ensure its smooth implementation with scientific and rational teaching mode and evaluation system. The role of public art education can only be given better play to by taking public art education management system as a primary task at present, realizing institutionalization and standardization of college public art education, and enhancing teaching quality of public art education effectively.

### 3. Strengthen faculty building and help establish socialist core values

There is certain difference between public art education and professional art education. For college students with a high cultural level and strong analytical ability, to train their self-consciousness and sense of participation for art education, public art education teachers shall have more extensive art and culture knowledge, art appreciation ability, expression ability and creative ability. Therefore, in faculty building for public art education, colleges shall set up high-level and high-quality professional education teams. Besides, these professional education teams shall also develop constantly with public art education, strengthen their learning of knowledge and culture, and have a detailed understanding of knowledge of disciplines including history, culture and humanity etc while mastering their professional knowledge. Only by improving humanistic quality of educators constantly, can they be better engaged in public art education, better educate and train students, and help them establish correct socialist core values.

### 4. Perfect public art education course setting and ensure the formation of socialist core values

The essence of public art education lies in training college students' aesthetic consciousness, helping them establish correct concepts and ideology, and promoting their overall development. Thus, scientific and rational course setting is the premise of education. Since it is art education, it shall contain all teaching content related to art, such as: music, opera, calligraphy, art, photography and many other art courses. In course setting, theories shall be combined with practice, and basic art theory shall be changed from perceptual knowledge into rational knowledge. Students' knowledge of art culture can be enriched by stimulating their interests and enriching their knowledge. Public art education needs a set of sound teaching materials with teaching content including Introduction to Art, Introduction to Chinese Music, Introduction to Chinese Art, Introduction to Dance, Introduction to Photography, Introduction to Film Art, History of Western Music and Masterpieces, History of Chinese Art and Masterpieces, History of Chinese Calligraphy and Masterpieces, History of Chinese Film, History of World Film, Film and TV Appreciation, Appreciation of Chinese Opera Art, Folk Music, Vocal Music, Chorus, Wind Music, Piano, Dance, Sketch, Chinese Painting Techniques and Oil Painting Techniques etc. Education management departments shall attach importance to course setting of public art education, and establish a set of unified, scientific and sound course system as soon as possible, in order to meet different art demands and interests of contemporary college students, better provide solid support for public art education, give full play to the role of public art education, train students' thinking ability and enhance their personality consciousness, and thus better reflect the huge role of public art education in the formation of socialist core values.

### 5. Build campus art culture and promote the establishment of socialist core values

Campus art culture is an important component of public art education. Each college shall organize students to carry out rich art practical activities in accordance with their practical characteristics, provide an open art platform and activity space for contemporary college students, set up bands, choruses, art associations and other activities with strong artistic atmosphere on each campus under guidance of college leaders and public art educators, organize students to participate in a variety of art and culture competitions, cultivate students' sentiment through a variety of art activities, enhance students' art consciousness and improve their aesthetics, outlook on life and values effectively. Colleges shall strengthen the creation of campus art culture, let students choose according to their art demands freely, promote all students to participate in art to realize the objective of overall public art education effectively, and allow contemporary college students to feel, know and create beauty in a strong artistic atmosphere, so that they could enhance their self-consciousness, improve their ideology and spiritual consciousness effectively, and form correct socialist core values.

### 6. Strengthen public art education environmental construction and provide conditions for forming socialist values

Certain basic educational facilities are required to carry out public art education smoothly. The quality of public art education can be better improved with supporting educational facilities and students' participation in public art education can be enhanced. Just like setting corresponding

educational fund, college leaders shall strengthen addition of outstanding art works besides perfecting basic facilities required in public art education. Students' learning interest can be better improved by improving their understanding and knowledge of art culture with more art works and materials. College could also provide students with art columns at public places such as dormitories, canteens and classrooms etc on campus, so that students could get artistic edification and cultivation in a both soft and rigid art environment and thus lay a solid foundation for forming socialist core values effectively.

### III. Conclusions

With educational reform and the continuous development of education, public art education has become a very important component of college students' learning and life. The Ministry of Education becomes also increasingly concerned about strengthening the status and role of art education for college students, and puts forward that art education can train students' aesthetic ideas and ability. Public art education can cultivate students' moral sentiment comprehensively and promote contemporary college students' overall development, and thus becomes one of indispensable disciplines in modern higher education.

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