Piano Teaching Reform and Practice based on Applied Talent Cultivation

Wenge Ji

Ningxia Normal University, Guyuan, 756000, China

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Abstract. In piano teaching in the major of music education in colleges and universities, applied talents should have good piano scene performance competence. At the same time, applied talents can also plan and implement music activities of a mass character, develop music editing and music teaching, and create musical works. All these works require a reform to the present piano teaching cultivation system and cultivation mode. In this paper, the author analyzed main characteristics of applied talents, stated the capability requirements for piano applied talents, discussed educational cultivation scheme for piano applied talents, and proposed piano teaching reform thought based on applied talent cultivation.

Introduction

After China's higher education entered a popular stage, it is faced with huge challenges in various aspects, including heavy pressure from employment and social requirements for improvement to practical application ability of contemporary college students. Due to continuously deepening higher education reform and constantly changing social needs in China, applied capability has already become an important rule used to judge the actual knowledge level of learners. It is also the same in higher education colleges and universities. It can be put in this way, applied capability has already directly become a precondition used by companies to judge job seekers' competence. To be specific in piano teaching, we must deepen the implementation of teaching reform, so as to cultivate applied talents. This issue is discussed in this paper.

Main Characteristics of Applied Talents

Applied talents mainly refer to those talents directly involved in specific issues on construction, management, service and other posts in the process of modern economic construction and social development. Applied talents must have the following five characteristics: innovativeness, capability, comprehensiveness, practicalness and marketability. This indicates that cultivated talents should be able to directly apply mature and complex technologies and theories into specific production, life or cultural undertakings. At the same time, they should also have solid scientific basic theories and be able to mastering relevant professional skills. For disciplines related to this major, they should have comprehensive understandings as well as means for use of scientific basic theories and production & life skills. At the same time, they should also have strong social adaptability, capable of applying mastered knowledge as well as strengthening studies and innovation according to social needs. For the level of colleges and universities, present applied talent cultivation still has many issues. In terms of setting of cultivation goal, requirements for knowledge, competence, quality structure and others are not accurate for applied talents. In terms of the relationship between teaching and learning, teachers always play the leading role. The method of duck-stuffing is used in most cases. It is insufficient for students' independent learning and participation. They are always in the state of passive learning and examination. After a long period of time, students' subjective initiative and creativity will disappear. As a result, cultivation mechanisms and teaching systems fail to play a positive role in promoting cultivation of applied talents in high education colleges and universities at present, resulting in retarding action. Therefore, we should vigorously reform the current applied talent cultivation system, make it definite for location of applied talent cultivation, and re-execute the

fact that talent cultivation mode has already become an important task which must be quickened in colleges and universities. Higher education schools will have strong vitality and be deeply welcomed by the society, only when relevant issues influencing applied talent cultivation are effectively solved.

Capability Requirements for Piano Applied Talents

Specific to the field of piano teaching, piano applied talents should comprehensively master basic knowledge about music and scene performance skills of piano music, properly master relevant knowledge and techniques about accompany, impromptu and instrumental ensemble, and get quite familiar with relevant development conditions in the field of piano application. At the same time, piano applied talents should be able to apply above knowledge into piano teaching and drive multiple skills through one profession. With piano as the basis, piano applied talents should drive musical activities of a mass character, music education, music creation and other fields in a better way. Then, the author will analyze capabilities necessary for piano applied talents from the following three aspects: firstly, performance capacity; this capacity is an important precondition and basis for learning of piano knowledge. Performance capacity should include the capability of performing musical works in various styles. At the same time, applied talents should also have the capability of analyzing, comprehending and recreating musical works in various styles as well as certain skills and performance capability of skill contents. Secondly, capability of mastering disciplinary knowledge skills supporting piano playing; among above supporting disciplines, accompany and impromptu have the closest correlation with performance. The former refers to performance according to music score after accompany is created by others. At the same time, applied talents should also be able to have tacit coordination with singers or instrument performers. This temporary performance with music score requires good piano visual performance capability. Most music scores in this category are of line spectrum. It is very limited for secondary creation space of a piano performer. The latter is mainly used in numbered musical notation songs. In other words, piano performers should make a quick analysis on a series of contents in the mind while seeing music scores, so as to make response and give impromptu performance. This involves performance skills and harmony theories. More importantly, performers are required to have good instant reaction capacity and strain capacity. Thus, it is necessary for impromptu accompaniment personnel to pay particular attention to flexibility and basic disciplines during studies and attach importance to combination of seeing, listening, thinking and practicing. Thirdly, piano teaching capability; piano teaching is an issue involving rather deep knowledge. It includes selection and matching of teaching materials, psychological and physiological characteristics of piano learners, solution modes and countermeasures for difficult problems. To flexibly master the method of piano teaching reform and obtain capability in piano teaching, we should have deep understandings of learners' characteristics and learning objectives, and analyze and handle the contents of piano teaching.

Educational Cultivation Scheme of Piano Applied Talents

At present, applied talent cultivation is of great importance in piano teaching in higher education colleges and universities in China. Therefore, cultivation of high-quality piano applied talents can directly reflect actual quality of piano course teaching. However, it is difficult for previous teaching mode to adapt to actual conditions at present. Therefore, it is necessary for us to apply new, scientific and standardized schemes to promote cultivation of piano applied talents.

Firstly, we should highlight practicability in piano teaching. Practical teaching method is a necessary method used to forge applied talents. Applied talents are mainly characterized with skillful application of piano techniques and theoretical knowledge learnt into actual work and life. They pay more attention to basic piano knowledge and degree of proficiency. However, they will not pay much attention to teaching and learning researches in the high-end field of piano. Connotation of practicability is that specific applicability just meets cultivation requirements for applied talents. For

practical teaching mode used in piano teaching, its major feature is that practicalness is comprehensively applied into education and teaching thoughts and teaching principles. Moreover, practicalness is comprehensively combined with teaching contents, modes and arrangement. Thus, it is necessary for us to treat practicability as a basic starting point and an ending point for piano teaching in higher education colleges and universities. Moreover, we should firmly set up the concept of reality, take college students' actual capability as major objective, make great efforts to avoid empty theories, and give play to specific effects. Practical and inherent piano teaching modes should be used to allow college students to make theoretical progress, so as to realize good combination of piano teaching, piano stage performance and social practice. Practical teaching mode is quite beneficial for cultivation of learners' application capability.

Secondly, we should highlight quality in teaching. Quality-oriented teaching method is also an important content for forging applied talents. The purpose of college education is to cultivate more high-quality talents. Sometimes, quality is more important than knowledge. Only having strong quality and capability, a person can provide excellent services to companies and the society in a better way, so as to promote the society to obtain new development. Major feature of quality-oriented teaching is that quality education is regarded as the core content. At the same time, we should also enhance cultivation of college students in cultural quality, aesthetic quality, ideological and ethical standards and other aspects, so as to allow college students to become new talents with comprehensive development of intelligence, morality and fitness. In this teaching program, we should treat accurate teaching and more practice as an important policy, take various theoretical knowledge as the basis, emphasize the application of individual teaching modes in specific education process, and really realize "one-to-one" teaching, so as to really implement quality cultivation of college students into place. In terms of teaching method guidance, we should apply more simulation teaching methods, allowing students to enhance their quality while improving their practical operational ability.

Thirdly, we should highlight comprehensiveness in the teaching process. Comprehensiveness is also an important content for forging applied talents. The present era is diversified. It is difficult for college students cultivated by single teaching program to adapt to development of new situation. At the same time, piano performers should also have the feature of comprehensiveness. It is necessary for college students to master professional piano knowledge and skills and to have multiple capabilities, such as listening, singing and appreciation. Therefore, comprehensive teaching is also an important link in piano teaching. In the teaching process, specific application of comprehensive teaching is to convert single teaching into the mode with piano teaching as the subject and under coordination with other disciplines. Thus, the purpose of mutual learning and comprehensive development can be achieved. Comprehensiveness is mainly reflected in two-way integration between piano teaching and music creation and between piano teaching and vocal music art as well as mutual communication between piano teaching and other instruments. In piano teaching process, the importance of comprehensive teaching can be properly verified by artistic practices of predecessors.

Piano Teaching Reform Thought based on Applied Talent Cultivation

Similarly, teaching thought reform is also an important part of piano teaching mode reform. It mainly refers to modes, methods and paths adopted in activities. It is of great importance for realization of the final purpose. Two supporting points of the philosophy of Marxism-Leninism are epistemology and methodology. The former involves the whole source and development process of human cognition. The latter is a theory about knowing and transforming the world. Epistemology and methodology are closely correlated and matched with each other. Therefore, piano teaching method based on applied talent cultivation should take application as the principal line. According to the author, cultivation of piano applied talents should follow at least the following three trains of thought:

Firstly, positively introduce humanized teaching means; at present, we are living in a humanized age. Nowadays, people orientation has already become an important theme under great attention in

various countries and fields. In the process of cultivating applied talents, higher education colleges and universities must fully utilize humanized teaching means, so as to realize emotional interaction between teachers and students and between students and students and thus give full play to college students' subjective initiative and creativity.

Secondly, positively introduce simulation teaching method; this teaching method is a brand new method introduced from foreign countries after the policy of reform and opening-up. In this method, actual needs in piano teaching process are used to create manual contexts according to real situation, and learners are asked to play relevant roles, so as to develop relevant teaching activities and achieve the purpose of piano teaching through these activities. In fact, it is a kind of practical talent cultivation mode.

Thirdly, positively introduce practical teaching method; practical teaching method mainly refers to various teaching activities in the field of piano. On the one hand, learners are organized to develop piano performance and other activities in various types and levels. For teaching of applied piano course for college students, teaching effect can be shown by holding concerts in various types. At the same time, college students can be provided with more opportunities for stage practice. According to the pattern and content of piano teaching, we should design piano performance into a special pattern. Application of special concert can reflect diversity and systematicness of applied piano teaching. On this basis, we can also positively organize college students to participate into social piano performance activities and competitions. This is also an effective practical teaching method. On the other hand, we can organize college students to participate into piano contests. In recent years, China has held numerous and diversified piano contests. There are more and more piano contests suitable for higher education college students. Some contests will always set individualized programs like four-hand playing and double piano. Teachers in higher education colleges and universities can positively recommend those learners with good piano performance and strong practical capability to participate into appropriate competitions, so as to achieve the purpose of consolidating piano learning effect and deepening piano practical capability.

Conclusion

In general, cultivation of piano applied talents is decided by needs of the current market. Various colleges and universities must comprehensively adapt to development and changes of the current society, fully apply various reform means, and use scientific and effective teaching methods to cultivate more and better piano applied talents.

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