

## Discussion on the Function and Meaning of Music Education Website

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**Abstract.** The human civilization is developed based on the development of information technology, thus the transformation of technique and dissemination carriers such as the emergence and spread of printing can promote the development of education carrier. With the rapid development of modern science and technology, the result of high technology has been applied to education circle. Since the 21st century, information network education marked by the internet, as a new module, greatly affected the approach, content and philosophy of education which pushes the education develops toward a deeper level. Contemporary music education also adopts network technology. This paper takes music education websites as the research objects to discuss the function of these totally new education carriers on promoting music education. It analyzes the content style, education resource layout, and internet technology. Based on comparative analysis on music education at home and abroad, this paper helps people to know that music education website, as a totally new carrier which can realize resource sharing and multi-culture has outstanding advantages. However, there are problems of some music education website remain to be solved.

### Introduction

Human civilization has come into 21<sup>st</sup> century, and the scientific technology changes rapidly when various scientific results are affecting people's life style. Since 1990s, the information technology dominated by multimedia and internet develops rapidly and deeply affects people's work and learning methods. In education circle, the effect of internet information technology is profound and far-reaching. Besides, multimedia teaching and network long-distance music education etc will all become new music education model, which makes internet become a new teaching method and education carrier and also play an important role in changing our education philosophy and education model. Internet information technology, as an education carrier, plays a vital role in the course of human civilization development. While tracing back to the history, we can see that character and printing, as education carriers, have been widely spread throughout various continents for a long time, which act as bridges linking the cultural communication with historical significance for the development and progress of human civilization.

Meanwhile, it also has important functions and meaning on changing the teaching model and teaching philosophy. Carrier is of great significance for education, books, documents, and dictionaries with paper as the carrier are basic carriers of education, transform (innovate) education carrier is a breakthrough. At present, internet has gradually develops into a new education carrier which provides more possibilities for music education. How to effectively use the new education carrier to promote the development of music education and make up the shortages of traditional teaching model are problems a dazzling array of educators trying to solve. This paper tries to carry out comparison from the perspectives of various music education websites at home and abroad so as

to reveal the functions internet will create on education model, philosophy and methods. Besides, how to take advantages of internet education to develop the music education is also an important focus of this paper.

### **Theme: Analysis on music education and website**

Education carrier is a basic prerequisite and necessary condition for education, which plays an important role in education. Since ancient times, no education form can exist apart from the education carrier. Education carrier is accompanied by the emergence of education, which develops along with the development of education and they cannot be separated from each other. The development of education carrier has a long history. In early times, human beings mainly take hunting and food-gathering as their survival techniques to carry out productive activities, such as making fire by drilling wood, fired clay pots etc which generate the natural condition of education. The development of network information technology ignites people to have a better knowledge of this emerging education technique and carrier, which pushes the education methods develop toward multidimensional directions and become no longer limited to traditional class teaching (blackboard, chalk). Besides, it can make full use of multimedia computer technology as a teaching tool. Internet information technique carrier provides students with free and flexible learning space which can help to make students have deeper understanding through video, images, animation and music etc. This kind of teaching method is innovative which can help to greatly increase the teaching efficiency.

Network information education has a huge resource of information, and is not limited to space and region which lead to the diversification of education system to some extent. Besides traditional class teaching, long-distance education has become an emerging education which plays an increasing important role. Convenient learning approaches make sky rocketing education targets. What's more, the concept of lifelong education, socialization and individualized education wins support among people, which provides material technology to the coordinated development of family education, social education and school education as well as powerful support for the formation of education system.

Traditional teaching model takes teaching and textbooks as main bodies. In traditional teaching model, teachers are dominant and their main responsibility is to impart knowledge and skills, and teachers play an active role so to some extent, students are in a passive position. Information education requires teachers to change this concept, and the role of teachers and students has a great change: it advocates students to be the main body. Teachers guide students to achieve the teaching target which requires teachers to change their concept and focus on training students' active participation and creativeness. What's more, based on the powerful support of information technology, students' ability in self- learning and collecting information shall be greatly improved. Information technology education based in the internet is totally free from space and there are diversified approaches for students to acquire knowledge. In addition to traditional classroom environment, students can review a glittering array of information online based on their interests, which can stimulate students' self-learning ability and indirectly develop their ability in selecting knowledge. By the way, students can get information only by simply enter keywords on the network search engine (such as Google, Baidu).

There will be collisions when the culture is exchanging and embracing each other which require diversified cultures being carried out from internationalization and localization. So we have to properly deal with the contradiction relations between internationalization and localization.

Resources sharing based on internet information technology, is a huge and broad platform which provides powerful material guarantee for diversified education in terms of technology and resources etc.

In ancient China, the literati are solitary, living in the mountains and their music activities are unique which can be beckoned as historical and cultural phenomena. Their music literatures are important forces to push the development of music education and rich the music education philosophy. Among which, one representative is Ji Kang in Period of Wei Jin South and North Dynasties. His book *Music is Irrelevant to Grief or Joy* represents his supernatural music concept, namely music does not embody emotion but is the integration. Many scholars in ancient China have extremely high-level accomplishments. They are not satisfied with the reality and relieve depression through books which is in stark contrast to the dance in palace.

In terms of teaching music skills, oral teaching that inspires true understanding within is the most important carrier. Music institutions such as the operatic circle and musical house in Tang Dynasty are prestigious. The operatic circle is a private art educational institution for emperors to study a variety of music and dance. Emperor Xuanzong is proficient in music and he always created compositions. He often corrects the errors of melodist so they are students of the emperor. Musical house can be regarded as a folk music institution with official nature which is led by court officials for people to learn dance and musical instruments. There is another music education activity among folk musicians, and they depend on the folk musical instruments performance. However, they are humble, and are not accepted by mainstream culture and playing musical instruments is the means for livelihood. Sometimes, they teach music and their relation with their students is traditional, with oral teaching that inspires true understanding within as the main method. Some of them even become traveling players, even though some of them are elites. At the end of 19 century, the education carrier of Hua Yanjun, so-called Blind Ah Bing is lost which cannot be completely restored, which is a big demerit in music education research. Concerning this aspect, the traditional education carrier is not systematic and normally inherited. Therefore, we have to think about this issue so as to better adopt new carriers to inherit music to avoid the impact of politics and economy, which is an issue full of responsibilities. The technology innovation brings along with the innovation of education carrier. The function of new carriers on music education mainly reflects in the following aspects:

Firstly, it changes the teaching model and breaks the limits of space and time which ushers in a new age of long-distance education. The advantages of long-distance education are obvious: there is a dazzling array of information online which is convenient to use which has become organic components of teaching. At present, various colleges and universities have set up long-distance education departments, which can make more and more people acquire knowledge through this way. This kind of teaching model is not limited by space and time, with a dazzling array of targets and many state institutions begin to set up professional websites one after another. This modern long-distance education integrates various technique means such as video, text etc so as to stimulate a teaching environment to achieve the goal. A Canadian scholar Randy Garrison, Dutch scholar Soren Nipper and English scholar Tony Bates firstly put forward 3rd generation information technology and long-distance education theory, which is developed by Ding Xingfu in China that the first generation long-distance education is originated in the middle of 19th century which is developed based on printing and traffic mailing technology; the second generation long-distance education is originated at the beginning of 20th century based on multimedia education as well as audio-visual technology; the third generation long-distance education is about digital and virtual

education (internet education), which is established based on multimedia as well as Information and Communication Technology. ①

Secondly, the innovation of music education carrier creates diversified approaches for people to learn and acquire information. If students cannot master the knowledge in the class, they can record the contents by sound pick-up outfit so as to deepen understanding and increase their efficiency in studying. For example, students cannot master the knowledge in class or get the point. By listening to the record, they can understand the contents carefully. While adopting multi-media computer, music learners learn music through multimedia (DVD) and teacher lecture which is not limited by space. We can see that the innovation of education carrier can help students reasonably and effectively adopt teaching resources.

Thirdly, the music education carrier is full and wide, which plays an important role in improving the music accomplishment of the public. The internet covers the globe, and various professional and non-professional institutions begin to set up professional music channels with abundant contents: live instruction, musician interview, educator lecture and performer concert etc. This carrier has wide targets, which can improve people's understandings on music.

Music education based on websites as the main carrier gradually becomes an important part in music education activities of human beings which cannot be ignored. The biggest advantage of internet education is that it can be beyond time and space, which directly leads to the transformation of information transfer modes and creates a new era of education. Internet education creates a simulated environment for teaching purposes which has become an organic part of teaching. At present, various colleges and universities have set online courses. Besides, Central Music College, and Shanghai Music College etc have tried their utmost, which take elite courses taught by professional professors as the core content to improve the education quality. Professor Yuan Jingfang from Central Conservatory of Music holds the idea that the internet teaching material entering into mainstream teaching embodies the transformation and breakthrough. Traditional teaching is teacher-centered, mainly adopts cramming teaching method and the philosophy of internet education focuses on students to make them have self-choosing and self-learning. By the way, teachers play a guidance role.

Internet education enables students have a wider range to search for information. For example, while clicking Columbia University Digital Library with key words, you can get a dazzling array of information. What's more, you can search for the lectures of famous musicians at home and abroad without space limitations which can be regarded as a supplementary means for the traditional mode. In addition, music education becomes diversified based on internet technology which overcomes the limitations of traditional teaching methods and enables people to acquire a large amount of knowledge without going outside. Music education websites also have an important meaning for protecting the intangible cultural heritage. With the rapid development of global integration, the national culture ecology in many countries (especially developing countries) has met unprecedented challenges. Intangible cultural heritage is receiving growing challenges and cultures inherited by oral tradition are gradually disappearing. The environment is facing sharp deterioration while the heritage as well as protection of national music culture is also facing a serious situation. ③ Under such circumstances, major music education websites adopt advanced information technology to upload the valuable precious data online to make more people see so as to make the promotion. Xian Music Institute website, Hong Xiao music education studio and Wuhan Conservatory of Music all carry out promotions on national music, among which the research on Chu culture is recognized. The internet

shows excellent non-material cultural heritage to the world. This author participated in the 28th international music education meeting and got totally new software. The designer comes from Norway and his software plays a positive role in promoting the music and protecting the non-material cultural heritage. The layout of the software is a map of the world with icons showing regions. Once you click the mouse, the videos will show unique cultures of this region and for example, if you click somewhere in Africa, indigenous ritual sacrificial music will appear; representation of ethnic minorities of China's 56 ethnic groups is also included. This software will soon be adopted by various education websites at home and abroad, which shows a stereo display with reference meaning to promote the regional music and diversified development.

## Conclusions

The construction philosophy and content setting in different music education website are different. For example, ISME as the most authoritative one with largest scale mainly focuses on promotion, aiming to provide a bridge linking musicians throughout the world, which mainly provides information such as registration participants, conferences locations and conference theme etc, not directly provide specific education resources; yet, private websites such as Hong Xiao music education studio is set up by teachers. Its target is clear to serve the teachers with concrete and practical education resources. While cheering for the new carriers, there are problems need to be solved. ①From the perspective of knowledge transferring, some education areas are not suitable to adopt internet teaching. The performance major mainly focuses on mouth to mouth and face-to-face teaching which needs teachers to teach on the scene and combine various approaches which cannot be replaced by internet music education. Breaking the limits of time and space is not suitable for the major of performance. How to improve this aspect is also a prominent hotspot. ②There are a lot of demerits of internet technology and the technology for video, audio and online playing is not mature. Besides, the virtual and empty nature is also one of the focuses. As far as the author concerned, technique innovation can help to solve this problem. Internet, as an emerging education carrier has both merits and demerits. How to take advantages of these merits to overcome the demerits shall be responsibilities of every music educator.

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