



Original Research Paper

Vol. 04 Issue 04 April - 2021

Manuscript ID: #0412

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF MUSIC TEACHING IN UNIVERSITY OF CULTURE, SPORTS AND TOURISM OF THANH HÓA ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT TREND OF THE COUNTRY (VIETNAM)

M.A. Pham Thi Hai

Thanh Hoa University of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Vietnam.

*Corresponding author: *Pham Thi Hai
Tel.:+84949150188 Email: haianhchi2012@gmail.com*

ABSTRACT

Thanh Hoa University of Culture, Sports and Tourism, with a long history of 55 years of construction and development, is gradually innovating, approaching and integrating into the higher education system. One of the unique disciplines that contribute to the overall performance of the school is the vocal arts industry. With the change as well as the new directions of music today, schools and teachers need to develop learning goals and strategies that are suitable for students.

KEYWORDS

ThanhHoa, Student, Vocal Music, TUCST, Vietnam, Teacher



This work is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the context of globalization, cultural intercourse between nations and continents is an essential part of the development process. Increasing international cooperation requires that each country needs to innovate in technology and to develop education to meet the needs of economic and cultural development. In Vietnam, the education development is always a priority of the Government in order to be able to participate in the international competitive arena.

In the new social context, there are some specific issues for the Music Department: Does the professional vocal training model need to be changed and innovated? Does the vocal teacher capacity need to be standardized and enhanced? How teaching methods should be adjusted to adapt the new requirements of professional vocal training in the new stage?

During the next period from 2017 to 2025, the music education and performance should be studied, step by step, to meet the development requirements of the country. Singers must have the ability to perform the pieces with high vocal techniques for both classical and modern music such as opera, chamber music and popular music. It will help to align the Vietnamese music level with the one of the world and also to orient the public aesthetics to a higher level. Thus, the music education in general and vocal performance in particular at the music schools in Vietnam always receive high attention of the State and the Society to develop the art & culture of the Country as well as to bring to the world our rich and original arts, especially for this upcoming period.

Skills and techniques are important in any field and they are even more important in the field of the art of music, especially for the vocal or instrumental majors. Therefore the practice and training is very important for students to improve and master their music skills and techniques. As a result, they can show the higher performance quality, the better technical skills and the deeper musical expression.

In order to meet the needs of the society at present, the Music Department of University of Culture, Sports and Tourism in Thanh Hóa (TUCST), has been building vocal training program to improve education quality of the undergraduate music education majors. In this paper, the author would like to propose some solutions to "Improve the quality of the vocal training program integrating the trend of development of the country".

2. Current quality of the vocal training program

2.1 Overview the education program of TUCST

The vocal program of TUCST is divided into two levels, including associate's degree (3 years) and bachelor's degree (4 year).

The music voice department of TUCST aims at educating professional singers, performing the chamber music, popular music, and traditional music. The graduate students mainly work for performing art troupes, theaters and also State in the South of Red River region.

During college time, students have to acquire 38 credits of general education courses; and 87 credits of specialized major courses including 23 credits of fundamental knowledge and 50 credits of specialized knowledge.

The program has already cut down and simplified. The courses have been selected to be compatible with the ability and the technical conditions of the School as well as the quality of students. For example, the application of the traditional European classical vocal music are selected and modified to suit the ability and objectives of the School. The number of foreign works is also limited and selected to be easy for students.

2.2 CURRENT QUALITY OF THE VOCAL TRAINING PROGRAM

All lecturers at the TUCST strictly follow the rules and regulations of the School, are responsible for their work and properly follow the main program and detailed program to ensure the progress of the planning. The self-study, participation in training courses and scientific research are the most common ways to improve their teaching skills and knowledge.

Most of the students have the strong spirit of learning. Some students have the self-training and self-learning spirit, creativity in learning, high prizes in regional and national competitions. Some students participate actively in social activities on the campus as well as the event held by TUCST.

Some issues, however still exist. Some teachers have not yet changed their method to adapt to the new environment, have not really invested in their lectures. The number of vocal teachers that who has a high technical level is low. The quality of scientific research is not at the right level compared to the international standard. The accompaniment level of the teachers is still limited, so the performance of vocal pieces which required high level technique is still confused.

In addition, foreign language (ex. English), still remains a major problem because the level of both students and the teacher do not meet the requirement to perform the foreign pieces. The use of the foreign document is also ineffective.

The performance practice courses for a large number of students still have little effects on students. The most students do not have appropriate learning methods and their self-study capacity is still limited. Some students focus only on their major subject (ex. singing), without studying the subject of other major (ex. chamber music), which makes their understanding and perception of music are low.

The commercialization of music has also a strong effect on the music education in Vietnam. In fact, many teachers and students concentrate on recreational function and do not take much care in the art education. It leads to the lack of creativity in teaching, learning and performing.

Because of the above reasons, the innovation of the vocal training program has become urgent in the years to come.

3. SOLUTIONS FOR THE PERIODS 2017-2025

SELF-STUDY

Self-study is considered a quality of the lecturers. Vietnam is in the process of industrialization and modernization. The volume of human knowledge transmitted to Vietnam is enormous. The knowledge that students have gained at school is only the initial basis for a process of self-study and self-improvement. The self-study is the lifelong job of anybody, especially for the teachers.

The teacher himself must be a model of self-study and self-improvement of the professional qualifications and professional skills as well as the pedagogic capacity. Teachers, for example, performance technique teachers, can learn and improve their knowledge and skills based on the knowledge that they have learned. Thus self-reading and self-study skills are very important. Performance technique is a practical subject. However, in order to help students to obtain good results and motivate them, the teacher needs to have an integrated knowledge of both music theory and vocal expertise as well as a general understanding of the science of music and society.

The today's modern technologies can help teacher work more efficiently using the internet and the computer. Learning and playing are increasingly associated with computers, attracting more students into exploration and discovery. Teachers should not be content with the information available on books. The Internet is an indispensable source of information for any lecture.

The music is changing day by day. Performance technique teachers need to improve their computer skills in order to exploit the online music database: using beat music, downloading video samples, performing shows. They are positive supplementary materials for teaching and imparting knowledge to students.

3.1 SOLUTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE MUSIC TEACHING QUALITY

The traditional teaching methods should be combined with the modern teaching methods of the European countries. The Belcanto singing techniques are used in a subtle way in order to keep the traditional singing method that the sound is rounded with the clear enunciation of the texts combined with music to perfect the work and achieve the best results.

In addition, attention should be given to students in order to increase their creativity and to promote their ability of thinking and self-study skills. Talented students should be provided with ongoing opportunities to develop their skills, knowledge and musical ability. This is a very important task that should be considered in the School programm and the teaching methods.

However, some inadequacies still exist. The basic cause of the inadequacies in the professional vocal reform process is the limited capacity of the academic staff especially pedagogical and scientific capacity. An important requirement of the professional vocal reform is to standardize the capacity of teachers which is compatible with the requirements for innovation and diversification of the education programs.

There are many other causes of the inadequacies such as the new models of training are implemented slowly; There is no program suitable with the new training model in the direction of diversification; There are not enough syllabus; Training institutions have not the same method for the

evaluation of students improvement; Student internships are not organized properly; Students do not have appropriate learning methods; The motivation and attitudes of the students have decreased somewhat ; And the vocal trainers seem to be not ready for the reform.

The following paragraph represents the solutions to overcome certain issues mentioned above.

3.2 PEDAGOGICAL INNOVATIONS

3.2.1.1 Determining methods (5 W)

- 1) Who teaches? (Lecturer) and teach who? (Students)
- 2) What to learn? (Theory or practice, main or minor subjects)
- 3) Why teach and learn? Teaching for a living, teaching for a career, teaching for the country? Learning for a career? Learning to have knowledge? Learning to serve the country?
- 4) Where do you study? (At the auditorium? At the library, study in the studio, study in the concert hall, study in the performance room, learn anywhere ...)
- 5) When to study? (Study while studying in the lecture hall - study while studying in the concert hall, study when preparing to perform, study while performing, study anywhere, studying for life ...)

3.2.1.2 Formative assessments

As a teacher, we must associate teaching with contributions to society. We have to find social approaches to develop our profession in order to create social attraction. The role of the teachers is very important:

The teachers have to renew the teaching methods to increase the student's motivation. The teaching should be open-minded creating opportunities for students to develop self-study and creativity. The teachers have to combine the imaging methods and suggestive methods as well as technical supports in order to help students increase the effectiveness of acquiring knowledge.

The teachers have to diversify the class organization. The teachers may work directly with each student in the vocal technique courses and/or edit songs. Two teachers may work with a student when performing composition and song playing. Many teachers may work with a student during the lesson with tutor, expert, interpreter and accompaniment. The combination of individual class and group class is the effective way for students to access the content of the subjects more diverse and the learning environment should be improved and considered as an important factor. The ideal learning environment of the professional vocal education has to ensure the following elements: adequate facilities, friendly interaction between teacher and students.

The teachers need to improve their music knowledge and also know how to use effectively the technical facilities. The teacher needs to have a strong knowledge of the human voice, know how to

affect each part in order to achieve the expected results. Cultivating the instrument helps the teacher to master the examples for students, from short to long, from simple to complex. In order to obtain better achievement in teaching, teachers should also know how to use effectively the teaching aids such as discs, televisions, computers, music CDs.

Finally, a good relationship between teachers and students is also very important to motivate students in learning as well as to develop their potential creativities.

3.2.1.3 Improving student practical skills

Teachers have to help students to practice and develop their practical skills through performing skills classes. Students can be trained in performing skills through singing with an orchestra, dancing lessons, listening to and watching the performances of the country and from the world. Teachers should encourage students to participate in performing at the faculty, at the school, and if possible, to perform at major programs of the Province (Thanh Hoa). That helps students to gain an extremely valuable experience in performing skills.

On the other hand, students should not be content with only the practice technical classes. They should improve continuously their practical skills beyond the scope of the lecture through self-study and self-training. Students who do not practice hands-on skills will be limited in their creativity and career development.

4. CONCLUSION

As the Vietnamese economy has been growing rapidly in the last decade, the demands of comfortable life are also being raised. After the War, people wish to have enough food and warm clothing. But today, people want to have not only delicious food, well dressed but also a great music. Today's listeners want not only the songs with good music but also beautiful performance style. Singers, who want to give a deep impression to the audience, sing well may not enough. They need to improve their appearance combining with a creative and unique performance style.

In order to have a great and professional performance, the singer needs to practice to have stable and confident stage skills. Highly qualified lecturers and real musical talented students are also indispensable to achieve the best results.

Founded 55 years ago, University of Culture, Sports and Tourism in Thanh H \acute{o} a, has educated and provided many quality singers for the Country. Some graduates have been successful in their career with many achievements, many awards, gold and silver medals in regional and national competitions, giving their great contribution to the national development.

To continue these above successes in the next period from 2017 to 2025, innovation in education methods is necessary. The vocal training program needs to be modernized in order to increase the activeness of learners, to apply new technologies in teaching and learning and to increase self-study and self-research.

The new program should pay more attention to the practice courses because it is a particularly important element in vocal education. With the rapid growth of the society and the economy, the Vietnamese teachers need to innovate teaching methods in order to improve their creativity and their knowledge. The innovation of vocal teaching method is a necessary and is compatible with the development trend of the country.

5. References

- Nguyen Trung Kien (2001), Methods of Vocal Music Education, Ministry of Culture and Information, Hanoi Academy of Music, Vietnamese Institute for Musicology.*
- Vu Thi Tuoi (2016), Measures to solve high vocal range in teaching vocal music, Master's Thesis: Theory and Methods of Teaching Music, National University of Arts Education)*
- Ho Mo La (2008), Teaching Methods of Vocal Music, Bach Khoa Dictionary Publishing House, Hanoi*
- Tran Ngoc Lan (2011), Methods of singing well in Vietnamese in the singing arts, Vietnam Education Publishing House, Hanoi.*
- Ngo Thi Nam, Tran Minh Tri, Tran Nguyen Hoan, Music and music education methodology (volume 2), Education Publishing House, Hanoi, 1993.*
- Ngo Thi Nam, Singing, University of Education Publishing House, Hanoi, 2004.*
- Nguyen Thi Nhung, Music Genres, Music Publishing House, Hanoi, 1996.*