

# Study on the Path of College Students' Participation in the Construction of Community Music Culture: Taking Huangshi Tianqiao Community Music Volunteer Service Station as an Example

Yufei Zhang, Sha Han\*

College of Music, Hubei Normal University, Huangshi, Hubei, China

\*Corresponding Author.

**Abstract:** With the rapid development of the urban economy, the people's spiritual and cultural needs are increasing. As an important basic unit of society, the community has become an important platform for cultural development, and community music culture plays a key role as an important part of it, the organisation of various cultural activities helps to enrich the spiritual life of residents and build a harmonious ecological environment. This paper takes the practice of "Huangshi Tianqiao Community Music Volunteer Station" as an example, and puts forward the ideas and suggestions for college students majoring in music to participate in the construction of community music culture by means of volunteering, cultural exchanges and internship bases. The participation of college students in the construction of community music culture not only enriches the cultural life of the community residents, but also provides college students with the opportunity and environment to practice and exercise their professional and communication skills.

**Keywords:** Hubei Normal University; University Student; Communal; Music Culture; Construction Path; Huangshi

## 1. Introduction

At present, China's economy and science and technology are developing at a high speed, and the people's material standard of living has been greatly improved, and their spiritual and cultural needs are growing. With the aging trend of our population, the building of community culture should receive adequate attention. The community is the main place for residents' daily life, and the organisation

of various cultural activities helps to enrich the spiritual life of residents and build a harmonious ecological environment [1]. As a popular art form, music plays an important role in the construction of community culture. Colleges and universities have rich educational resources, especially colleges and universities in the same city as the community have the natural advantage of helping the community to carry out the construction of music culture, and at the same time, participation in the construction of community culture also provides valuable opportunities for students of colleges and universities to practice outside the school [2]. According to the review of literature, it is found that at present, there are some precedents of cooperation between communities and universities in China, for example, Hangzhou Normal University has established a relatively mature cooperation mechanism with the neighbouring Taiyan community, but from the national point of view, it still presents the characteristics of uneven and immature development. In particular, there is a lack of practical experience and results that can be replicated, and there is insufficient research on how university students can participate in the construction of community music and culture in a specific way. Therefore, the author hopes to investigate the Tianqiao community in Huangshi City, and carry out the innovative entrepreneurial project of "Tianqiao Community Music Volunteer Service Station" to practice and explore the specific paths for college students to participate in the construction of community music culture.

## 2. Connotation of Community Music Culture Building

Regarding the definition of community, Mr Wu Wenzao of the Department of Sociology at YanJing University suggests that: "the three elements that make up a community are population, territory, and lifestyle or culture." Community art and culture, as one of the components of community culture, plays an unignorable role in enhancing the cultural level and improving the moral quality of community residents [3]. The construction of music culture plays an important role in the current construction of community culture with its distinctive features and vivid forms.

The construction of community music culture is an important form of promoting the building of a harmonious community. As the founder of Confucianism, Confucius had a strong cultural idea of music with a corrective colour, and his emphasis on "changing customs and habits, nothing is better than music" had a profound impact on Chinese society [4]. Modern community music culture is all-encompassing, and plays a great role in promoting the construction of a harmonious society, which enables community residents to receive subtle education by means of teaching and enjoyment [4]. Due to the nature of the work of the residents in the community, age, education level there is a big difference, residents in the daily life of the lack of opportunities for interaction, and the community as a good platform for residents to communicate with each other, the development of community cultural activities can effectively promote exchanges between the people, and have a deeper understanding of each other. Under the current situation of focusing on the "people-centred" approach and advocating the comprehensive development of the human person, the in-depth development of a good, high-level social and musical culture strengthens the cohesion of community residents and promotes the construction of a harmonious life for them.

The development of community music culture is an important initiative to meet the cultural needs of the residents. "The people should be regarded as the main body of literary and artistic expression" and "meeting people's spiritual and cultural needs should be the starting point and the end result of literary and artistic work." [5] Nowadays, the rapid development of the economy, science and

technology and other aspects of society, people have fewer opportunities for face-to-face interaction with each other, long-term so is not conducive to the mental health of the people, and the community to carry out cultural activities due to the lower cost of participation in the activities, can attract more residents to participate in cultural activities, but also to enrich the spiritual culture of the elderly in the current aging society.

The building of a community music culture is also a key pathway to improving the artistic literacy of residents. Excellent works of literature and art contain rich and profound ideas and philosophies, which can play a strong guiding and orientating role in the residents' ideological and moral cultivation and the construction of their outlook on life and values. "The vast number of literary and art workers should nourish the people's aesthetic values with excellent works with profound thoughts, freshness, simplicity and vigor, so that the people can be more full of spiritual life." [6] For example, Henan Satellite TV has always insisted on deep cultivation and innovation in traditional culture. In the Spring Festival Evening in Henan in 2024, the director further blended traditional culture with modern science and technology, so that the beauty of traditional culture was integrated into modern culture, and a more innovative angle and visual charm were excavated. This innovative form has received a lot of positive feedback from the public [7]. This excellent performance form guides the public to accept and pursue a better art form. By revisiting the works of art and feeling the profound ideological and cultural connotations in traditional culture, it not only enhances cultural self-confidence, but also stimulates cultural consciousness.

### **3. Survey on the Current Situation of the Construction of Music Culture in Tianqiao Community**

In order to further explore the path of college students' participation in the construction of community music culture, the author went into the Tianqiao community in Huangshi City to collect information and conduct interviews with the director of the relevant person in charge, Yang, as well as the director of the community "Voice of Yiyang" choir,

Han.

### **3.1 Status of Community Music Culture Building**

Huangshi City, Hubei Province, Huangshi Port District, Sheng Yang Port Street Tianqiao community is located in the centre of Huangshi Port District, East and West Seaside District adjacent to the boundary, north to the Yangtze River. The community has more elderly people, more disadvantaged people, more retired cadres, and more individual merchants, which is a typical "four-plus" type of community.

According to the Tianqiao community responsible for arts and cultural work, Director Yang said, the Tianqiao community to carry out community music and cultural construction attaches great importance to the first is to provide hardware facilities for the masses to carry out music and cultural activities to support, which is also based on the requirements of the policy. In order to meet the needs of the public, the Tianqiao Community Service Centre has reserved most of the rooms at the beginning of the design for the public to carry out their daily cultural activities, and there are also professional venues for cultural activities, including a dance room, a gym, and a calligraphy and painting room.

In addition to the provision of venues, the community also builds platforms for residents to display their arts and culture, and actively informs and organises the public to participate in all kinds of music and cultural competitions and activities organised by the city and districts, such as Huangshi's annual "Magnetic Lake Culture and Art Festival", which is a form of importing outstanding works of art and culture by the Yellowstone Municipal Government. However, during major holidays such as Dragon Boat Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival, Chinese New Year and other important festivals, the Tianqiao community gathers to call on interested community music and cultural groups to perform cultural activities in the form of formal evening shows. On 8 January 2016, the mass culture and arts festival organised by the Tianqiao community arranged for performances of 14 programmes, all of which were performed by community arts and cultural organisations, including the community's choir, dance team, wushu team,

waist-drumming team, fitness association, and so on. This not only gives the community's choir, dance team and other arts and cultural organisations the opportunity to showcase the arts they love, but also attracts more than 400 people from the community who are not professionals including low-income households, people with disabilities and residents to the venue. There was also the Tianqiao Community Spring Festival Gala held on 15 January 2018 at the Traffic Police Detachment Club, which featured veteran cadres, staff members, precinct units and community art groups. The Tianqiao community has achieved certain results in cultural construction. The community's dance team and chorus team have long been active among the residents in the district, playing an active role in promoting the enrichment of residents' cultural life.

At present, the organizational forms of music and cultural activities in Tianqiao Community are chorus, dance team, orchestra, etc. The members of the community are generally composed of retired old comrades at home, and most of them are gathered together because of their own love. Among them, the larger artistic organizational forms are the "Voice of Yiyang" choir and the "Dance Rhyme" dance team, and their respective management and organization forms are very standardized, and special leaders have been set up to manage their affairs.

### **3.2 Dilemma in the Construction of Community Music Culture**

In addition to the above gratifying achievements, Director Yang, who is in charge of cultural construction in Tianqiao Community, also talked about some difficulties faced by the construction and development of community music culture, mainly in software construction, such as the scarcity of funds and professional talents.

In terms of funding for public cultural services, in recent years, with the support of national policies, the development of community cultural activities in various regions has received certain subsidies. Although Tianqiao Community can afford a small amount of activities with the help of certain funds issued by the government, the part that can be invested in the construction of music culture is far from enough. Compared

with various large and complex community art groups. Among them, the expenses of daily activities, such as makeup, clothing, equipment and facilities, transportation, etc., are also not small expenses, which need to be borne by the members who participate in the community. For most ordinary community residents, the continuous capital expenditure has forced many people who want to participate in the music and cultural activities of the community for a long time to give up. In addition, Director Yang also pointed out a phenomenon: due to the epidemic situation in the previous two years, the daily activities of some small-scale literary and cultural groups in Tianqiao community were forced to stop, and the lack of financial support for activities gradually lost.

Not only that, the lack of professional and stable teachers is also an important factor restricting the activities of community organizations. Due to the spontaneity of community cultural activities and the fact that most of the participants are elderly residents, the music and cultural groups in the community can't find a stable instructor. According to the head of the "Yiyang Voice" choir in Tianqiao Community, an old comrade who is good at piano accompaniment has been rehearsing teaching for the choir for more than ten years. However, due to the growth of age and the need to take care of family members and other trivial matters, the club has been troubled by finding suitable teachers in recent years. The teachers who have just been hired in recent months still need to run in with the members. Now, there are only a single talent with professional music theory knowledge in the club. When the teachers have no time to teach, most of them can only rely on the comrades in the choir to carry out activities spontaneously according to their experience, and the residents generally have a low acceptance of partial professional knowledge. In addition, because the participants in Tianqiao community music and cultural activities are mostly older people, the forms of music and culture they understand and accept are limited, mostly music and dance, and the forms of activities are lack of innovation and relatively simple.

#### **4. Plan and Practice of Tianqiao Community Music Volunteer Service**

##### **Station"**

Before the topic selection of graduation thesis, the author participated in the social science research project of Huangshi City "Research on the Construction of Community Music Culture in Huangshi City and the Sharing of Music Education Resources in Hubei Normal University" as a member of the project team, and got a preliminary understanding of college students' participation in the construction of community music culture. In 2023, the author applied for the innovation and entrepreneurship project of college students in Hubei Province with the title of "Song of the New Era-Community Music Volunteer Service Station".

##### **4.1 Tianqiao Community Music Volunteer Service Station" Planning**

After determining the project, the first thing is to form a team and determine the members of the project team. In order to meet the diverse needs of the community music culture, the members are students from different majors in the University Conservatory of Music, including piano, vocal music and folk music, etc., which can play a higher initiative in practical activities and cover a wide range of grades. Not only students in the direction of music performance and education, but also graduate students in the hospital participate, ensuring the flexibility of daily practical activities.

Then, in order to interview deeply the present situation of music culture in Tianqiao community, the team actively communicated with the tutor and got a preliminary understanding of the scale and form of the community. During this period, the members of the team collected community materials, consulted policy documents, studied relevant documents, held several meetings to discuss the follow-up direction and objectives of the project, and made it clear that the project mainly involved musicians in community assistance, carried out voluntary activities, participated in daily community cultural activities, and communicated with the community as much as possible. After determining the implementation plan, I wrote an interview outline with community-related staff and community music and cultural groups, and sorted out relevant materials.

#### **4.2 The Practice Of "Tianqiao Community Music Volunteer Service Station"**

After investigation and interview preparation, the team carried out specific practice. First of all, I had an interview with Director Yang in the Mass Service Center of Tianqiao Community. Regarding the current situation of music and culture construction in Tianqiao Community, Director Yang said: "It should be a social demand, because they love music, dance and singing from the heart and organize themselves spontaneously, and asked if our community could help set up a choir to provide some support on venue funds, including various activities." At present, the forms of music culture are developed to meet the needs of the masses, including choirs, various types of dance teams, orchestras, etc. The venues and facilities for residents to carry out activities include dance rooms, gymnasiums, painting and calligraphy rooms and a number of spare rooms.

In addition to the background and current situation of community music culture construction, the author also asked how to treat the current predicament of community music culture construction and the difficulties encountered in the process of being responsible for literature and art culture in the past, and felt that what caused the above difficulties could not be solved. Director Yang said: "Now the development of the community is mainly about funds and teachers. The funds provided by the government before can afford a small part of the expenses, but the part that can be invested in community culture construction is far from enough. Most societies carry out activities such as makeup fees, clothing fees and activities. At the end of the interview, when asked about "what kind of support the team can provide", Director Yang said: "It is best for everyone not to take it as a task, but to come to the community for some activities when they are free. For example, students majoring in piano can help play accompaniment, students majoring in vocal music can hand in some simple knowledge of music theory, students who know how to conduct can teach some rehearsal skills and methods, and students majoring in dance can help the dance team in the community rehearse some small works." The two sides ended the interview after understanding the

relevant issues clearly, and then summarized the interview materials, and decided to interview the head of the club in the course of participating in the "Voice of Yiyang" choir and learn more about the people's music and cultural activities in practice.

At the beginning of 2024, the team went deep into the choir and participated in the practical activities of the course. Before the class, the head of the choir, Han, described the teaching method of this course. The head of Han said, "This lecture is given by a new teacher. The specific class still depends on how our comrades cooperate." The course of the choir has a certain degree of professionalism. The teachers lead the members to carry out various vocal training first, and then begin the rehearsal of the song "Si Du Chishui Out of the Raiders".

After the course, the team analyzed and summarized the advantages and disadvantages. The advantages lie in the strict management system of the choir, clear division of labor, hardware facilities such as electronic organ and audio microphone, scientific and reasonable arrangement of the chorus class led by teachers, and the enthusiasm of the old comrades for learning positive energy songs is high and the efficiency is high, while the disadvantages lie in the lack of energy due to the older members of the choir, short course time and limited preference for songs. Red songs are the main songs of the era, and where there are some difficulties in the songs, Aunt Zhang and Aunt Li of the community have said, "We can't sing this", and their acceptance of professional theories is low. After class, the team also confirmed the existence of these situations in interviews with the lecturers and the head of the team. In the interview, the head of the Korean team said: "It has been more than ten years since the choir was established. There are more than 50 people in our team, and now the management is quite perfect. In the past, we had teachers who were obliged to teach, but now when we are old, there are things that we can't do at home. It is getting harder and harder to find teachers in these years." Then the team discussed the follow-up activities with the choir, and suggested that they could participate in the rehearsal of the choir, and help the teachers to complete the course better and keep in touch with each other according

to the needs of the course.

After the practice, there were many exchanges and feedback meetings in the team. The members summarized the process and experience of participating in the activities, and put forward their own views on the project and suggestions for improvement, so as to promote the better development of the project.

## **5. Suggestions on College Students' Participation in the Construction of Community Music Culture**

### **5.1 Voluntary Service**

Volunteer service activities are one of the important symbols of social civilization and progress, and occupy an extremely important position in community governance. On the one hand, college students' voluntary participation in the construction of community music culture is to give full play to the community as a natural platform for practical education. In the practice of participating in the construction of community culture, communication with community workers and people can further deepen their understanding of China's current national conditions and social conditions. From the perspective of college students' own growth and development, after learning professional theoretical knowledge and mastering professional skills in school, they still need to go to society and integrate into society. In today's society that pays attention to all-round development, individual's comprehensive quality and ability are becoming more and more important. Participating in the construction of community music culture can deepen the comprehensive understanding of society and understand their own identity in social life, which is helpful to improve the adaptability of college students to change from student status to social members<sup>[8]</sup>.

Music majors in colleges and universities have a certain professional level and relevant theoretical knowledge. They can learn and discuss professional skills and academic theoretical issues with many outstanding professors in the school. At the same time, the college provides professional hardware resources for training, but the theoretical knowledge of studying in the school needs to be tested by rich practice<sup>[9]</sup>. It is undoubtedly

a good platform to exercise themselves and accumulate practical experience in the community. Expanding the position of volunteer service to the community has also innovated the form of campus volunteer activities, and the unique venues and activities have also stimulated the enthusiasm of college students to participate. More mature volunteer organizations in schools, such as the Young Volunteers Association of Hubei Normal University, can establish a cooperation platform with the community to transport outstanding talents for community cultural construction.

### **5.2 Cultural Exchange**

The cultural environment, historical background, humanities and customs of each region are different, and different regions have special cultural customs preferences, among which there are many excellent artists and art groups scattered in various regions and communities. Not only that, the excellent community culture in local communities is also a valuable spiritual resource, which should be inherited and publicized. College students are an important force to publicize the excellent music culture in the community. Young people in college are in the golden stage of their lives, with strong physical quality, vitality and enthusiasm. With firm ideals and beliefs, they use what they have learned to contribute to the country and society and realize their dreams. Compared with adults who have entered the society, college students have less pressure on their lives, extra energy and free time in winter and summer vacations. In addition, what is more important is that college students are more open-minded, curious, creative and innovative. Participating in the construction of community music culture can not only help the development of community culture, but also integrate their own innovative ideas into the existing community music culture and increase the innovation of the form and content of community music culture.

For the community, literary and artistic groups, retired artists are important spiritual and cultural resources in the community. These outstanding people can lead and advocate residents to actively participate in community music culture, enrich the forms of community music culture and improve the

spiritual and cultural level of residents. College students and community literary and artistic groups, retired artists and music lovers will jointly carry out exchange and discussion activities, such as holding a "K Song Competition", conducting pk in community camps and college camps, and inviting old artists and music departments in the community. Young people's innovative ideas and creativity can stimulate the vitality of community music culture, stimulate new ideas in cultural exchanges and collisions, improve academic level, and make suggestions for the construction of community music culture.

### **5.3 Practice Base**

Although college students' voluntary service can meet the needs of community music culture construction to a certain extent, individual group volunteers may not be able to continuously participate in community music culture construction due to the pressure of students' studies and the requirements of further studies and graduation. Therefore, it is particularly important to establish a sustainable service mechanism. Colleges and universities are rich in teachers and students' resources, which enables topics and projects to be promoted for a long time. In addition, the school is welcoming new students, and some graduates are about to enter the society. Graduates are facing the pressure of internship and employment, and they need to turn their professional theoretical knowledge into practical results. Participating in practical activities will help them enhance their ability to adapt to social life.

As a platform to connect with people's social life, the community deals with people's real needs for community music culture in daily life. For college students, this kind of work that needs to connect with people is a high-quality practical platform to develop their own comprehensive quality. The construction of community music culture also needs the help of professional talents. For college students, this not only exercises their comprehensive ability to deal with problems, but also can better understand their future development orientation under the current situation of social music culture. For the community, the establishment of the practice base not only provides the sustainable talents needed by the community cultural

construction, but also can better serve the masses. Moreover, a perfect organizational form and a stable management system can play a great role in cooperation, which can effectively guarantee the development of activities, make efficient use of resources and achieve mutual benefit and win-win results [10].

### **6. Conclusion**

With the continuous progress of urbanization and the vigorous development of economic construction, people's lifestyle has changed, and the fast-paced life has brought great pressure and imbalance of inner life. Therefore, it is urgent to provide high-quality spiritual and cultural nourishment to fill the vacancy of the soul. In this context, it is particularly urgent to carry out community cultural construction, because it helps to guide the public to establish good ideological and moral concepts, improve the level of cultural literacy, and then build a harmonious social environment. As an important part, community music culture plays a key role. Through long-term study and accumulation, music majors in colleges and universities in the same city have the natural advantage of developing music cultural services in the community. They are deeply integrated with community cultural construction through voluntary service, cultural exchange and the establishment of practice bases, and make full use of the rich human and material resources of colleges and universities to establish an interactive mechanism for sustainable development. College students' participation in the construction of community music culture not only enriches the cultural life of community residents, but also provides practical opportunities and environment for college students, and exercises their professional ability and communication ability. At present, more and more scholars have begun to pay attention to and realize the value of college students' participation in community voluntary service. I believe that in the near future, community cultural construction will surely usher in more innovative development.

### **Acknowledgments**

This paper is the research achievement of Hubei University Students' Innovation and

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