



MUSIC EDUCATION AT SCHOOL LEVEL WITH PROSPECTUS OF CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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Introduction

Music a form of art that cuts across all cultural barriers. Concerts, festivals, and works of art bring people from all walks of life together to appreciate music. Music is frequently used as a background to activity. Students interested in learning about music will enjoy learning about its history, cultural influences, genres, and significant contributions. These contributions are ongoing, but beginning with the basics provides a solid foundation for learning music.

The formal study of music, irrespective of instrument, entails a variety of factors. The primary areas of study of music are theory and practical knowledge. Additional units include music history, composition analysis, and the study of diverse genres. For a long time, pupils have been taught music at school. This article presents an overview of the music education system, exposing the numerous topics that music educators must be aware of, such as technology, curricular evolution, regulation, and a variety of societal requirements ranging from cultural diversity to evolving musical tests. It covers the broad framework of the profession and how the future of music education is in the hands of today's student teachers as they learn how to be advocates for music in our classrooms. The current study also examines music as a future vocation and various additional job prospects such as vocalists, instrumentalists, teachers, composers, music journalists, music therapists, writers, and producers.

Keywords: Music, Music Education, Music History, Music Benefits, Music Types, Career Opportunities.

What is Music Education

Music education is a branch of education concerned with the teaching and learning of music. It is also including a field of research in which scholars do research on creative ways of teaching and learning music. Music education fosters intellectual development and enriches the academic environment for children of all ages, and music educators make significant contributions to children's artistic, intellectual, and social development, as well as playing an important role in assisting children to succeed in school

History of Music Education in Schools

Music has a long history in India, dating back to the Vedic period. Looking back in time, we can see that there was a Guru-Shishya tradition or Gurukul system of music education in India for a long time. Indian music history is divided into four eras: the Vedic period, the Puranic period, the Natyashastra period, the Medieval period, and the Modern period. There are five major techniques of music education that have been used in various eras. These techniques are:

1. Gurukul system
2. Vidyalaya system
3. Music teaching in regular schools
4. One to one coaching of music
5. Informal training of music from various modern media

The arrival of the Aryans signaled the start of Vedic literature. Music was regarded as an outstanding tool to realise God. Music came from the recitation of the Vedas in the Vedic period. The Gupta period saw the flourishing of ancient Indian music as the Golden Age of art, culture and education in old India. Indian music had an important role in India and abroad from the 7th to the 13th century A.D. Indian classical music underwent the renaissance in the early 20th century and demonstrated qualitative progress. It has seen a galaxy of Indian classical Musicians, and the legacy left behind by the great individuals is still carefully nurtured by many enthusiastic music students in the country.

With recent changes in this modern world, there are a lot of educated people who are fascinated or inquisitive about music and wish to satisfy their intellectual demand of learning the music or any art. There are numerous books, interactive CDs, blogs, web sites, and e-portals that provide fundamental information on music. Another informal way is one-on-one coaching, which is adaptable and takes into account the needs of the new age as well as the inevitability of the passage of time. This technique, which combines the Gurukul and Vidyalaya systems, provides benefits from both, making it a midway path. However, this method lacks the close contact with Guru, the depth of instruction, and the devotion of both the learner and the teacher.

Music in the curriculum should focus on musical activities that help students develop musical abilities, skills, and comprehension of musical concepts, as well as social skills, inventiveness, curiosity, enjoyment, and commitment. Music activity should provide a sense of personal fulfilment and achievement while also contributing to a school's ethos and well-being.

Benefits of Music Education

It is a proven fact that the benefits of music education are immense. It allows you to gain a better understanding of yourself. When you're involved in music, your horizons expand. Your understanding of art and the world, as well as your ability to think and express yourself, are enhanced. Music education, in fact, affects all areas of learning. These include the psychomotor area, which focuses on the development of your musical skills, the cognitive aspect, which focuses on the acquisition of musical knowledge, and the affective aspect, which includes music appreciation and sensitivity.

Although various studies have established that music education is very important for the holistic development of the students. But it seems that even now, in many education systems, it is offered less and less. Sadly, many schools have started excluding music from their curriculums simply to accommodate other subjects.

Music is a very significant subject for all children to learn because it helps them to develop their brains better, strengthen their human relationship and even relieve their stress. As music is being withdrawn from schools, children will no longer receive these benefits unless they enroll in private lessons, which are too expensive for many families.

Music education can also help students improve their reading comprehension skills. A study at Northwestern University discovered that pupils who actively engaged in music classes had stronger speech processing abilities as well as higher reading scores than those who did not.

Another reason, music education is so significant is that it encompasses a wide range of subjects at the same time. Not only will music education assist youngsters to improve their musical abilities, but it will also allow them to improve their arithmetic, reading, and writing skills, as well as their scientific and history knowledge. Time signatures in music, for example, are a great method to introduce fractions, while lyric analysis and songwriting allow students to practice reading skills.

Similarly, discussing how instruments function will provide knowledge on the physics of sound, and understanding about music's place in society will throw light on significant historical events. Teachers who are concerned about their children's abilities in other areas of study will find it easy to incorporate them into a music class.

Types of Music Education Required in Schools

I feel that music education is critical to our culture and that it should be delivered in an exciting and relevant manner. I offer an overview of my music education experience to indicate that we instructors want to be held accountable and are working hard to improve the standard and variety of the curriculum while elevating the status of music as a subject in schools. Music can have a significant impact on a student's whole development, contributing to their aesthetic, intellectual, social, and physical education. It plays a part in the development of abilities that are necessary to all areas of the curriculum, such as listening; communication; fostering the pupil's imagination and creativity; preparing a pupil's future role in society; and it is also linked to language development. In other words, it is pertinent to the entire curriculum.

Career Opportunities

Music is one of the most significant achievements. It's the ideal medium for eliciting emotions and expressing feelings. It brings peace to the mind, and no one is immune to its effects. Talent, real interest, devotion, sincerity, and a will to work hard are what guarantees success in the realm of music. As a result, competence in this profession is based on both art and training, i.e., both intrinsic skill and consistent practice. This instruction was delivered in the past through the Guru-Shisha tradition. It is now delivered in educational institutions and has taken the shape of education. Pandit Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande and Pandit Vishnu Digamber Pluskart deserve credit for this mode. Without a doubt, the first step in this approach is to join the institution, but mastery is dependent on devotion and dedication. A career in this sector necessitates not only real love of music, a musical sense, understanding of time and rhythm, but also versatility, creative talent, and confidence. As there are various types of music, such as classical music, semi-classical music, light music, devotional music, folk music, jazz, pop, and fusion, there are numerous opportunities in the music industry as a performer (vocal or instrument), a teacher, a composer, a music-theoretical writer, a music journalist, a music therapist, an artist manager/PR, and so on. With the advent of satellite television, the popularity of music channels and corporate sponsorship of musical events has skyrocketed. Without a doubt, success in this profession is dependent on good stars and a breakthrough; once a person achieves success in this profession, there is no limit to his or her name and reputation.

There are no limits to the number of employment prospects available in this field for talented and competent individuals who are obsessed with it. They can work as a singer or instrumentalist, a teacher, a composer, a music-theoretical writer, a music journalist, or a music therapist.

Music as Educational Study

As music is a God-given talent, there is no need for special training. Earning a living in this educational field, however, necessitates at least a high school diploma. There are a variety of courses available in this discipline, including certificate courses, bachelor courses, diploma courses, and post-graduate studies, as well

as M.Phil and Ph.D. degrees. The length of these courses varies depending on the course. A certificate course lasts one year, a bachelor's programme lasts three to four years, and a diploma or post-graduate programme lasts two years. A music student is expected to have a good voice, talent, dedication, perseverance, and hard work, creativity and adaptability, teamwork, accept criticism in the proper spirit, and self-confidence.

Music Teachers or Professors

Another career option in this sector is to work as a music teacher or professor. A music teacher's primary responsibility is to pique students' interest and excitement for music. This role can be accomplished by founding music schools, offering private lessons, and serving in schools, colleges, institutions, and institutional set-up.

Stage-Performers

The stage performer is one more option in this field. This profession requires a high level of technical and musical competence. A stage-performer can perform in or without musical instruments alone or in a group. It goes from a classic or pop artist to a musician of the instrument. Stage artists act as recording artists in concert halls, in small or large groups, at studios and live concerts in lounge environments, pubs, nightclubs, etc.

Music Composers and Writers

Music composer is one of the opportunities offered in the field of music. A composer is someone who creates either music or lyrics alone or both. He can compose music for films, television series, radio jingles, folk songs, and albums, among other things. To be a successful composer, you must understand not only sound and different musical styles, but also theme, mood, and audience. He should also be familiar with copyrights, networking, publishing, contracts, performance rights, and so on.

Producers

Producers are the people who bring together divergent components of recording and present them as an aesthetic whole. Their responsibilities include booking studios, hiring musicians and engineers, supervising the production of recorded music, and managing the recording budget. Technical expertise and tact are essential for achieving success in this sector.

Artist-Music Management

It is one of the new alternatives. Behind the scenes, artist management arranges, organises, and negotiates an artist's career. His job entails scheduling meetings with radio and television producers and securing time for their artists, negotiating with record labels and programme sponsors, and so on. Success in this sector needs not only patience and musical knowledge but also musical experience and training.

Music Journalists

A music journalist is someone who reviews performances and records, conducts interviews with performers, and publishes music reviews. They provide their expert opinion on new releases and acts. He may work for newspapers, magazines, and online. This employment opportunity necessitates a keen interest in and knowledge of music, a love of writing, and a strong command of the English language.

Music Therapists

It is one of the most recent advancements in this industry. It necessitates not only specific training in rhythm and melody, but also the ability to investigate, interpret, and develop the creative use of sound in order to maintain psychological and emotional balance. Psychiatric diseases, mental retardation and developmental disabilities, speech and hearing impairments, physical disabilities, and neurological impairments are all treated by music therapists. They can work at psychiatric hospitals, community mental health agencies, rehabilitation centres, nursing homes, and mentally impaired houses, among other places.

Conclusion

We know that people who study strengthen their cognitive capabilities and create social connections from early infancy through retirement, whether they are participating in recreational music production or training for a professional job. Several large-scale studies conducted over the last two decades have demonstrated that music students outperform other students academically, frequently by substantial percentages. Music students are more likely to be engaged and motivated in their studies, as well as to receive academic prizes. We now have a precise scientific explanation for this occurrence thanks to the groundbreaking research of neuroscientists.

Music education causes long-term changes in children's brains, enhancing their ability to accomplish tasks that demand prolonged attention as well as careful listening and reading. Music education creates doorways that allow pupils to transition from school into the world of job, culture, intellectual activity, and human involvement. Our country's future rests on giving our youngsters with a well-rounded education that incorporates music as a mystical therapy as well as music as a vocation. The resurgence of traditional religious musical movements and their application as a socio-cultural transformation has been facilitated by modern music. The provision in religious texts for a melodious naturalism in souls has pushed a large number of musical poets toward the establishment of new trends in music, and therefore education breakthroughs at the school level can serve as a door to gigantic professionalism in the stream.

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