

STATEMENT

by Assoc. Prof. Antonia Peneva Baleva, PhD

Department of Music, University of Plovdiv Paisii Hilendarski,

of a dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific PhD degree

in the field of higher education *1. Pedagogical sciences,*

professional direction *1.3. Pedagogy of ...,*

PhD program *Methodology of Music Education*

Author: *Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva*

Topic: *„Innovative pedagogical technologies for the formation of vocal skills in high school students“*

Scientific supervisor: prof. Tanya Burdeva, PhD, PU "Paisiy Hilendarski"

1. General presentation of the procedure and the PhD student

Subject of the procedure

By order No. RD-22-608/ 28.02.2025. of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury to ensure a procedure for the defense of a dissertation on a topic "Innovative pedagogical technologies for the formation of vocal skills in high school students" for the acquisition of the educational and scientific PhD degree in the field of higher education, professional direction and doctoral program. He is the author of the dissertation Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva, PhD student in regular form of study at the department Music, with supervisor prof. Tanya Viktorova Burdeva, PhD, Department of Music, University of Plovdiv Paisii Hilendarski.

Presented by Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva a set of materials on electronic media is in accordance with Art. 36 (1) of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the PU.

Brief biographical data of the PhD student

The professional career of Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva until that moment he combined pedagogical work as a music teacher and vocal pedagogue with appearances as a musician-performer, organizer of educational, cultural and musical activities, manager of a music studio.

2. Relevance of the topic

The developed problem is *significant in scientific and applied terms*. Vocal work in all stages of music education, including the high school stage of secondary school, is a major traditional component in the work of a music educator. The topicality of the subject stems from the

combination of good established practices with the skillful inclusion of new tools - music-computer technologies and electronic devices with application in vocal pedagogy, which enables the application of various alternative approaches and innovative technologies in the process of pedagogical interaction.

3. Knowledge of the problem

The presented work is the result of a good knowledge of a wide range of specialized literature, knowledge and mastery of traditional and innovative technologies for vocal work, which the doctoral student, thanks to his professional experience, understands, structures and applies in his work. This guarantees an in-depth insight into the issues, construction of the theoretical model of the study and its successful practical implementation.

4. Research methodology

The presented methodology is adequate to the goals and needs of the research.

5. Characteristics and assessment of the dissertation work and contributions

The work contains 193 pages. The main text is 153 pages and is structured in an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, literature (96 sources, of which 27 in Bulgarian, 55 in a foreign language and 14 Internet sources) and appendices.

At the very beginning, the subject, object, goal, tasks, methodology and hypothesis of the research are correctly stated.

First chapter presents in a theoretical plan the main aspects in the development of dissertation work. Both established, traditional practices in vocal pedagogy and new, modern ones based on leading principles and approaches in innovative pedagogy are reviewed. Presented are up-to-date music-computer technologies and electronic devices with application in vocal pedagogy, which are a useful tool in the process of vocal-pedagogical activity, including distance learning.

An important part of the theoretical basis of the study is the identification of the features of the targeted age group and the emphasis on them vocal-pedagogical technologies that are useful for preserving the vocal health of performers.

In the second chapter the possible physiological, psychological, age-related and emotional problems arising from the specifics of the age group being worked on are consistently followed. In the context of these challenges for the vocal pedagogue, of particular importance is the system developed by the doctoral student for diagnostics and creation of an innovative digital file of the student, the use of various computer programs, mobile applications and digital devices to assist the modern vocal pedagogue.

In the third chapter the experimental study is presented. The individual stages of the experimental work are described in detail, and the achieved results are thoroughly commented and analyzed. The correctly outlined methodology, the variety of methods, the detailed system of criteria

and indicators for evaluating the results, allow to obtain reliable data and draw valid conclusions. All this guarantees the achievement of the goals and tasks set in the present dissertation and confirms the formulated hypothesis.

6. Evaluation of Publications and personal contribution of the PhD student

In the publications on the subject - 3 in number, issued in collections of scientific conferences, individual aspects of the problem developed in the doctorate are considered. The texts are well structured, with a clearly defined scientific problem. The conclusions are correlated with those of the dissertation.

Contributing moments in the dissertation are based on the skillful integration of tradition with innovation. Based on personal experience, taking into account the complex nature of the formation of singing habits and the understanding of vocal work in its interdisciplinary aspect, the doctoral student develops both a classification and a system of innovative technologies for the formation of vocal habits and skills in students, which is applied for the first time in secondary school.

7. Author's abstract

The abstract adequately presents the essence of the dissertation work. The content is structured clearly and succinctly, conveying the main ideas embedded in the work, the theoretical justification and the practical experiment. The main results and conclusions of the study and, accordingly, the most characteristic contributions are presented sequentially.

8. Recommendations for future use of the dissertation results and results

- On the basis of the present dissertation work, a practical manual for music pedagogues should be published;
- I recommend publications based on the research in refereed and indexed journals.

CONCLUSION

The dissertation *contains scientific-applied and applied results that represent an original contribution to science* and correspond to the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for the Implementation of ZRASRB and the relevant Regulations of University of Plovdiv Paisii Hilendarski.

The presented materials and dissertation results completely correspond to the specific requirements of the Faculty of Education, adopted in connection with the Regulations of the PU for the application of the ZRASRB.

The dissertation shows that the doctoral student Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva owns in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the scientific specialty *Pedagogy of music education*, like demonstrated qualities and skills for independent conduct of scientific research.

Because of the above, I confidently give my opinion positive assessment for the conducted research presented by the above-reviewed dissertation work, abstract, scientific publications, achieved results and contributions, and ***I propose to the honorable scientific jury to award the educational and scientific PhD degree*** to Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva in the field of higher education: *1. Pedagogical sciences*, professional direction *1.3. Pedagogy of ...*, PhD program *Methodology of Music Education*

Plovdiv, 28.05.2025

Prepared by:

/ Assoc. Prof. Antonia Baleva, PhD/