

REVIEW

by Prof. Vesselin Ivanov Koychev, PhD, Professor at Plovdiv University "Paisii
Hilendarski"

of a dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree

"Doctor"

in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical Sciences

professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching in...

doctoral program Methodology of teaching in music

Author: Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva

Topic: "Innovative pedagogical technologies for the formation of vocal skills in
students of the gymnasium stage of secondary school"

Scientific supervisor: Prof. Tanya Viktorova Burdeva, PhD - Professor at Plovdiv
University "Paisii Hilendarski".

By order No. PD-22-608 of 28.02.2025 of the Rector of Paisii Hilendarski University
of Plovdiv, I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury for ensuring a
procedure for the defense of a dissertation on the topic "Innovative pedagogical
technologies for the formation of vocal skills in students of the high school stage of
secondary school", for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in
the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of
teaching in ..., doctoral program Methodology of teaching in music. The author of the
dissertation is Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva - a full - time doctoral student at
the "Music" boat with scientific supervisor Prof. Tanya Viktorova Burdeva, PhD - Professor
at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski".

The electronic set of materials submitted by Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva is in accordance with Art. 36 (1) of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the University of Plovdiv, and includes the following documents:

- a request to the Rector of the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv for the opening of the procedure for the defense of a dissertation.
- a CV in European format.
- a report from the departmental council, related to reporting the readiness to open the procedure and to a preliminary discussion of the dissertation.
- dissertation.
- an abstract.
- a list of scientific publications on the topic of the dissertation.
- copies of scientific publications.
- a list of noted citations.
- a declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents.
- copies of 3 scientific publications.

Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva was born on 21.12.2084. He graduated from the "St. St. Prince Boris I" High School in Asenovgrad in 2003. In 2013, he received a bachelor's degree from the New Bulgarian University as a pop and jazz performer. In 2018, he received a master's degree from the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv in the specialty of Music Pedagogy and qualification as a music teacher in primary and secondary schools.

He has been working consistently as follows:

Since 2015, as a musician performer at MARINOART" EOOD

Since 2021, as a music teacher in high school at the "Ivan Vazov" Primary School, Plovdiv.

Since 2024, as a vocal pedagogue at the private eco-school "Sunbeam" Plovdiv.

From 2019 to the present, as a vocal pedagogue, manager, organizer at "Studio Michel" EOOD.

From the CV it is impressive that in addition to high skills and competencies in standard administrative terms, performing and pedagogical skills, skills in working with a computer, office software and in working in an online environment, she also possesses

specific technical skills for working with specialized musical equipment and software for audio recording and processing. She also has extensive experience in editing and processing with specialized software of photo and video materials and graphic design. All this speaks of a wide range of interests and the ability to successfully cope with tasks of a different nature.

The relevance of the problem being developed in a scientific and scientific-applied sense is determined by the offer of solutions for modernizing and improving the quality of education using technologies using computerized and technically oriented teaching through modern technical means. On the other hand, adequate and professional use of applications, software, electronic classroom, electronic textbooks and aids is combined with the established pedagogical methods and technologies used in pedagogical practice.

The methodological basis of the dissertation is complex, based on the application of various methods in accordance with the research problem, including their coordination in certain cases. Pedagogical observation, analysis (of theoretical, visual and sound information), comparison, generalization, pedagogical experiment was used. The methodology of the study is based on scientific data on anatomical, physiological and psychological changes in students at the high school stage of education and their interconnection with all elements of vocal-performing art, as well as their direct connection with the quality of singing activity and its artistic and aesthetic value.

The chosen research methodology allows achieving the set goal and obtaining an adequate answer to the tasks solved in the dissertation work.

The dissertation work of doctoral student Milena Kostova is structured according to the requirements for scientific research. All elements in the structure are well and precisely positioned, both in the introduction and in the development. The object, goals, tasks, methods are precisely and clearly stated, and a hypothesis of the research is formulated. Several things are impressive - literacy, professional terminology, precision, clear style of expression. The work is arranged in 140 printed pages, has a clear, well-thought-out constructive plan, allowing a systematic and consistent presentation of the main thesis, its argumentation and development: introduction, 3 chapters, conclusion, contributions, bibliography and applications. To illustrate the results, 10 musical examples with vocal-technical exercises, 21 diagrams, 17 tables and 50 figures are included. 27 Bulgarian, 55 foreign and 14 Internet sources were used.

The subject of the study is innovative methods and pedagogical technologies in vocal training of students in high school (13-19 years). This choice is based on the need to develop and apply such technologies in vocal training. The object of the study is their implementation in vocal training and their integration into the methods of established

vocal-pedagogical practices for students in high school. From this starting point, the goals and objectives are logically derived in four aspects: vocal-technical, artistic-interpretative, psychological and motivational.

The scientific hypothesis proposed assumes that the application of innovative pedagogical technologies would contribute to improving the effectiveness of vocal training, to the overall vocal-technical development of students, to increasing self-control, motivation and desire for vocal development.

In chapter one, a study is made of the history of vocal pedagogy in specialized literature and the state of the problem of innovative pedagogical technologies. A brief overview of ideologically different vocal methodologies and systems for working with the voice, used in the author's personal practice, is made. Modern music-computer technologies and electronic devices with application in vocal pedagogy are examined and systematized.

In chapter two, attention is drawn to the basic principles that vocal pedagogues must know in their work to form vocal skills in high school students: vocal apparatus, voice formation organs, resonators, musical abilities, singing habits, singing breathing, support, intonation, musical ear. Vocal registers, the range of female and male voices, anatomical, physiological and psychological changes that affect the voices of both sexes, related to sexual maturation, are described. Psychological challenges are examined - emotional instability, anxiety, stage fright, lack of motivation, which affect the quality of performance.

Here, a contributing point is the consideration of computer programs, mobile applications and digital devices to assist the modern vocal pedagogue, as well as computer programs and software for sound recording and audio processing and mobile applications for independent vocal tasks - singing, developing vocal-technical skills, enriching the repertoire.

In chapter three, an experimental study of innovative pedagogical technologies for the formation of vocal skills in students at the high school stage of secondary school was conducted. The effectiveness of the proposed innovative vocal-pedagogical technologies for the formation of singing habits and skills in students at the high school stage, as well as in the implementation of the tasks formulated at the beginning of the dissertation work, was verified through the implementation of a pedagogical experiment, implemented in three stages - initial ascertaining, formative and final.

After analyzing the results obtained after conducting the pedagogical experiment, conclusions were drawn. The effectiveness of the practical application of the proposed innovative pedagogical technologies for the formation of vocal habits and skills is clearly proven by the higher results achieved by the experimental group of students in the final stage, compared to the initial ascertaining stage. The hypothesis of the study proves that

the application of innovative pedagogical technologies contributes to improving the effectiveness of vocal training.

Milena Kostova's dissertation contains contributions that reveal some aspects of the methodology of training vocal performers. I agree with the contributions brought out by the author, and I mainly give my preferences to the following: 1. The peculiarities of the formation of vocal habits and skills in students at the high school stage of education are analyzed. 2. A classification of innovative methods, technologies and approaches in vocal training is created, according to their methods of application. 3. The use of new modern computer software, as well as mobile applications and their use as a training tool is defined in detail. 4. Methods and technologies for vocal distance learning are proposed.

A positive aspect of Milena Kostova's work is its practical focus. The contributions of her work would be useful in the practice of vocal pedagogues, and on the other hand, the study represents a basis for further scientific developments on the topic.

The publications are 3 articles in number, which are related to the topic of the dissertation, treat problems underlying the research, supplementing and developing it. They were published in Scientific Works of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria - Plovdiv.

The abstract is made according to the requirements of the relevant regulations, and reflects the main results achieved in the dissertation, giving an accurate idea of the quality of the dissertation and the level of scientific thinking.

The research is based on a study of many works by Bulgarian and foreign authors in the field of vocal pedagogy, innovative pedagogy, child psychology, materials and publications related to musical equipment, software, sound recording and mobile applications.

I agree that the application of innovative technologies in vocal pedagogical work quickly and effectively increases students' vocal competencies, motivation, concentration and engagement and creates prerequisites for achieving sustainable results. I welcome the adaptation of innovative methods and technologies to the individual needs of students, which ensures higher efficiency of pedagogical activity.

The dissertation contains scientific, applied scientific and applied results that represent an original contribution to science and meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of ZRASRB and the relevant Regulations of the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv. The presented materials fully comply with the specific requirements of the Faculty of Pedagogy, adopted in connection with the Regulations of the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv for the Implementation of ZRASRB.

The dissertation shows that doctoral student Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva possesses in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the scientific specialty 05.07.03. Methodology of Music Education, demonstrating qualities and skills for independent conduct of scientific research.

Due to the above, I give my positive assessment of the conducted research, presented by the above-reviewed dissertation, abstract, achieved results and contributions and propose to the esteemed scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree "doctor" to Milena Angelova Kostova - Garbacheva in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical Sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Education in..., doctoral program Methodology of Education in Music.

May 27, 2025,

Reviewer:

Prof. Veselin Koychev, PhD