

# **International Journal of Education & Literacy Studies**

ISSN: 2202-9478 www.ijels.aiac.org.au



# The Role of Xi'an Drum Music in Promoting Literacy and Cultural Awareness among Young Learners

Xiaoqian Shi\*, Jarernchai Chonpairot, Akapong Phulaiyaw

College of Music, Mahasarakham University, Thailand

Corresponding author: Xiaoqian Shi, E-mail: xiaoqianshi.msu@gmail.com

#### **ARTICLE INFO**

Article history

Received: September 26, 2024 Accepted: December 22, 2024 Published: January 31, 2025 Volume: 13 Issue: 1

Conflicts of interest: None Funding: None

#### **ABSTRACT**

Xi'an Drum Music, a traditional folk wind and percussion music originating in Shaanxi Province, China, is a rich cultural heritage known for its intricate rhythms, evocative melodies, and narrative depth. This study investigates the role of Xi'an Drum Music in promoting literacy and cultural awareness among young learners by integrating this traditional art form into educational practices. Conducted in primary schools in Xi'an, the study utilized a qualitative approach involving classroom observations, semi-structured interviews with educators, and focus group discussions with students. Key informants included scholars, performers, and students engaged in preserving Xi'an Drum Music. Data were analyzed using thematic analysis, identifying themes related to literacy engagement, cultural awareness, and pedagogical challenges. Findings reveal that the rhythmic and lyrical elements of Xi'an Drum Music significantly improve literacy skills, such as phonemic awareness and reading comprehension while fostering cultural pride and identity among learners. However, resource constraints and limited teacher training hinder broader implementation. The study suggests developing standardized teaching materials, providing professional development for educators, and fostering collaborations between schools and cultural institutions. These measures can enhance the integration of traditional arts into modern education, ensuring cultural preservation and educational innovation.

**Key words:** Xi'an drum Music, Literacy Education, Cultural Awareness, Traditional Music Integration, Pedagogy

#### INTRODUCTION

Xi'an Drum Music, an ancient folk wind and percussion music, is a rich cultural legacy of Shaanxi Province, China. Originating from the Tang Dynasty, this musical tradition has evolved over centuries, intertwining artistry with cultural identity (Hou, 2021; Liang et al., 2023). Its compositions, marked by intricate rhythms and evocative melodies, have served as a medium for storytelling and community bonding, reflecting their time's social and historical landscapes. Yet, despite its deep cultural roots and artistic sophistication, Xi'an Drum Music faces diminishing relevance in the modern era. As globalization and modernization dominate the educational and cultural discourse, contemporary and Western influences often overshadow this traditional art form. Nevertheless, the pedagogical potential of Xi'an Drum Music remains untapped, mainly because it offers opportunities to integrate literacy education with cultural awareness (Faiz, 2024; Liu & Nicolas, 2024).

The decline of Xi'an Drum Music in contemporary educational contexts highlights a broader issue—the marginalization of traditional arts in modern schooling systems. As educational curricula increasingly prioritize subjects with immediate

economic or technological value, traditional cultural forms are relegated to the periphery (Lamb & Godlewska, 2021; Li, 2024). This shift has resulted in a generation of learners with limited exposure to their cultural heritage, risking the erosion of cultural identity and intergenerational knowledge transmission. Moreover, literacy education, a foundational aspect of learning, often fails to incorporate cultural elements that could enrich students' understanding of language and society (Purcell-Gates, 2020; Walden, 2020). Xi'an Drum Music, with its lyrical compositions, rhythmic complexity, and cultural narratives, provides an opportunity to address these gaps. It offers a dual benefit: fostering literacy skills while preserving and promoting cultural heritage (Du & Wang, 2024; Shi & Nicolas, 2023; Tang & Sornyai, 2023).

This study investigates the role of Xi'an Drum Music in promoting literacy and cultural awareness among young learners. Specifically, it explores how integrating this traditional art form into educational practices can enhance students' reading, writing, and comprehension abilities while fostering a deeper connection with their cultural roots. By focusing on the interplay between literacy and cultural awareness, the research aims to highlight the educational value of traditional arts and propose innovative strategies

for their inclusion in modern curricula (Alvarez et al., 2023; Ferrer-Fons et al., 2022; Goldberg, 2021; Sakti et al., 2024).

The significance of this study extends beyond the immediate context of Xi'an Drum Music. It contributes to the broader discourse on cultural preservation in education, emphasizing the importance of integrating traditional art forms into contemporary pedagogical frameworks. By showcasing the educational potential of Xi'an Drum Music, the study advocates for a more inclusive and culturally responsive approach to teaching and learning. Such integration enriches literacy education and fosters a sense of cultural pride and identity among learners (Crawford, 2020; Prest, 2020). Moreover, the findings have implications for policymakers, educators, and cultural practitioners, providing a model for leveraging traditional arts to address global challenges in education and cultural sustainability. In this way, the study underscores the transformative power of Xi'an Drum Music as both an educational tool and a cultural bridge.

#### **Research Question**

How does the integration of Xi'an Drum Music into educational practices influence literacy development and cultural awareness among young learners?

# LITERATURE REVIEW

Traditional arts, including music, serve as powerful educational mediums, offering unique avenues to develop essential skills while promoting cultural heritage. Among these, traditional music, rich auditory and narrative qualities, has enhanced young learners' cognitive abilities, emotional intelligence, and literacy skills. Integrating cultural arts into education enriches learning and fosters a deeper connection to cultural identity and history. Xi'an Drum Music, with its intricate rhythms and evocative melodies, exemplifies the potential of traditional music to address contemporary educational challenges, particularly in promoting literacy and cultural awareness. However, despite the growing recognition of these benefits, there remains a need for focused research on applying Xi'an Drum Music in educational settings. This review explores three key aspects: the role of cultural arts in education, the pedagogical potential of Xi'an Drum Music, and the existing gaps in the literature.

# The Importance of Cultural Arts in Education

Cultural arts are crucial in holistic education, stimulating creativity, critical thinking, and emotional engagement. Music enhances cultural awareness, pattern recognition, and memory retention, particularly in early childhood education. Traditional music's structured rhythms and lyrical storytelling provide a natural framework for literacy development, facilitating syllable recognition and word structures (Eddy et al., 2021; Howe & Baumgartner, 2024). It also fosters an emotional connection to learning, allowing students to explore language in a meaningful context.

Recent studies have emphasized the multidisciplinary benefits of traditional arts, noting their ability to integrate cognitive, emotional, and social learning dimensions. When embedded within curricula, cultural arts offer avenues for experiential learning, where students engage in hands-on activities that simultaneously develop linguistic, motor, and interpersonal skills (Anderson & Valero, 2020; Brovchak et al., 2024). Furthermore, such approaches foster inclusivity by creating opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds to connect with shared cultural narratives while appreciating global perspectives.

Integrating cultural arts into literacy education can create immersive learning experiences that address cognitive and emotional dimensions, enhancing students' academic performance. Cultural arts also promote social and cultural awareness, introducing learners to their community's history, values, and traditions (Olsen, 2024; Trung & Van, 2020). This cultural grounding enhances students' appreciation of their heritage and equips them with intercultural competence to navigate a globalized world.

## Xi'an Drum Music and Its Pedagogical Potential

Xi'an Drum Music is a traditional art form that combines artistic expression and cultural heritage, characterized by intricate rhythms, melodic structures, and rich storytelling. It has significant potential as an educational tool, particularly in promoting literacy and cultural awareness. The rhythmic complexity of Xi'an Drum Music enhances cultural awareness, while the narrative elements provide a compelling medium for vocabulary acquisition. From a cultural perspective, it serves as a living repository of history, geography, and social values, reflecting the customs and beliefs of Shaanxi Province. Educators can teach students about regional history and traditions by incorporating Xi'an Drum Music into the classroom while reinforcing key literacy skills. The collaborative nature of drum music ensembles fosters teamwork, discipline, and community, making it a valuable addition to modern educational practices (Hu & Liu, 2024; Rahma, 2023; Silverberg, 2022).

#### Gaps in the Literature

The research focuses on its practical application in educational contexts and its impact on young learners' literacy development and cultural awareness. Traditional arts research often overlooks the pedagogical potential of cultural forms, reflecting this gap in the literature (Gong et al., 2024; Olvera-Fernández et al., 2023). The study aims to bridge this gap by investigating the role of Xi'an Drum Music in promoting literacy and cultural awareness among young learners. By looking at how it can be used in the classroom, this study adds to the growing body of work that supports incorporating traditional arts into education, protecting cultural heritage, and making traditional music more relevant and accessible for future generations.

## **METHODS**

This study employs a qualitative research design to investigate how the integration of Xi'an Drum Music into

90 IJELS 13(1):88-95

educational practices influences literacy development and cultural awareness among young learners. The study involves classroom observations, interviews, and focus group discussions to gain in-depth insights into pedagogical strategies, student experiences, and the cultural relevance of Xi'an Drum Music, as shown in Table 1.

## **Participant Selection**

Participants were purposefully selected to include key stakeholders involved in teaching and learning Xi'an Drum Music. Five informants were categorized into three groups based on their expertise and roles, as shown in Table 2.

#### **Data Collection Methods**

The study used three primary methods to collect data on integrating Xi'an Drum Music into literacy lessons. Classroom observations focused on teaching strategies, student participation, and the use of cultural narratives from the music. We conducted semi-structured interviews with five key informants to explore their experiences, challenges, and perspectives on teaching Xi'an Drum Music. The interviews focused on the educational benefits, pedagogical challenges, and strategies for cultural relevance. We conducted focus groups with student participants to gather their reflections on the learning process, including their enjoyment, challenges, and perceived benefits of learning through Xi'an Drum Music. The study aimed to understand the effectiveness of Xi'an Drum Music in enhancing literacy and cultural awareness among students.

# **Data Analysis**

The data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify recurring themes related to literacy engagement and cultural awareness. Transcripts from interviews and focus groups

Table 1. Overview of research methods

Method	Purpose
Classroom Observations	To explore the practical integration of Xi'an Drum Music into literacy and cultural lessons
Semi-Structured Interviews	To collect insights from educators on teaching methods and outcomes
Focus Group Discussions	To gather student perspectives on learning experiences with Xi'an Drum Music

Table 2. Informant categorization and selection criteria

Informant	Type Criteria	Number
Key Informant	A scholar with over 20 years of research experience in Xi'an Drum Music	1
Casual Informants	Active performers or society members with significant performance experience	2
General Informants	Students or practitioners with experience learning or preserving Xi'an Drum Music	2

were coded, and observation notes were reviewed to triangulate findings, as shown in Table 3.

This methodology ensures a comprehensive understanding of Xi'an Drum Music's educational potential while effectively addressing the research objective and question.

#### RESULTS

The findings of this study reveal the multifaceted impact of integrating Xi'an Drum Music into educational practices, highlighting both its benefits and challenges in promoting literacy and cultural awareness among young learners. Key outcomes were identified through classroom observations, interviews, and focus group discussions, ranging from enhanced literacy skills and cultural appreciation to improved student engagement. However, the study also uncovered challenges that hinder the seamless incorporation of traditional music into modern educational settings. These results offer valuable insights into the potential of Xi'an Drum Music as an innovative educational tool and the barriers that need to be addressed for its effective implementation.

# **Enhanced Literacy Skills**

The integration of Xi'an Drum Music into educational practices has shown a significant positive impact on enhancing literacy skills among young learners. The rhythmic and lyrical elements of Xi'an Drum Music serve as effective tools for developing key components of literacy, including phonemic awareness, vocabulary acquisition, and reading comprehension.

Informants highlighted the role of drum patterns in improving phonemic awareness among students. According to one teacher, the repetitive and structured rhythms of Xi'an Drum Music helped students recognize and differentiate sounds, a fundamental skill for reading proficiency. Students engaged in rhythmic exercises, clapping and mimicking drumbeats, enabling them to better grasp syllable segmentation and sound blending. This multisensory approach bridged the gap between auditory and visual recognition, a cornerstone in early literacy education.

Lyrical compositions in Xi'an Drum Music provide students with a rich vocabulary and contextual learning source. Informants noted that the lyrics' poetic language and historical references expose students to diverse words and expressions, broadening their lexicon. One informant, an educator, explained that students are encouraged to analyze the lyrics, identify unfamiliar words, and use them in their writing. This

Table 3. Data analysis focus areas

Tuble 5. Data analysis locas areas		
Focus Area	Themes Identified	
Literacy Development	Enhanced cultural awareness of the history and traditions of Xi'an Drum Music among students	
Cultural Awareness	Increased student appreciation for the history and traditions of Xi'an Drum Music	
Pedagogical Challenges	Difficulties in accessing resources and balancing traditional elements with modern education	

activity expands their vocabulary and improves their understanding of sentence structure and grammar.

The use of lyrics also fostered a deeper engagement with the text. Students practiced articulation and fluency by singing and reciting the lyrics, enhancing their reading comprehension skills. The visual aid of traditional Xi'an Drum Music scores, as depicted in Figure 1, provided students with a practical tool for connecting text to sound, further solidifying their literacy skills.

The narrative elements embedded in Xi'an Drum Music were instrumental in developing students' comprehension abilities. Through the storytelling aspect of the music, students learned to follow sequences, identify main ideas, and infer meanings from context. Informants shared that students were tasked with summarizing the stories within the lyrics or creating their narratives inspired by the themes of the music. This activity fostered critical thinking and a deeper understanding of the cultural and historical context of the music.

Figure 2 showcases a performance by the Xi'an Town God's Temple Drum Music Society, which brings storytelling to life. Students who attended such performances gained a better appreciation of narrative structures and learned how to apply similar techniques in their writing and comprehension exercises.

The integration of Xi'an Drum Music into literacy education represents a powerful fusion of cultural tradition and



**Figure 1.** The visual aid of traditional Xi'an Drum Music scores

Source: Xiaoqian Shi, from fieldwork in May 2023



**Figure 2.** Showcase Performance by the Xi'an Town God's Temple Drum Music Society

Source: Xiaoqian Shi, from fieldwork in May 2023

modern pedagogy. Informants emphasized that students became more engaged and enthusiastic about learning when traditional music was incorporated into lessons. One teacher remarked, "The students are not only learning to read and write; they are connecting with their heritage and finding joy in the process." This dual focus on literacy and cultural education ensured students acquired academic skills and a lifelong appreciation for their cultural roots.

#### Incurreased Cultural Awareness

Integrating Xi'an Drum Music into educational practices has profoundly enhanced students' cultural awareness, bridging literacy education and cultural preservation. Through the historical narratives and folk traditions embedded in the music, young learners gained literacy skills and a deeper appreciation for their cultural heritage, fostering a strong sense of identity and pride.

Informants emphasized that Xi'an Drum Music provides a unique platform to intertwine literacy education with cultural storytelling. The historical narratives conveyed through the lyrics and performance traditions of Xi'an Drum Music allowed students to connect language and culture in meaningful ways. One informant, a teacher, highlighted that students were tasked with interpreting the stories behind the lyrics, analyzing historical references, and creating their own written reflections. This activity enhanced comprehension and critical thinking and deepened understanding of their local traditions' cultural and historical significance.

For example, the narratives in the performances of the Xi'an Drum Music Art Troupe, as shown in Figure 3, showcase the grandeur and historical depth of the Tang Dynasty. Such narratives allowed students to explore themes of history, geography, and social values, reinforcing their cultural literacy alongside academic skills.

Engaging with Xi'an Drum Music helped students develop a stronger connection to their cultural identity. Informants observed that students, particularly those from urban areas with limited exposure to traditional arts, found new pride in their cultural heritage through their interactions with the music. By learning the stories, instruments, and performance techniques, students discovered aspects of their identity that



**Figure 3.** The performances of the Xi'an Drum Music Art Troupe

Source: Xiaoqian Shi, from fieldwork in May 2023

92 IJELS 13(1):88-95

were previously unfamiliar to them. One student participant expressed that learning Xi'an Drum Music gave them a sense of belonging and pride, as they could now share a unique cultural legacy with their peers and families.

Cultural awareness was also enhanced through experiential learning activities that integrated music performance with literacy tasks. Informants shared that students participated in workshops where they learned to play traditional instruments, read and write music scores, and perform basic drum patterns. These activities bridged practical skills with literacy development, as students were required to read instructional materials, follow written narratives, and compose their pieces.

One informant, a performer and educator, explained that using traditional scores and instruments allowed students to see their culture's written and performed aspects come to life. The students' ability to engage with these cultural artifacts not only reinforced their literacy skills but also deepened their appreciation for the craftsmanship and artistry behind Xi'an Drum Music.

The communal aspect of Xi'an Drum Music also contributed to increased cultural awareness. Informants noted that group performances and collaborative projects fostered a sense of unity among students. Learning and performing the music together created peer interaction, discussion, and shared cultural exploration opportunities. These activities helped students see themselves as part of a larger community dedicated to preserving and celebrating their heritage.

The collaboration between schools and cultural institutions, such as the workshops held by the Ancient Music Orchestra of XAIU, as shown in Figure 4, further supported this communal learning experience. Informants reported that these partnerships allowed students to learn directly from master musicians, gaining first-hand insight into the cultural and artistic significance of Xi'an Drum Music.

## **Improved Engagement and Motivation**

Integrating Xi'an Drum Music into educational practices significantly enhanced students' engagement and motivation in learning activities, making the process of literacy acquisition more dynamic and enjoyable. Informants unanimously highlighted how the interactive and performative aspects of Xi'an Drum Music created a stimulating and participatory environment that captured students' interest and sustained their enthusiasm for learning.



**Figure 4.** Ancient Music Orchestra of XAIU Source: Ancient Music Orchestra of XAIU (2024)

Teachers reported that the rhythmic and hands-on nature of Xi'an Drum Music encouraged students to participate actively. Learning and performing drum patterns and lyrical elements created a multi-sensory experience that students found highly engaging. According to one informant, activities such as clapping rhythms, mimicking drum sequences, and performing in small groups helped students internalize phonemic patterns and syllable structures, critical literacy development components. The lessons' performative aspects turned abstract literacy concepts into tangible, enjoyable practices that students could interact with directly.

Another informant noted that incorporating music into lessons broke the monotony of traditional teaching methods, making classroom sessions more vibrant and appealing. Students were not merely passive recipients of information. Still, they became active contributors to the learning process by participating in musical performances and group discussions about the cultural narratives behind drum music.

Students showed a noticeable increase in motivation when given opportunities to showcase their learning through performances. Teachers observed that preparing for group presentations and school events involving Xi'an Drum Music fostered a sense of responsibility and excitement among learners. An informant shared that students were eager to master the rhythms and lyrics, knowing they would have the chance to perform in front of their peers, parents, and community members. This sense of purpose provided by public performances motivated students to put extra effort into their practice, improving their musical and literacy skills.

The joy and excitement generated by Xi'an Drum Music lessons contributed to a positive learning atmosphere, which informants identified as a key factor in boosting literacy outcomes. Teachers noted that including music turned potentially mundane literacy exercises, such as vocabulary building and sentence construction, into engaging and memorable activities. One teacher described how students worked on interpreting drum music lyrics, creating their narratives, and even composing short poems inspired by the rhythms they learned. These creative tasks reinforced literacy skills and allowed students to express themselves in ways that traditional methods might not facilitate.

Informants highlighted that students' enthusiasm during drum music lessons often carried over into other areas of their education. The confidence and skills gained through their engagement with Xi'an Drum Music encouraged students to approach literacy tasks with more significant curiosity and persistence. For example, one informant shared how students who previously struggled with reading became more proactive in practicing vocabulary and sentence formation, inspired by the fun and interactive approach of music-integrated lessons.

# **Challenges in Implementation**

While integrating Xi'an Drum Music into literacy education proved highly beneficial, several challenges hindered its seamless implementation. Informants identified *a* prominent issue as the lack of resources and training for teachers to

incorporate traditional music effectively into their literacy curricula. Many teachers expressed difficulty aligning the rhythmic and lyrical elements of Xi'an Drum Music with standard literacy objectives. Without specialized training in traditional music and its pedagogical applications, educators often felt unprepared to design lessons that combined music and literacy meaningfully.

Another significant challenge was the limited availability of instructional materials and instruments. Informants noted that many schools needed access to authentic drums and sheet music, which restricted their implementation scope. Additionally, the absence of detailed guidelines or lesson plans on using Xi'an Drum Music as a tool for literacy development left teachers reliant on their creativity and improvisation, leading to inconsistencies in the delivery of music-integrated lessons.

From the students' perspective, informants observed that some learners initially struggled to connect with the cultural and historical elements of Xi'an Drum Music. For students who had not previously experienced traditional arts outside the classroom, understanding the deeper meanings and narratives behind the music required additional time and effort. Informants highlighted that these students often needed more contextual explanations and hands-on activities to bridge the gap between unfamiliar cultural content and personal experiences.

Moreover, informants reported that maintaining a balance between traditional cultural values and modern educational demands posed a challenge. Teachers needed to ensure that integrating Xi'an Drum Music enhanced literacy skills without detracting from the focus on core academic standards. Despite these obstacles, the informants emphasized the importance of addressing these challenges to maximize Xi'an Drum Music's potential to promote literacy and cultural awareness among young learners.

# DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The results confirmed existing research that cultural arts, particularly traditional music, enhance cultural awareness, vocabulary acquisition, and comprehension skills (Eddy et al., 2021; Howe & Baumgartner, 2024). The rhythmic complexity of Xi'an Drum Music was particularly effective in improving phonemic awareness, consistent with theories emphasizing the cognitive benefits of structured musical patterns in early literacy education (Howe & Baumgartner, 2024). Additionally, the lyrical compositions enriched students' vocabulary and contextual language skills, aligning with Purcell-Gates' (2020) emphasis on integrating cultural narratives into literacy instruction.

However, the study also identified challenges, such as limited access to resources and the need for specialized teacher training. These findings resonate with Rahma (2023), who noted that effective implementation of traditional arts in education often requires institutional support and tailored pedagogical strategies. The difficulties students faced in connecting with the cultural and historical elements of Xi'an Drum Music further underscore the importance of contextual learning and experiential engagement (Trung & Van, 2020).

For instance, the lack of authentic drums and sheet music in some schools mirrors similar obstacles faced in integrating Indigenous music traditions into Australian classrooms, as Crawford (2020) discussed. These parallels highlight the need for resource development and collaboration with cultural institutions to address these challenges effectively.

The study highlighted the dual role of Xi'an Drum Music in fostering cultural literacy and a sense of identity among learners. Informants noted that students developed a deeper appreciation for their heritage through the storytelling and historical narratives embedded in the music, consistent with the findings of Tang and Sornyai (2023) on the cultural treasures of folk music in Gansu Province. Moreover, the communal aspect of learning Xi'an Drum Music enhanced students' intercultural competence and social cohesion, supporting Crawford's (2020) argument that music education can be a vehicle for social inclusion. In particular, the collaboration between schools and local cultural practitioners, such as workshops with the Ancient Music Orchestra of XAIU, exemplifies how institutional partnerships can enrich student experiences and provide cultural continuity.

These findings have prominent policy and curriculum implications. Educational policymakers should prioritize the inclusion of traditional arts in national curricula to promote cultural preservation and academic enrichment. This could involve creating a framework for integrating Xi'an Drum Music into literacy lessons, developing standardized teaching materials, and offering professional development for educators. Such initiatives align with global trends in culturally responsive education, as seen in successful arts integration programs in Spain and Vietnam (Alvarez et al., 2023; Trung & Van, 2020).

Despite these benefits, balancing traditional cultural values with modern educational standards remains a critical challenge. This tension reflects broader concerns in the literature about the marginalization of traditional arts in contemporary curricula (Li, 2024; Lamb & Godlewska, 2021). Addressing this gap requires innovative strategies that integrate cultural preservation with modern pedagogical frameworks. For example, adaptive curricula that incorporate traditional music within STEM-focused education could serve as a bridge between cultural heritage and contemporary learning demands.

The interactive and performative nature of Xi'an Drum Music significantly enhanced student engagement and motivation, transforming literacy lessons into dynamic and participatory experiences. These findings align with those of Alvarez et al. (2023), who emphasized linking curriculum content to students' cultural heritage to foster inclusion and engagement. However, as previous research on innovative pedagogies in music education has noted, the lack of standardized instructional materials and guidelines presents a barrier to broader implementation (Olvera-Fernández et al., 2023). Case studies from the integration of West African drumming into U.S. schools further highlight the need for culturally relevant training for teachers to ensure meaningful and accurate representations of traditional art forms in classrooms (Prest, 2020).

94 IJELS 13(1):88-95

This study highlights the transformative potential of Xi'an Drum Music as an educational tool for enhancing literacy and cultural awareness among young learners. The rhythmic and lyrical elements of this traditional art form not only foster essential literacy skills but also bridge the gap between cultural preservation and modern education. By engaging students in meaningful and participatory learning experiences, Xi'an Drum Music promotes a deeper connection to their cultural heritage and strengthens their identity. Furthermore, this integration highlights the global relevance of traditional arts as a means of fostering inclusive and culturally responsive education systems.

The findings carry significant implications for educators and policymakers. Educational systems should prioritize the integration of traditional music into curricula to support holistic learning, cultural identity, and social cohesion. Policymakers must also address resource limitations and provide professional training for teachers to ensure effective implementation. Additionally, fostering partnerships between schools and cultural institutions can enhance accessibility and preserve traditional art forms for future generations.

Further research should explore the application of traditional Chinese art forms in literacy education, develop pedagogical frameworks for integrating traditional music, conduct cross-cultural studies to understand best practices, investigate long-term effects on student's academic performance, cultural identity, and social skills, and evaluate the effectiveness of teacher training programs that equip educators with the skills to incorporate traditional music into their teaching practices. By addressing these areas, future studies can build on this research to ensure that the rich heritage of traditional arts remains vibrant and relevant in contemporary education globally.

## REFERENCES

- Alvarez, I. M., Velasco, M. M., & Humanes, P. R. (2023). Linking curriculum content to students' cultural heritage in order to promote inclusion: an analysis of a learningthrough-the arts project. *International Journal of Inclu*sive Education, 27(13), 1487-1502. https://doi.org/10.1 080/13603116.2021.1900425
- Anderson, A., & Valero, L. (2020). Supporting academic vocabulary and social-emotional skills of students with learning disabilities through an arts-integrated social studies approach. *Teaching Exceptional Children*, 53(2), 150-162. https://doi.org/10.1177/0040059920942266
- Brovchak, L. S., Starovoit, L. V., Likhitska, L. M., Todosiienko, N. L., & Shvets, I. B. (2024). Integrating music, drama and visual arts in extracurricular programs: enhancing psychological development in early schoolaged children. *Sapienza: International Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, 5(3), e24052-e24052. https://doi.org/10.51798/sijis.v5i3.791
- Crawford, R. (2020). Socially inclusive practices in the music classroom: The impact of music education used as a vehicle to engage refugee background students. *Research Studies in Music Education*, 42(2), 248-269. https://doi.org/10.1177/1321103X19843001

Du, C., & Wang, H. (2024). Guzheng Performance Venue and Traditional Music Development in Urban Cultural Space: A Case Study of a City in Shaanxi Province. *Przestrzeń Społeczna (Social Space)*, 24(1), 566-588.

- Eddy, M., Blatt-Gross, C., Edgar, S. N., Gohr, A., Halverson, E., Humphreys, K., & Smolin, L. (2021). Local-level implementation of Social Emotional Learning in arts education: Moving the heart through the arts. *Arts Education Policy Review, 122*(3), 193-204. https://doi.org/10.1080/10632913.2020.1788681
- Faiz, F. A. (2024). Understanding Cultural Identity in a Globalized World. *Journal of Social Signs Review, 2*(01), 10-18.
- Ferrer-Fons, M., Rovira-Martínez, M., & Soler-i-Martí, R. (2022). Youth empowerment through arts education: A case study of a non-formal education arts centre in Barcelona. *Social Inclusion*, 10(2), 85-94. https://doi.org/10.17645/si.v10i2.4923
- Goldberg, M. (2021). Arts integration: Teaching subject matter through the arts in multicultural settings. Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780367809805
- Gong, Y., Jirajarupat, P., & Zhang, Y. (2024). Guidelines for Literacy Transmission and Preservation of Bayu Folk Songs. *International Journal of Education and Literacy Studies*, 12(2), 94-100. https://doi.org/10.7575/aiac.ijels.v.12n.2p.94
- Hou, L. (2021). Cultural Research on the "Sound Landscape" of Shaanxi Native Music. *Art and Performance Letters*, 2(2), 18-30.
- Howe, J. H., & Baumgartner, E. S. (2024). Enhancing tonal-language learning through music: A review of experimental methods and melodic intonation therapy influences. *Review of Education*, 12(2), e3480. https://doi. org/10.1002/rev3.3480
- Hu, X., & Liu, D. (2024). Historic Value of the Music Creation of Shaanxi Erhu works and Positive Influence of Shaanxi Erhu on the Development of Erhu Art in the Yu and Qin schools. *Cultura: International Journal of Philosophy of Culture and Axiology, 21*(3), 206-229.
- Lamb, C., & Godlewska, A. (2021). On the peripheries of education: (not) learning about Indigenous peoples in the 1995-2010 British Columbia curriculum. *Journal of Curriculum Studies*, *53*(1), 103-123. https://doi.org/10.1080/00220272.2020.1774806
- Li, X. (2024). Exploring Teaching Strategies for Primary and Secondary Music Education in China's Ethnic Minority Regions from a Multicultural Perspective. *International Journal of Education and Humanities*, 12(3), 91-99. https://doi.org/10.54097/q5mvy859
- Liang, T., Li, P., Cao, Y., Wu, X., Zhao, H., & Qi, C. (2023, August). Research on generating Xi'an drum music based on generative adversarial network. In 2023 IEEE International Conference on Sensors, Electronics and Computer Engineering (ICSECE) (pp. 1398-1402). IEEE. https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSECE58870.2023.10263414
- Liu, J., & Nicolas, A. (2024). Educational and Literacy Perspectives about Bronze Drums in Southwest China for

- Contemporary Learning Resources. *International Journal of Education and Literacy Studies*, *12*(1), 245-251. https://doi.org/10.7575/aiac.ijels.v.12n.1p.245
- Olsen, D. (2024). Media Arts Education: Transforming Education through Multimodal Cognition, Holistic Learning, and Techno-Embodiment. Taylor & Francis. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003430834
- Olvera-Fernández, J., Montes-Rodríguez, R., & Ocaña-Fernández, A. (2023). Innovative and disruptive pedagogies in music education: A systematic review of the literature. *International Journal of Music Education*, 41(1), 3-19. https://doi.org/10.1177/02557614221093709
- Prest, A. (2020). Cross-cultural understanding: The role of rural school-community music education partnerships. *Research Studies in Music Education*, 42(2), 208-230. https://doi.org/10.1177/1321103X18804280
- Purcell-Gates, V. (Ed.). (2020). Cultural practices of literacy: Case studies of language, literacy, social practice, and power. Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003064374
- Rahma, N. F. (2023). Extending Musical Horizons and Diversifying Educational Visions: A Case Study Examining the Integration of Music Ensembles from Various Cultures in a School of Music in the United States. The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
- Sakti, S. A., Endraswara, S., & Rohman, A. (2024). Integrating local cultural values into early childhood education

- to promote character building. *International Journal of Learning, Teaching and Educational Research*, 23(7), 84-101. https://doi.org/10.26803/ijlter.23.7.5
- Shi, W., & Nicolas, A. (2023). Enhancing Education and Literacy through the Transmission of Tibetan Folk Music Performing Art in Qinghai Province, China. *International Journal of Education and Literacy Studies*, 11(4), 151-158. https://doi.org/10.7575/aiac.ijels.v.11n.4p.151
- Silverberg, A. L. (2022). *A Contemporary History of the Chinese Zheng* (Vol. 1). Hong Kong University Press. https://doi.org/10.1515/978988805877
- Tang, J., & Sornyai, P. (2023). The cultural treasures of Baima Tibetan folk songs in Gansu Province, China, as a resource for literacy education in Chinese music History. *International Journal of Education and Literacy Studies*, 11(3), 234-243. https://doi.org/10.7575/aiac.ijels.v.11n.3p.234
- Trung, N. S., & Van, V. H. (2020). Educating traditional cultural values in Vietnam Universities. South Asian Research Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2(3), 210-214. https://doi.org/10.36346/sarjhss.2020. v02i03.006
- Walden, J. (2020). A pile of drums: Putting theory into practice in culturally diverse music education. *International Journal of Music Education*, 38(1), 79-92. https://doi.org/10.1177/0255761419871358