

POS-090

An Exploratory Study on the Cultural Capital of Homeschoolers and Their Perceptions of World Music

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Abstract

This Exploratory study analyzes the perceptions of homeschoolers towards creating selected arrangements of World Music from Africa and Asia, while using the cultural capital background of each student to inform the implementation of the study.

The study has three stages:
June 2020-September 2020

1) Analysis of themes of the cultural capital of homeschoolers in the study through an online survey given at the start of the study which explored the musical background, experiences, and engagement of the participants in different musical cultural activities.

2) Implementation: the series of workshops geared towards Cultural Capital (Listening, Performance, Practice of an Instrument, and Arranging).

3) The Culminating Activity (The analysis of cultural capital activities chosen for the research).

Participants created their own group arrangements of a selected song and used improvised instruments to create rhythmic samples which were presented as an online culminating activity (March 2021). Participants then analyzed their arrangements and how they created their presentations through focus-group discussions.

Themes that emerged from the first stage of the study were common musical activities in which Homeschoolers engaged in, namely: Church choir and Self-Taught Music (60%), followed by Private Instrument lessons and Musical theater (56.7%).

Focus group discussion themes which were present are feelings of community and camaraderie, techniques on learning and using new technology, and overcoming "online" barriers.

The sample was limited to participants of Middle school to Highschool age (10-18 years old), with most of the participants coming from the middle to upper classes social classes of the Philippines. Participants and the teacher also had internet access as a requirement. Activities were implemented through asynchronous and synchronous methods. An adjustment of deadlines for participants was also given to accommodate personal grievances such as family members contracting Covid-19, increase of domestic responsibilities, and environmental factors.

Implications of the study are that selected homeschoolers are generally self-taught in music and have mostly informal instruction. The participants responded in a positive manner towards working with more peers, and performing new music, however they encountered difficulties with online communication for the group work requirement.

Keywords: Homeschoolers, Cultural Capital, Improvisation and Arrangements.