

Article

How Can Dance Education "Break Out of the Circle" in the Era of Short Videos? — A Reflection on the Transition from Viral Dance to Professional Training

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Abstract: In the era of short videos, platforms such as Douyin and TikTok have greatly impacted the field of dance education. The rise of viral dance challenges has made dance more accessible to the general public, breaking down barriers and bringing it into mainstream culture. This paper explores how dance education can "break out of the circle" by leveraging the popularity of viral dances, transitioning from entertainment-driven trends to more professional and structured dance training. It discusses the complementary relationship between viral dances and traditional dance education, highlighting the potential for short video platforms to act as a bridge for engaging a wider audience and introducing them to formal dance education. The paper also examines the challenges of maintaining artistic and technical integrity in the face of entertainment trends, while considering how dance education can evolve in the digital age.

Keywords: dance education; viral dance; professional dance training; short video platforms; digital learning; cultural transmission

1. Introduction

1.1. Background

1.1.1. The Rise of Short Video Platforms and Their Impact on Social Culture

With the rapid growth of short video platforms like TikTok and Douyin, the way people consume and share content has drastically transformed [1]. The pervasive nature of short-form videos has altered the way cultural trends spread, including dance, which has become one of the most viral forms of entertainment.

1.1.2. The Popularity of Dance Culture on Short Video Platforms (e.g., TikTok, Douyin)

Dance challenges and viral trends have taken over these platforms, with millions of users engaging in creating, sharing, and learning various dance routines. The democratization of dance through these platforms has made it accessible to a global audience, regardless of professional background.

1.1.3. The Emergence of 'Viral Dances' and Its Relationship with Dance Education

The phenomenon of viral dances, typically featuring simple choreography set to popular music, has attracted widespread attention [2]. The popularity of viral dances raises questions about the intersection of entertainment, education, and professional dance training.

Published: 16 July 2025



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1.2. Research Significance

1.2.1. New Opportunities and Challenges for Dance Education

Dance education is encountering new opportunities, such as reaching a wider, younger audience through digital platforms. However, it also faces challenges in maintaining its traditional artistic integrity while adapting to the fast-paced and often superficial nature of viral trends [3].

1.2.2. Using Viral Dances to Enhance the Popularity and Influence of Dance Education

By integrating viral dance trends into formal dance education, dance educators have the potential to increase the visibility and engagement with professional dance training. This integration of viral trends into formal training could help bridge the gap between casual learners and professional dancers, creating a more inclusive educational environment.

2. The Impact of Short Video Platforms on Dance Culture

2.1. The Promotion of Dance Dissemination by Short Video Platforms

2.1.1. The Characteristics of Rapid Dissemination: Viral Spread and Social Interaction

Short video platforms have fundamentally changed how dance is shared and consumed. These platforms enable quick and widespread dissemination of content due to their algorithmic nature, where popular videos are easily amplified and shared across networks. The viral nature of short videos allows dance trends to spread rapidly, often with millions of users participating in or viewing a particular dance challenge [4]. This viral spread is fueled by social media interaction, with viewers liking, sharing, or creating response videos, further boosting the visibility of dances.

2.1.2. Personalization and Diversification of Content (e.g., Dance Challenges, Creative Dance)

Short video platforms, particularly TikTok and Douyin, provide an environment where users can both create and interact with diverse dance content. The algorithm curates a personalized feed, showing users dances that align with their interests or engagement patterns. This leads to a greater diversity of dance content, ranging from viral challenges to creative, experimental performances. Dance challenges are one of the most popular forms of content. In these videos, users replicate choreography set to trending songs. Creative dance videos, on the other hand, often feature unique and artistic interpretations, showcasing personal style and flair [5]. This diversity not only engages users but also encourages a more inclusive and dynamic dance culture, where both casual users and professional dancers can find their space.

2.2. The Characteristics and Audience of Viral Dances

2.2.1. The Innovativeness and Popularity of Viral Dances

Viral dances are characterized by their simplicity, accessibility, and catchy nature. These dances often involve easy-to-follow choreography that can be quickly learned and performed by anyone, regardless of their dance background. This level of accessibility encourages widespread participation, allowing users of all skill levels to engage, adapt, and remix the dance routines, which in turn drives innovation within viral dance culture. Moreover, viral dances are often tied to trending music or challenges, which amplifies their popularity and visibility [6]. As these dances gain traction, they evolve with various interpretations, creative variations, and collaborations, fostering a constantly changing and innovative dance culture.

2.2.2. Impact on the General Public, Especially the Youth

Viral dances have had a profound impact on younger generations, who are often the primary users and creators of content on short video platforms. These dances not only provide an outlet for self-expression but also contribute to the formation of a shared cultural identity among a global, youth-centric community. The widespread participation in these dances — whether by amateur dancers or influencers — creates a sense of belonging and a shared experience, which amplifies their cultural significance. Moreover, viral dances act as a powerful tool for social interaction and engagement, often becoming part of trends, memes, and even social movements. Viral dances strongly appeal to Gen Z, who actively engage with digital trends and are shaped by social media content.

2.3. *The Current State of Dance Education on Short Video Platforms*

2.3.1. Popularity and Entertainment Value: The Non-professional Popularization of Dance Education

Short video platforms have democratized dance education, making it more accessible to the general public. Unlike traditional dance education, which often requires professional training and specific facilities, short video platforms allow anyone with a smartphone to learn, practice, and share dance routines. This informal approach to dance education has gained wide popularity, especially among younger audiences, due to its accessibility and entertainment value. Dance tutorials and simple choreography, often tied to viral trends, make dance learning more fun and less intimidating. However, this approach prioritizes entertainment value over technical mastery, meaning that while many people learn the basics of dance, the focus is often more on following trends than developing deep artistic or technical skills.

2.3.2. The Impact of Short Video Platforms on Traditional Dance Education

The rise of short video platforms has created both opportunities and challenges for traditional dance education. On one hand, these services offer a stage for dancers to showcase their skills to a global audience, potentially attracting new students and audiences to formal dance training. On the other hand, they challenge the authority and structure of traditional dance institutions by promoting informal, often superficial learning methods. The traditional focus on technical excellence, artistry, and long-term development contrasts sharply with the quick, trend-driven nature of viral dances on short video platforms. As a result, educators and institutions are now forced to rethink how dance should be taught and how to integrate elements of viral culture into formal training without compromising artistic integrity [7].

3. **The Interaction and Integration of Viral Dances and Professional Dance Education**

3.1. *The Differences Between Viral Dances and Traditional Dance Education*

3.1.1. Differences in Technique and Artistic Expression

Viral dances are designed with accessibility in mind. These dances prioritize simplicity, entertainment, and viral appeal, often featuring catchy, repetitive moves that are easy to learn and share. For instance, dances on platforms like Douyin or TikTok are structured to maximize social media interaction. As a result, the movements are often fast-paced, fun, and visually engaging rather than technically complex. The objective is to captivate audiences quickly and create viral moments, making them easily replicable by a large and diverse audience.

In contrast, traditional dance education, such as ballet, modern dance, or contemporary dance, places a significant focus on technical precision, emotional expression, and artistic depth. Professional dance training requires years of disciplined practice to perfect body control, alignment, and flexibility. Dancers are taught not only to perform but also to convey emotional narratives through movement, which often involves a more intricate

understanding of technique and artistic principles. For example, classical ballet requires mastering fundamental techniques, such as turnout, plies, and pirouettes, before advancing to more complex choreography [8].

3.1.2. Differences in Dance Language and Expression

Viral dances use a simplified dance language that is accessible to the general public. The movements are repetitive, rhythmic, and focused on creating a memorable visual impression. The goal is to engage as many people as possible, often focusing on broad appeal rather than in-depth cultural or artistic interpretation. For example, viral dances frequently emphasize popular music and trendy moves that align with contemporary aesthetics.

Traditional dance education, on the other hand, emphasizes a broader range of movement vocabulary, which requires extensive training to master. Professional dance embeds emotional and cultural expressions that are more complex and diverse. These range from the storytelling elements in classical ballet to the abstract and experimental choreography seen in modern dance. The focus is not just on the movements but on how those movements communicate deeper emotional and cultural messages.

3.2. The Impact of Viral Dances on Professional Dance Education

3.2.1. Raising the Social Awareness of Dance Education

The viral success of dances, such as the "DaZhanHongTu" (Figure 1) challenge on Douyin, has brought dance into the public's everyday life. Viral dances like this one have contributed to elevating dance from a niche art form to a widely recognized cultural phenomenon. Millions of people participate in these challenges, and in doing so, they develop a familiarity with dance that may not have existed otherwise. For example, the "DaZhanHongTu" dance, with its simple yet engaging choreography, has inspired people from all walks of life to try their hand at dance, whether as a form of recreation or as a stepping stone into more formal education.

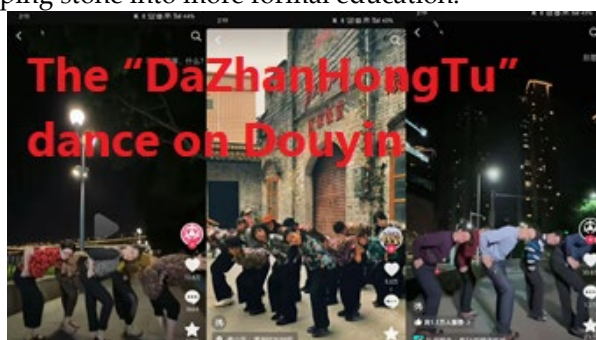


Figure 1. "DaZhanHongTu" Dance on Douyin.

This increased exposure to dance through short video platforms helps make dance more socially accepted as an accessible and enjoyable activity. As a result, dance education becomes more integrated into the social fabric, making it easier for institutions to promote professional dance programs and recruit students who might have otherwise been unaware of such opportunities.

3.2.2. Attracting More Young People to Participate in Dance Education

Viral dances have a particularly strong appeal among young people, who are often the primary users of platforms like Douyin and TikTok. These platforms simplify the learning process for young people by offering concise and engaging dance tutorials. The accessibility of viral dances provides an initial entry point into dance, which can spark a growing interest in exploring a wider range of styles and eventually lead to engagement with more structured training.

The "DaZhanHongTu" dance, for example, has attracted millions of young participants, with many of them sharing their performances online and engaging with the dance community. For those who begin with viral dance trends, this initial engagement can lead to a deeper interest in professional dance education. As young people grow more passionate about dancing, they may seek out formal classes to further develop their skills and explore more complex dance forms.

3.3. How to Balance the Conflict Between Entertainment and Professionalism

3.3.1. How Professional Education Can Adapt to the Trend of Entertainment

Dance educators can incorporate viral trends into their curriculum through warm-up exercises or rhythm training, allowing students to stay connected to the contemporary cultural landscape in a structured way. For example, integrating viral dances into professional training programs can help students stay relevant while still emphasizing the importance of technique. Educators can use viral dances, like the "DaZhanHongTu" challenge, as part of the class warm-up or as a means of teaching basic movement patterns, which may help students understand rhythm, body coordination, and spatial awareness in a fun and engaging way.

The key is to blend the entertainment value of viral dances with the structured, skill-building nature of professional dance education. By doing so, dance instructors can keep students engaged and motivated while helping them build a foundation in technical dance.

3.3.2. The Complementary Relationship Between Viral Dances and Professional Dance Education

Viral dances should not be seen as a threat to the integrity of professional dance education, but as a transitional bridge that can introduce beginners to more rigorous training. Dance institutions can leverage viral trends to attract new audiences to the world of dance. While viral dances may be seen as less technically demanding, they offer an accessible entry point for those who may not yet be ready to pursue professional training. Introduction through viral dances can naturally motivate individuals to pursue more formal and advanced dance education.

Furthermore, professional dance educators can use viral dance as an inspiration for creative choreography. The incorporation of viral moves and trends into professional routines can make the work more relevant and relatable to today's audiences, helping professional dance to stay contemporary and appealing to younger generations.

4. The Path of Dance Education's 'Breakout': From Viral Dances to Professional Training

4.1. The Popularization and Enhancement of the Influence of Dance Education

4.1.1. Bringing Dance Education into the Public Eye Through Short Video Platforms

Short video platforms have played a key role in making dance education more visible to the general public. These platforms provide an opportunity for dance educators and institutions to share their expertise with a broader audience, often using engaging and easily digestible formats such as tutorials, challenges, and performance clips. Viral dance trends have moved dance education beyond professional studios, making it accessible to anyone with an internet connection. This widespread exposure helps demystify dance and allows individuals from all walks of life to explore it, whether as a hobby or a potential career path. By creating content that is both informative and entertaining, dance educators can attract new learners who might not otherwise have considered formal training, thus enhancing the reach and impact of dance education.

4.1.2. Formulating Dance Education Policies that Meet the Needs of the New Era

To fully harness the potential of short video platforms and digital media in promoting dance education, it is essential to develop policies that align with the needs of the modern era. Educational institutions, governments, and organizations need to work together to create frameworks that support the integration of digital tools and platforms into traditional dance curricula. To respond to the evolving needs of digital-native learners, policies should focus on providing students with a broad range of learning formats. Additionally, policies could incentivize collaborations between dance educators and tech companies to develop innovative tools and apps that enhance the learning experience. In this context, it is also important to address issues such as data privacy, copyright concerns, and the ethical use of online platforms to ensure that dance education remains safe, inclusive, and equitable for all.

4.2. *Innovating Professional Dance Education Forms by Integrating Short Video Platforms*

4.2.1. Online Courses and Live Streaming: Enhancing Flexibility and Interactivity in Dance Education

The integration of short video platforms with professional dance education allows for a more flexible and interactive learning environment. Online courses and live streaming sessions enable students to access dance education at their convenience, breaking down geographical and time constraints. For instance, professional dancers and educators can offer live-streamed classes or tutorials, allowing real-time interaction with students, answering questions, and providing feedback. This kind of engagement not only makes learning more dynamic but also fosters a sense of community among dancers worldwide. Moreover, the ability to replay recorded lessons and revisit concepts offers learners the opportunity to practice at their own pace, making professional dance education more accessible to a broader audience.

4.2.2. Cross-Platform Collaboration: Partnering with Short Video Platforms to Create Dance Challenges, Courses, and More

Collaborating with short video platforms, such as TikTok or Douyin, can significantly enhance the reach and appeal of professional dance education. Dance educators and institutions can partner with these platforms to organize dance challenges, host online courses, and promote educational content. By utilizing the viral nature of short video platforms, dance educators can create engaging challenges that encourage attracting broad participation and embedding core elements of technical training in an engaging format. These challenges can serve as a gateway to more structured dance education, where participants, initially attracted by the entertainment value, are introduced to formal learning. Such collaborations not only expand outreach but also provide a transition into structured learning by offering specialized content on dance techniques, choreography, and artistic expression, creating an ongoing educational experience that reaches learners globally.

4.3. *The Diversified Development of Dance Education*

4.3.1. Cross-Cultural Exchange and Dance Education: Dance Education in the Context of Globalization

Globalization has significantly expanded the scope and impact of dance education. As cultures increasingly interact and influence one another, dance education is no longer confined to a specific region or tradition but is instead shaped by the exchange of ideas, techniques, and philosophies across borders. Students today are exposed to a variety of dance styles from different cultures, including ballet, contemporary, hip-hop, traditional African dances, and Asian classical forms. This cross-cultural exchange can be directly incorporated into curricula through modules focused on global dance history, comparative technique analysis, and collaborative projects, which can be integrated into dance

curricula to create a more inclusive and comprehensive educational experience. Additionally, the global nature of dance allows students to engage with the broader dance community, participate in international dance festivals, and collaborate with peers worldwide [9].

4.3.2. Interdisciplinary Integration: The Combination of Dance with Digital Technologies, Media Arts, and More

Innovation in dance education today is largely driven by its integration with digital technologies and media arts. Digital tools such as motion capture, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and artificial intelligence (AI) are increasingly being used to enhance dance training and performance. These technologies enable dancers to experiment with new forms of expression and interaction, merging traditional techniques with advanced digital experiences. For example, VR and AR can create immersive environments for practice and performance, offering dancers novel ways to experience space, movement, and audience interaction. Likewise, AI-powered motion capture and real-time feedback systems provide new platforms for dance education and skill development. This interdisciplinary approach not only enriches the learning experience but also encourages students to explore the intersection of dance, technology, and art, better preparing them for a rapidly evolving digital future. As shown in Figure 2, digital tools such as smart mirrors integrated with AI motion capture and AR displays are used to guide practice and deliver real-time feedback, exemplifying innovative applications of emerging technologies in contemporary dance education.



Figure 2. Integration of Digital Technology in Dance Education.

5. Case Studies in Successful Dance Education Models

5.1. The Integration of Viral Dances and Dance Education: A Case Study

5.1.1. Successful Dance Education Practices on Douyin (TikTok)

1) Introduction to the Role of Viral Dances in Education

Short video platforms like Douyin (the Chinese version of TikTok) and TikTok have rapidly transformed how dance is shared and learned. Viral dances on these platforms have not only entertained millions of users but also served as a gateway to formal dance education. These viral challenges are often simple, fun, and designed for a mass audience, making them highly effective for introducing dance to a broader demographic.

2) Case Study 1: Douyin's Dance Education Revolution

Influencers and Dance Educators: Some popular Douyin influencers have turned viral dance challenges into opportunities for formal dance education. Some popular Douyin influencers have created tutorials for viral dances, breaking down complex choreography into manageable steps and providing fitness routines. These influencers integrate basic dance education into their videos, allowing viewers to learn choreography while developing key technical skills.

Interactive Learning through Challenges: The "dance challenge" hashtag encourages users to engage by posting their own videos. This creates an interactive, community-based learning environment where participants can both learn and receive feedback. Some dance educators use these platforms to introduce new techniques and concepts to a wide audience, creating a bridge between casual viewers and professional dance education.

3) Case Study 2: TikTok's Global Influence on Dance Education

Global Dance Influencers: TikTok has also become a platform for professional dancers and choreographers to share their expertise. Dancers like Matt Steffanina and Charity Z have capitalized on TikTok's massive global audience, offering short and interactive tutorials for viral dances. These influencers break down complex choreography into simple steps, allowing beginners to learn quickly and develop a greater interest in formal dance education.

Viral Challenges to Dance Education: TikTok's viral dance trends, such as the Renegade and Savage Love challenges, provide a way to engage millions of users while introducing them to dance techniques and movement vocabulary. Dance educators leverage these challenges to create educational content that's both fun and informative, showing how viral content can lead to more serious, long-term learning.

5.1.2. Benefits and Challenges

Benefits: The combination of entertainment and education on short video platforms makes dance more accessible to a younger audience. Viral challenges increase engagement and provide an easy entry point into dance.

Challenges: However, the educational depth of viral dances may be limited. The focus is often on entertainment and quick learning, which may overlook the importance of technical skills and artistic expression in professional dance training.

5.2. Domestic and International Dance Education Innovation Cases

5.2.1. Domestic Case: Dance Education Projects on Short Video Platforms in China

1) Introduction of Short Video Platforms into Dance Education

In China, short video platforms such as Douyin and Kuaishou have revolutionized dance education. These platforms enable users to share their performances and tutorials, turning dance into a widely accessible activity that can be learned and enjoyed at any level.

Douyin Dance Education Initiatives: Many dance academies and independent instructors have taken advantage of Douyin's reach to offer online dance classes and challenges. Institutions such as the Beijing Dance Academy have begun integrating Douyin into their marketing and outreach strategies. These platforms provide a space where students can access professional-level dance tutorials and join virtual workshops. They also enable connections with international artists, breaking down geographical and financial barriers to education.

2) Case Example: "Dance China" on Douyin

Dance China, a program run by a popular Douyin influencer, combines viral dance challenges with professional dance education. The influencer shares daily tutorials on both traditional Chinese dance forms and contemporary choreography, while also promoting fitness and flexibility exercises. This program is particularly successful because it targets the broad Douyin audience, drawing people from both urban and rural areas, and provides a gateway to formal dance education for those who otherwise might not have access.

5.2.2. International Case: Social Media-Based Dance Education Success Stories

1) The Role of Social Media in Dance Education

Internationally, social media platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube have become valuable tools for dance education, a trend accelerated by the COVID-19

pandemic which forced traditional studios to adopt online learning models. These platforms have allowed educators to reach a global audience, offering everything from free tutorials to full-length online courses.

2) Case Example: Dance Tutorials on YouTube

YouTube channels such as Dance Tutorials LIVE and The Fitness Marshall offer a mix of viral dance tutorials, fitness routines, and professional dance training. These channels have reached millions of users worldwide, offering an accessible way to learn dance without the constraints of time or location.

Dance educators like Yasmin Ramin (creator of the channel Yasmin Dance) use social media to share easy-to-follow tutorials and connect with dancers across the globe. This model has allowed dancers in remote areas or with limited access to studios to participate in dance education.

3) Case Example: Dance Training Through Instagram

Instagram has become an essential platform for professional dancers and choreographers to share their expertise. Many dancers now use Instagram Live or IGTV to offer free or paid dance classes, demonstrations, and choreography breakdowns. The platform's visual nature and ease of sharing make it ideal for showcasing dance moves and techniques.

L.A. Dance Project and Global Dance Workshop are examples of organizations utilizing Instagram to broadcast live dance tutorials, share performance clips, and conduct Q&A sessions with professional dancers. These initiatives have fostered a global dance community, encouraging both casual dancers and professionals to learn from each other.

4) Benefits and Challenges

Benefits: Social media offers incredible reach and accessibility, democratizing dance education. It allows dancers and educators to build a global community, engage with followers, and promote dance culture.

Challenges: As with domestic platforms, there is a risk of oversimplifying dance education. Without the supervision of qualified teachers, learners may miss out on essential dance techniques and theory, which can hinder their progress in the long run.

5.3. Key Insights and Lessons from the Case Studies

From the case studies, several key insights and lessons can be drawn. First, strong teaching staff and high-quality content creation are crucial for success. Professional dance educators who combine entertainment with educational value create engaging content that not only attracts a larger audience but also enhances the learning experience. High-quality video production, clear choreography breakdowns, and effective visual presentation all play an important role in improving the learning experience.

Secondly, social interaction and innovative learning methods are key to boosting student engagement. Short video platforms provide an interactive learning environment where students can share their dance videos, comment on each other's work, and receive feedback. This "learning community" approach increases motivation and fosters peer growth.

Additionally, flexible learning methods and personalized content are transforming dance education. Short video platforms offer flexible learning, enabling students to progress at their own pace. They also provide tailored content based on individual interests and skill levels, ensuring learners receive relevant and appropriate educational resources.

6. The Future Development Directions of Dance Education

6.1. The Deep Integration of Digital Technology and Dance Education

Application of VR/AR technology in dance education: The integration of Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) into dance education has the potential to revolu-

tionize the learning experience. Through VR, students can experience immersive environments where they can practice dance techniques in real-time, receive instant feedback, and adjust their form. This makes it possible to simulate real-world conditions for learners without the need for physical spaces, providing a rich and dynamic environment for practice. Additionally, AR can enhance traditional learning by overlaying digital elements onto the physical space. This allows students to visualize dance moves in 3D and improve their performance with instant corrections, creating an interactive, engaging learning experience that combines technology and technique.

Data analysis and learning progress tracking: In addition to VR and AR, data analysis and learning progress tracking are becoming vital tools in dance education. By using performance data, educators can track a student's progress, focusing on areas like rhythm, posture, and technique. This allows for personalized learning experiences where the instructor can provide targeted feedback based on detailed analytics. Through data-driven insights, instructors can help students improve specific aspects of their performance, making the learning process more efficient and adaptable to each learner's pace and needs. As this technology becomes more widespread, dance education will become more precise, tailored, and measurable, ensuring students' continuous growth.

6.2. Dance Education's Social Responsibility and Artistic Value

Cultural transmission and artistic education: Dance education is not just about teaching technical skills — it must also serve as a platform for cultural transmission and the promotion of artistic values. Dance has long been a method of passing down traditions, telling stories, and expressing emotions. Educators must, therefore, emphasize not only technical proficiency but also the cultural and emotional depth that dance carries. This focus on cultural heritage will allow students to understand and appreciate dance as a powerful tool for preserving and sharing traditions across generations. At the same time, fostering artistic creativity will enable students to explore their own expressions and contribute to the evolving landscape of dance.

Integrating cross-cultural learning: As dance becomes a global language, incorporating cross-cultural elements into dance education can help students develop a deeper appreciation for diverse forms. By studying dance styles from different parts of the world, students gain a more holistic understanding of dance as an art form that transcends borders. This approach nurtures inclusivity and global connectivity, fostering an environment where students can embrace cultural diversity through movement. Educators can incorporate various dance genres — such as ballet, hip-hop, traditional folk dances, and modern styles — into the curriculum, helping students become more versatile dancers and global citizens.

6.3. Enhancing Social Recognition and Support for Dance Art

Transition from short-form video to long-form educational content: The rise of platforms like TikTok and Douyin has brought dance to a wide audience through short-form viral content. However, the future of dance education will involve transitioning from these quick, bite-sized formats to long-form educational videos. While short-form videos are effective at generating interest and engagement, long-form content allows for more detailed instruction and structured learning. By offering full-length tutorials, comprehensive dance classes, and professional choreography, platforms can provide students with the depth of knowledge necessary for mastering dance techniques. This shift will move dance education beyond viral trends and into a more sustainable, in-depth learning model.

Integrating long-term dance education plans with online learning: As the demand for flexible learning grows, combining long-term dance education plans with online platforms will be key to the future of dance education. The hybrid model of in-person and online learning offers the flexibility for students to learn at their own pace while still following a structured curriculum. Through live-streamed classes, on-demand tutorials, and

virtual workshops, dance education can reach a broader audience, including those who may not have access to traditional dance schools. Additionally, partnerships with reputable dance institutions could offer students certification programs and professional development opportunities, making online dance education a legitimate and valuable career pathway.

7. Conclusion

In the age of short videos, dance education has experienced a significant transformation. Platforms like TikTok and Douyin have accelerated the spread of dance culture, making it more accessible and engaging to a wider audience. The role of short video platforms in promoting dance education is undeniable. They have created new opportunities for dance education by increasing its reach and breaking down barriers to entry for both learners and educators. Short video platforms make dance more visible and allow people to learn through viral challenges, tutorials, and creative expression.

However, as we observe the growth of internet-famous (net celebrity) dance and its widespread popularity, it becomes clear that there is a complementary relationship between net celebrity dances and professional dance education. While net celebrity dances emphasize entertainment and viral trends, professional dance education focuses on skill development and artistic expression. These two approaches can work together to elevate the overall landscape of dance education, with net celebrity dances drawing interest and professional education providing depth and mastery.

Given the rapid rise of short video platforms, it is crucial for dance education to actively explore education models that adapt to these platforms. By leveraging the interactive, dynamic features of short video platforms, educators can create engaging, flexible, and scalable learning experiences. This could involve short-form tutorials, live-streamed classes, or collaborative dance challenges that inspire both participation and progression.

Finally, the long-term goal of dance education should be to shift from an "entertainment-based" model to a more "professional" model, ensuring that while entertainment continues to be a key part of dance's appeal, education remains rooted in technical skill, artistry, and cultural value. The challenge for educators and institutions will be to strike a balance, combining entertainment with a focus on serious dance education, and pushing the boundaries of dance into a more formalized and professional future.

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