

**THE PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR MUSICAL EDUCATION
“PANCHE PESHEV” – KUMANOVO**

Andrijana Janevska

CHRONOLOGY OF THE SCHOOL

The Primary School for musical education “Panche Peshev” in Kumanovo, was founded in the year 1946, after the suggestion of the Ministry for Education in Macedonia and its representative, the minister for education, Nikola Minchev. The school took its name from Panche Peshev (1917-1944) – a musician and a hero in the World War II.

Before the foundation of this music-educational institution, in a sense of a tradition for existence of organized musical school system, the Musical House was founded in the year 1945 by the national government.

The Musical House create a pioneer brass orchestra, the first and the only of that kind in Republic of Macedonia, under the guidance of Gjorgji Ivanovski – the manager of the house (he was a famous musician, a player of brass instruments even in time when the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenians existed). The orchestra worked intensively and in a short period of time achieved extraordinary results, arranging most of the public concerts. Due to those successes, and according to the Decree of the Ministry for education, the Primary School for musical education “Panche Peshev” in Kumanovo was founded by this Musical House, and was funded by the City National Board. Gjorgji Ivanovski, the manager of the Musical House, was assigned as the first director of this school.

The school started with this upbringing-educational matter on January, the 1-st, 1947. Ninety students enrolled this school, at once, 52 boys and 38 girls, arranged in 3 grades. The age of the students varied, there were students from the primary schools and from the secondary, as well.

The first meeting of the Teaching Council of the school was held on December, the 12-th, 1946. The board of commissioners, that admitted new students to this school, were: Gjorgji Simonovski, Boris Krstevski-Dremche and Todor Georgievski-Balkanski.

The following educational subjects were maintained: solfeggio, theory of music, violin, piano, wood and can brass instruments. The teaching in the school on January, the 1-st, 1947, started with the following subjects: brass instruments, solfeggio and theory of music. The rest of the subjects, piano and violin, were brought into course of teaching, after the supply of those instruments. In this period, the school was located in a national building in the center of the town and the teaching was performed in three separated rooms.

In the school year, 1947/48, hundred students enrolled this school. The teaching was performed by the same teachers from the previous year. During the months of March and April, in the year 1948, the first one-month course for teachers and managers (from Kumanovo and its surrounding) was maintained, under the guidance of Rodna Menkova. In the school year 1955/56, the school moved in another building in the center of the town (named "Gipsy alley") on the street "Tane Georgievski", the former building of the school for girls. The teaching was performed in 5 ground floor rooms.

Because of the necessity, in the school year 1964/65, the school moved in the building, formerly The Center for Economy and Household "Magdalena Antova", on the street "Bratstvo – Edinstvo", which is its present location.

Today, this Primary School for musical education “Panche Peshev” – Kumanovo, is a modern school and has corresponding base for quality performance of its function. It is located in separate building, with appropriate functional and administrative area, which is satisfactory fitted with inventory and educational resources to perform the duty. The PSME “Panche Peshev”, has 10 classrooms, concert hall, an office for the manager, an office for a administrative worker and other auxiliary rooms. To perform this upbringing-educational matter, the school is supplied by 10 pianos, 1 half-concert clavier, 11 violins, 8 clarinets, 6 flutes, 8 accordions, 3 trumpets and 4 guitars. The teaching staff in the school, mostly, has the recommended skilled qualifications. Today, there are 13 teachers: 1 Master of Arts, 9 have a Bachelor degree and 3 with college degree.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY OF THE SCHOOL

In the *Table 1*, the number of the students is presented, starting from the foundation year till the year 2000.

Table 1

<i>School year</i>	<i>Number of students</i>	<i>School year</i>	<i>Number of students</i>	<i>School year</i>	<i>Number of students</i>	<i>School year</i>	<i>Number of students</i>
1946/47	90	1960/61	114	1974/75	297	1988/89	292
1947/48	100	1961/62	142	1975/76	315	1989/90	290
1948/49	50	1962/63	137	1976/77	318	1990/91	292
1949/50	52	1963/64	160	1977/78	315	1991/92	276
1950/51	53	1964/65	139	1978/79	318	1992/93	303
1951/52	54	1965/66	143	1979/80	305	1993/94	282
1952/53	65	1966/67	310	1980/81	315	1994/95	293
1953/54	80	1967/68	217	1981/82	301	1995/96	272
1954/55	94	1968/69	281	1982/83	315	1996/97	284
1955/56	100	1969/70	225	1983/84	319	1997/98	286
1956/57	146	1970/71	225	1984/85	324	1998/99	254
1957/58	154	1971/72	278	1985/86	324	1999/00	288
1958/59	159	1972/73	282	1986/87	283	/	/
1959/60	124	1973/74	279	1987/88	270	/	/

In the *Table 2*, the number of enrolled students is presented, as well as the number of those students who did not finished the school or willingly left the school in the period of 2000-2005.

Table 2

<i>School year</i>	<i>The number of enrolled students</i>	<i>Students who finished one year</i>	<i>Students who finished the school</i>	<i>Students who left the school</i>
2000/01	226	198	11	17
2001/02	222	205	1	16
2002/03	217	195	12	10
2003/04	229	197	11	21
2004/05	227	186	12	29
2005/06	270	/	/	/

According to this statistical data, can be concluded, that the number of the students who visited this school, from its foundation till the present day, is 13375 students.

Kumanovo is a city with different ethnical population, so that is why this school is a good place for students of different nationalities to study and work together.

In the *Table 3*, the number of students according their ethnical belongings, is presented, from the year 2000 till today.

Table 3

<i>School year</i>	<i>Total number of the students</i>	<i>Macedonians</i>	<i>Albanians</i>	<i>Serbs, Gipsies, Turks</i>
2000/2001	226	189	22	15
2001/2002	222	181	25	16
2002/2003	217	171	15	31
2003/2004	229	187	19	23
2004/2005	227	187	25	15
2005/2006	270	224	30	16

According to this statistical data, the number of the students – who belongs to the ethnical communities, is conditionally small, yet. But, the desire of the children to enroll this school, remarks everyday growth. We think that the motivation will grow more, if the school establishes a corporation with the kindergartens and with the other primary schools, to propagate its activity there. By all means, if the number of the students

enlarges, the school automatically will expand, as well as the number of the teaching staff.

PARTICIPATION IN COMPETITIONS

The students from PSME “Panche Peshev”, regularly take part in different state and international competitions, where they achieve awards or appreciation cards.

Among them are:

- Ilija Vasilevski – accordion, the 1-st prize at Republican competition.
- Lela Petrushevska - accordion, the 1-st prize at Republican competition.
- Nenad Aleksovski - accordion, the 1-st prize at Republican competition and 3-rd prize at International competition in Ljubljana.
- Milena Gievska – violin, the 3-rd prize at Republican competition.
- Sandra Stoilkovikj and Denis Georgievski – duo, violin and guitar, the 3-rd prize at Republican competition.
- Zoran Ristevski - accordion, the 1-st prize at Republican competition.

CONCERT ACTIVITY

In the past, approximately, 60 years of existence, this school gave a great contribution to the sphere of music in the town, through participation of its students in different concerts, as well as, through participation in cultural-art societies and various musical bands.

The students of this school, regularly, set in concerts on different occasions:

- 11-th of November (the day of liberation of Kumanovo)
- 11-th of October
- New Year’s concerts
- Concerts of Christmas
- 1-st of April
- 24-th of May (Sts. Kiril and Metodij Day)

- 5-th of June (patronage of the school)

This concerts enrich the cultural live in the city Kumanovo and its surrounding.

TEACHING STAFF

In PSME “Panche Peshev” – Kumanovo, have worked artists who, presently, are ultimate pedagogues and musicians:

- Petar Petrovski (conductor)
- Ljubomir Brangjolica (composer)
- Miodrag Bozhinovski (he works as a musical editor in Macedonian RTV now)
- Ilija Zimbo (he works as first flutist in Macedonian Opera and Ballet)
- Goran Zafirovikj (he works as a bassoon teacher in Musical-Ballet Educational Center “Ilija Nikolovski – Luj”)
- Marija Dimanin (she works as a piano teacher in MBEC “Ilija Nikolovski – Luj”)
- Marija Vrshkova (today, she works as accompanist in Faculty of Music - Skopje)

There were 8 managers in PSME “Panche Peshev” – Kumanovo:

- Gjorgji Ivanovski (1946-1949)
- Todor Georgievski - Balkanski (1948-1958)
- Chaslav Tripkovski (1958-1963)
- Zlatan Zlatanovski (1963-1964)
- Gjorgji Acevski (1964-1968)
- Olga Ivanovska (1968-1980)
- Branislav Trajkovski (1980-1995)
- Svetlana Jovanovikj (1995)
- Svetlana Trajkovska (1995-2006)



Gjorgji Ivanovski

the first manager of PSME “Panche Peshev” – Kumanovo

Some employees received awards or appreciation cards for the achieved results for their efforts. In the year 1979, Svetlana Trajkovska was entitled with “Outstanding pedagogical employee” from the Pedagogical Council in Macedonia; in 1977, Zorica Velichkovska received appreciation card for her achieved special results in the pedagogical activity; in 1984, Branislav Trajkovski received the award “November Prize” from the Assembly of Kumanovo Community and later, in 1993, he was entitled with “Outstanding pedagogical employee”, received from the Pedagogical council in Macedonija.

In 1984, PSME “Panche Peshev” – Kumanovo is a winner of the collective prize “Kiril and Metodij” consigned by OSIZ, association for pre-scholastic and primary upbringing education – Kumanovo. This prize was received on the occasion: the celebration of May, 24-th, which is actually a Day of Slavic Enlighteners Kiril and Metodij and a Day of Educational Workers in Macedonia.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS IN KUMANOVO

There are several institutions in Kumanovo, where musicians can work:

- 6 Kindergartens
- 11 Primary schools
- 4 High schools
- Culture Club “Trajko Prokopiev”
- The Center for Child’s creativity
- Most of the TV and Radio stations

Unfortunately, the number of these institutions, where qualified and adequate personnel work, is very small. There is only 1 musician (who has a degree in music at Faculty of Music, Music Theory and Pedagogy Department) in the Center for Child’s creativity; there are several musicians with part-time work in the Culture Club, and few music professors with adequate education who work at schools.

CONCLUSION

PSME “Panche Peshev” is one of the oldest musical schools in Macedonia, that have existed, almost 60 years. Due to the number of the students, who attend this school, the average annual number of the students is 222, but 10 of them received certificate for completing the elementary musical education. Annually, only 4,5% from the total number of the students who attend this school in 6 years, completes this elementary musical school. According to the great number of the students, it can be concluded that the number of those who complete the educational process, is very small. Statically, most of the students abandon this school in the 5-th school year e.g. only one year before they complete the elementary musical education. These situations are issues to discuss by the managing and educational staff at school. According to some information, one of the reasons that the students give up or lose heart for further education, is the rotation of the educational staff. Almost every year, at least three teachers are replaced with others. This kind of rotation, often, has negative reflection on the interest and motivation of the

students because of the constant effect of “starting over again”. Few students who have completed this elementary musical education in Kumanovo, and later achieved Bachelor degree, returned back to work in their hometown. This situation, partly, is solved by employing young and adequate staff, mostly from Skopje, in order to have more successful musical education for the students.