

Enhancing Development through Music: Insights from the Tehran Conservatory's Program for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

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Abstract : This study investigates the impact of the Tehran Conservatory's music program on children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families. Recognizing music education as a beneficial therapeutic intervention, the research highlights how engagement in musical activities can foster cognitive, emotional, and social growth. Through qualitative interviews with parents of children enrolled in the program, the study explores their motivations for participation, observations of their children's progress, and assessments of the program's effectiveness. Preliminary findings indicate that the program significantly enhances social interaction, emotional regulation, and communication skills in children with ASD. Parents appreciate the program's adaptability to individual needs and the supportive training of instructors. Despite these positive outcomes, the study identifies challenges, including a lack of awareness and limited access to similar programs. The findings contribute valuable perspectives to the existing literature and suggest pathways for developing more inclusive music education initiatives, both in Iran and globally, to better support children with ASD and their families.

Keywords : autism spectrum disorder, music education, therapeutic intervention, parental perspectives, social interaction

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