

Competition for the academic position of “**PROFESSOR**”
in Higher Education field: 1. Pedagogical Sciences
Professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Education in ...
“Fine Arts Teaching Methods”
for the needs of the Fine Arts Department
at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts

PEER REVIEW

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Only one candidate – Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zora Georgieva Yanakieva, participates in the competition for the occupation of the academic position of “Professor” in Higher Education field: 1. Pedagogical Sciences, Professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Education in Fine Arts (Fine Arts Teaching Methods), announced in State Gazette for the needs of the Fine Arts Department with the Faculty of Fine Arts at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – City of Plovdiv. The announcement was published in the State Gazette and on the website of the University and by order of the Rector of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts a Scientific Jury was appointed. At the first meeting of the Jury, Chairman and reviewers were selected in compliance with the statutory requirements for attendance and participation in absentia.

In 1987, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zora Georgieva Yanakieva graduated the Secondary Special School of Performing Arts in Plovdiv, specialty: Lighting Artist. From 1987 until 1989 she studied in the Teacher’s Institute in the City of Dupnitsa, where she received the professional qualification “Teacher of Vocational Training and Fine Arts”. In 1997 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zora Yanakieva acquired a Bachelor’s degree at Sv. Kliment Ohridski Sofia University with professional qualification: “Teacher of Fine Arts, V-IX grade”, and in 1999 she obtained a Master’s degree with professional qualification: “Teacher of Fine Arts, I-XII grade”. From 2000 until 2005 she was a PhD student on a self-study basis in the same university with dissertation work on the topic: “The Idea of Education through Fine Arts in the Art and Pedagogical Press in Bulgaria in the First Half of the Twentieth Century”, which she defended successfully. From 1997 until 2001 the candidate was a teacher, initially at a Secondary School in the City of Septemvri, and after that in the City of

Plovdiv. In the period from 2007 until 2012 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zora Yanakieva was a part-time teacher and methodologist conducting practical exercises with students in the specialty Pedagogy of Fine Arts Teaching at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts.

The academic scientific and teaching practice of Zora Yanakieva started in 2012, when she was appointed as Associate Professor in Fine Arts Teaching Methods at the Academy after a successful competition. She organized and conducted exercises in the disciplines Fine Arts Teaching Methods, Hospitalization, Current Practice in Class I in the educational and qualification degree: Bachelor; Fine Arts Teaching Methods II, Methodology of Pedagogical Studies in Fine Arts, Pedagogical Practice in Class II in the educational and qualification degree: Master and Sitting in on Lectures and Teaching, Current Practice in Class I in the educational and scientific degree: Doctor. Over the years, as a teacher at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, the candidate has developed numerous curricula for the education of students in the three degrees of higher education.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zora Yanakieva has actively participated in ten projects. She has also participated with reports in a number of scientific forums – ten conferences, five of which international and two of which abroad. The candidate's scientific interests are in the field of children's and adolescent periodicals, methodology of fine arts, professional development of students in the field of teaching, strategies for the motivation of students and others.

I believe that the competition procedure so far fully complies with the requirements of the state and university normative documents regarding the occupation of academic positions.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zora Yanakieva participates with the following in the competition for "Professor": the monograph "Motivation of Students in the Teaching of Fine Arts", Imeon Publishing House, Plovdiv, 2019, 184 p. and "Interactive Training in the Professional Education of Students in the Methodology of Fine Arts", Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – City of Plovdiv, Imeon Publishing House, 2017, 294 p. A book on the basis of defended dissertation work on the topic "Development of the Idea of Education through Art in Bulgaria. First Half of XX century", Imeon Publishing House, Plovdiv, 2018, 213 p., was also presented. The latter is co-authored with Prof. N. Boyadzhieva. The presented materials also include a textbook for students: "Fine Arts. Methodology Exercises – Advanced Preparation Course", Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – City of Plovdiv, Imeon Publishing House, 2017, 141 p. Twenty articles and reports, most of which were published in the Yearbook and in the

Spring Scientific Readings of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, were also presented. All articles are independent. The presented materials in paper and electronic form are extremely well systematized and give an opportunity to create a clear idea of the candidate's achievements and qualities regarding the occupation of the academic position "Professor". In the publications with which she participates in the competition for "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Fine Arts Teaching Methods", Zora Yanakieva, quite naturally, deals with problems of the theory, practice and methodology of fine arts teaching, which is relevant to the interactive teaching of the students in the methodology of fine arts, to the motivation of the students for educational activity in the arts, to the development of the idea of education through art, the issues of art education in the different educational levels and so on. The scientific publications of the candidate present her not only as a teacher, striving to record and describe the issues considered by her, but also as a researcher who knows them in detail and who is capable of carrying out scientific research. The comparative studies and analyzes and the use of the established different terminology and categorical apparatus show that Zora Yanakieva is able to make theoretical conclusions and summaries. The studies she conducted using a cognitive approach also have considerable practical value.

The main area of research of the candidate is the teaching of fine arts. Her dissertation work "The Idea of Education through Fine Arts in the Art and Pedagogical Press in Bulgaria in the First Half of the Twentieth Century", which deals with a more specific and detailed aspect, is dedicated to this scientific issue.

The presented monographs – "Motivation of Students in the Teaching of Fine Arts", "Interactive Training in the Professional Education of Students in the Methodology of Fine Arts", "Development of the Idea of Education through Art in Bulgaria. First Half of XX century" /a book on the basis of defended dissertation work, co-authored with Prof. N. Boyadzhieva/, as well as a textbook for students: "Fine Arts. Methodology Exercises – Advanced Preparation Course", outline the areas of the candidate's scientific interests and contribute to systematizing the facts and clarifying the theoretical and methodological issues related to fine arts training. The development of exercises for the teaching of students in the methodology of fine arts in the two educational degrees of higher education, as well as the development of a system for the assessment of academic achievement, have theoretical and practical nature. The contribution of the summaries and recommendations derived from the existing pedagogical practice is aimed at the reception of new,

current art forms, which could greatly change the content and appearance of the subject. The papers presented are well structured with a view to formulating the goals set and limiting the scope of the study, the baseline theoretical background and the conclusions drawn.

The first monograph entitled “Motivation of Students in the Teaching of Fine Arts”, based on the current state of art education in the secondary schools and the analysis of motivation, outlines didactic incentives, methods and approaches for motivation, based on the specifics in the training on the subject. The presentation of the key pedagogical ideas and experiences that make it possible to identify the mechanisms for the formation of the link between academic achievement and the variety of stimuli in the teaching of drawing and fine arts is substantiated by Zora Yanakieva in view of their use in modern practice.

In the second of the presented monographs “Interactive Training in the Professional Education of Students in the Methodology of Fine Arts”, the opportunities offered by the traditional and interactive methods in the conduct of attractive training in fine arts are analyzed in a comparative plan, which as a result enriches the existing pedagogical literature on the issue.

“Development of the Idea of Education through Art in Bulgaria. First Half of XX century” /book on the basis of defended dissertation work, co-authored with Prof. N. Boyadzhieva/ is also very interesting. It is an in-depth historical study of this idea, presenting the general and specific directions that determine the nature of the Bulgarian art periodical press for children and adolescents during the period. A connection with modernity is made and the possibilities for applying the artistic and pedagogical practice today are stated.

The textbook for students “Fine Arts. Methodology Exercises – Advanced Preparation Course” offers a new system of exercises that are indisputably useful in the practical training of students.

In my capacity as a reviewer, I highly appreciate the contribution of the candidate Zora Yanakieva in the competition for the academic position “Professor”, as this assessment is based on the scientific publications presented by her – monographs and articles. The contributions formulated above are her personal merit. I think that Zora Yanakieva’s publications would be very useful both theoretically and practically.

Considering all of the above, which testifies to scientific production with original scientific and applied contributions in the field of fine arts teaching and education, I have reason to express my positive assessment that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zora Georgieva Yanakieva possesses the qualities,

necessary for the occupation of the academic position “Professor” in Higher Education field: 1. Pedagogical Sciences, Professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Education in Fine Arts, scientific field: “Fine Arts Teaching Methods” at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts.

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