

JANUARY 18, 2025



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**PM Ian Swinton Open
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Chicago – Saturday, May 3, 2025

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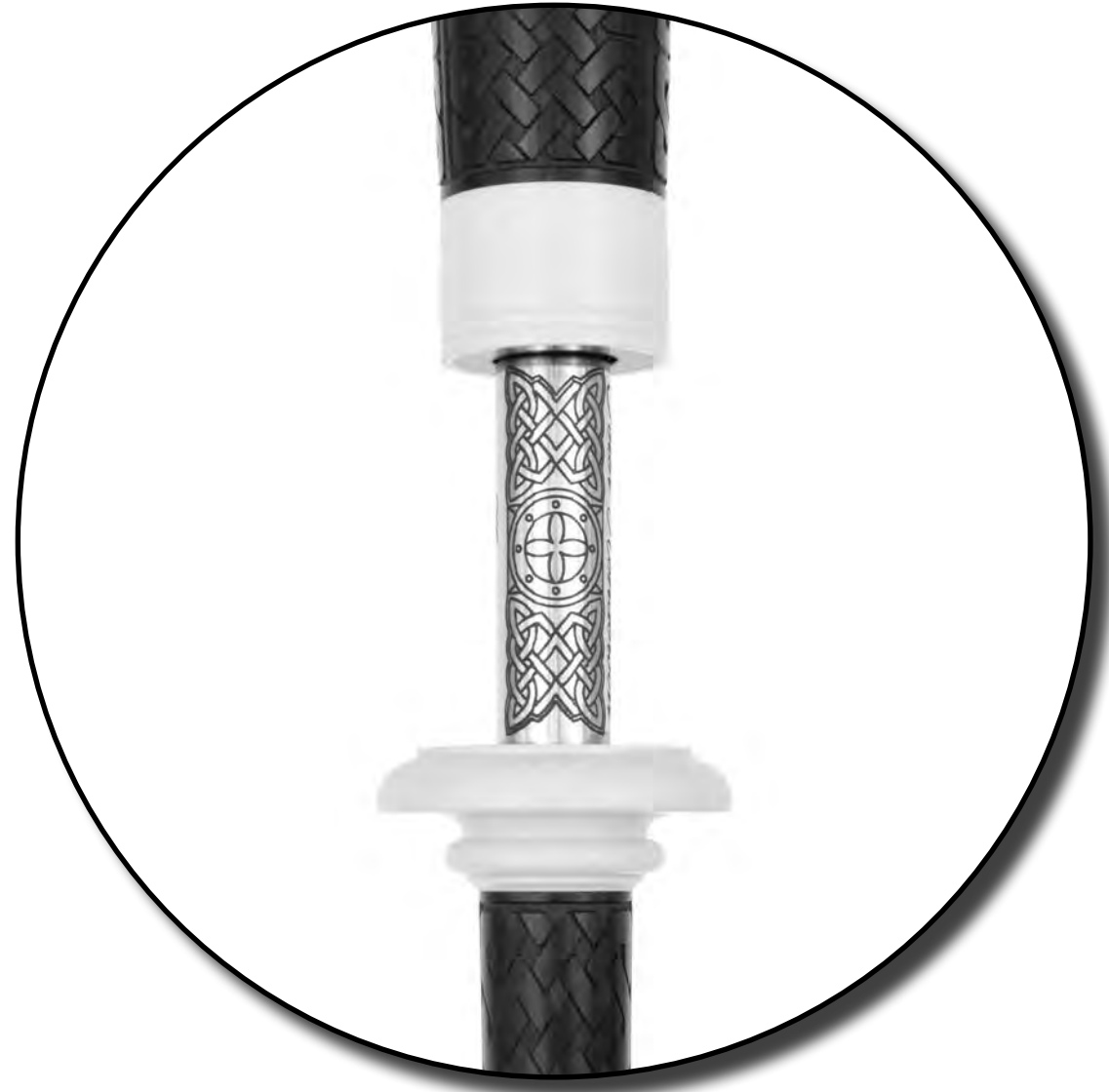
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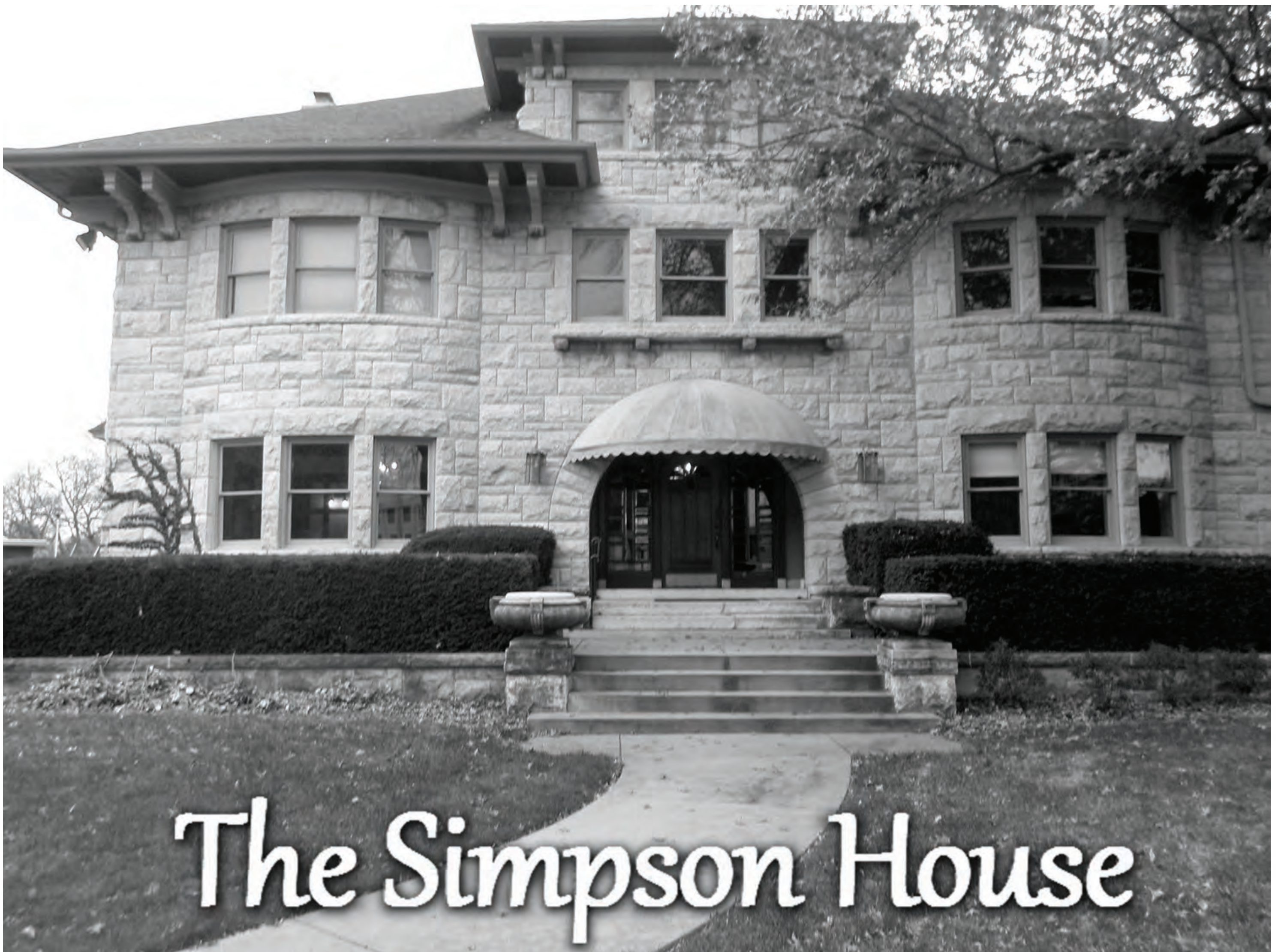
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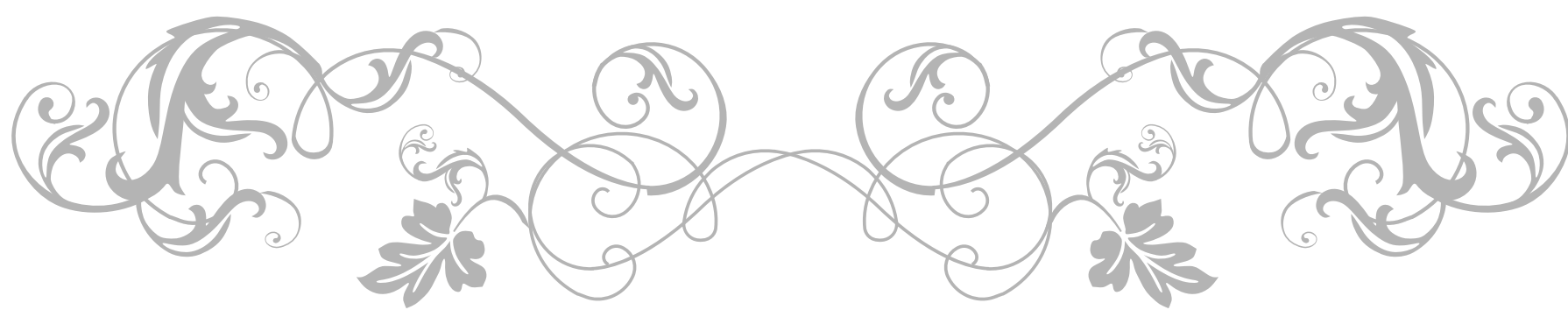
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BOB WORRALL

Bob Worrall is one of North America's leading teachers, adjudicators and performers. Bob is a respected composer, having published three successful collections of bagpipe music. He is featured on three solo piping recordings and was a member of the folk group "Scantily Plaid".

After a piping career with a number of Ontario's leading pipe bands, including the City of Toronto Pipe Band and the General Motors Pipe Band, Bob retired from competitive piping in 1983. His solo accomplishments were extensive, both in North America and Scotland. He won the North American Professional Championship an unprecedented 7 times and the Ontario Professional Championship Supreme title for 12 of his 13 years in the professional class.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

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TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCES

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- Andrew Douglas
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- SFU Pipe Band & Friends

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Audio:

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Lights:

Catie Combs

Desiree Martin

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PERFORMERS



NICK HUDSON

Nick's solo piping highlights include the Clasp, Gold Medal, A MSR, B MSR, and Overall Quaich at the Northern Meeting; 3rd Overall at the Glenfiddich; the Silver Medal at the Argyllshire Gathering; the London Ram's Head Snuff Mull for A-Grade Piobaireachd; twice the Overall A-Grade Winner at the SPSL Contest in London; the Braemar Gold Medal; the Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal (Canada); the US Piping Foundation Overall, Piobaireachd, and MSR on multiple occasions; the Gold Medal MSR at Winter Storm; the Kemble Star for Marches and Peter MacFarquhar Star for Strathspeys & Reels at Skye Gathering in Portree; overall winner of The Livingstone Invitational; and overall winner of The Metro Cup. Nick has recorded a BBC "Pipeline" session and has played at the Piobaireachd Society's annual recital in Edinburgh, and the Capt—John MacLellan Memorial Medal Competition-Recital in Edinburgh.

Nick Hudson teaches piping at St. Thomas' Episcopal School in Houston, Texas.

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PERFORMERS



KERR MCQUILLAN

Kerr McQuillan is the Leading Drummer for the Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band. Kerr took over in 2022, leading the drum corps to win the UK Pipe Band Championships in 2023, the World Pipe Band Championships in 2023, the British Pipe Band Championships in 2024 and taking 1st place as a drum corps at the European Pipe Band Championships in 2024. Having grown up within the Boghall system, Kerr was taught by Tom Brown MBE, Gordon Brown and Stephen McQuillan.

In 2023, in his first attempt, Kerr became the youngest on record to win the adult World Solo Drumming Championships, having previously won eight juvenile world titles in both tenor and snare drum from 2012 until 2022. Kerr has accumulated the titles of 2023 and 2024 Scottish Champion, 2024 European Champion, 2024 Intercontinental Champion and 2024 British Champion, to name a few. These successes, alongside his World Solo win, led to Kerr being named Pipes|Drums Drummer of the Year in 2023.

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PERFORMERS



RODDY MACLEOD, MBE

Roddy MacLeod has won the Glenfiddich Piping Championship five times, won the MSR three times and the Piobaireachd event a record ten times. He has won the Silver Chanter seven times, the Northern Meeting Clasp twice, the Bi-centenary medal (1988) and Former Winners MSR, the Senior Piobaireachd at the Argyllshire Gathering twice and the Former Winner MSR twice. At the Scottish Piping Society of London Championship, he won the Bratach Gorm nine times, the Gillies Cup Open Piobaireachd nine times, the Former Winners London Medallion MSR five times and the Overall Championship eight times.

In 2003, he was made a Member of the British Empire in recognition of his services to piping and received this award at Buckingham Palace from Her Majesty the Queen.

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PERFORMERS



CALLUM BEAUMONT

Callum Beaumont has won almost every major soloist prize including the Glenfiddich, Clasp, and Former Winner's MSR at the Northern Meeting, all in 2023. He has also earned both Highland Society of London Gold Medals, and was the champion piper at the 2019 London events.

Callum lives in Linlithgow, West Lothian and is a piping instructor at Dollar Academy. In addition to his solo piping success, Callum has won the World Pipe Band Championships with Inveraray & District Pipe Band, Simon Fraser University Pipe Band, and Shotts & Dykehead Pipe Band.

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PERFORMERS



ANDREW DOUGLAS

Andrew has been active at the highest level of pipe bands, solo competition, teaching, and creative endeavors for the past 25 years. He is a three-time World Champion with Inveraray and District Pipe Band, the 2017 Winner of the USA Silver Medal for Piobaireachd, 2008–2013 Pipe Major of Grade 1 Oran Mor Pipe Band, multi-prize winner of Silver Medals at Oban and Inverness, the 2004 B-Grade Winner Strathspey/Reel at Oban. Andrew published his debut and award-winning book, *Finding Bagpipe Freedom*, in 2021. He's also an Accredited Bagpipe Teacher and Examiner (Scottish Qualifications Authority) and holds a Bachelor Degree in Fine Arts from Simon Fraser University.

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PERFORMERS



JAKE JØRGENSEN

Originally from Denmark, Jake began learning the drums at age eleven with the Copenhagen Caledonia Pipe Band. In November 2000, Jake moved to Scotland to join the drum corps of Shotts & Dykehead Caledonia Pipe Band, then led by Jim Kilpatrick MBE. The Shotts & Dykehead drum corps won all five major championship titles during this time, including the World Drum Corps Title in 2002, 2003, 2005, and 2014 (plus seven Champion of Champions Drum Corps titles).

In 2014 Jake took on the Leading Drummer position with ScottishPower Pipe Band. In his first season, he led the drum corps to second place in drumming at the Scottish Championships, and an overall fourth in drumming at the World Pipe Band Championships. The drum corps has finished in the top six at all Major Championships. He is a regular finalist at the World Solo Drumming Championships, with his best results to date being third place at the 2015 and 2016 championships.

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PERFORMERS



STEPHEN CREIGHTON

Stephen Creighton is the lead drummer of the current World, UK, and British drumming champions St Laurence O'Toole pipe band from Dublin, Ireland.

Solo honors include 1989 World Junior Champion, 26 World Solo Finals, 5 Senior all Ireland drumming Championships and 3 Ulster Senior Championships. With his corps, Stephen has won 13 Grade 1 all Ireland drumming prizes and was crowned the 2006, 2010, 2015, 2016, 2018 and 2019 World Grade 1 Drumming prize winners.

Currently Stephen has 20 major titles including Europe, Scottish, and British titles. On a local level his drum corps has 13 Grade 1 All Ireland drumming titles. Stephen is married to Amanda and has four children; Stephen Junior, Keith, Glen and Hannah.

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PERFORMERS



OWEN RUSSELL

Owen Russell began tenor drumming at the age of seven under the tuition of Joe Hickey in Minneapolis, MN.

Owen has been a member of the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band for over a decade, and during that time has been fortunate to win the World Drumming prize, back to back, in 2022 and 2023. In 2015, Owen won the Gold Medal Event at Winter Storm.

Owen has a particular love for teaching and has instructed several students to win in all tenor events at Winter Storm and at the RSPBA World Tenor Drumming Solos. Many of Owen's students have now progressed to play in grade one.

Owen is excited to be "home" teaching and thankful to be able to share his passion and knowledge alongside other world-class instructors at one of the largest events in North America.

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PERFORMERS



ANDREW ELLIOTT

Originally from Toronto, Andrew now lives in Houston where he teaches drumming at the Saint Thomas' Episcopal School. As a member of the Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band, Andrew has won every RSPBA major title, including 5 World Pipe Band Championships since joining the band in 2013. As a solo player, Andrew has won the American, Canadian, and North American Championships on numerous occasions as well as being a 9-time Mhaf Gold Medal winner, and the only person to have ever won the Gold in both bass and tenor drumming. Andrew founded Ace Percussion and markets bass sticks, tenor sticks, and accessories globally. Andrew continually develops products and strives to deliver the highest quality bass and tenor products on the market.

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PERFORMERS



KAHLIL CAPPUCCINO

Kahlil Cappuccino began his pipe band/bass drumming career at the age of 17 in 1987, playing in the Glengarry Pipe Band under the leadership of PM Colin MacLellan and winning numerous provincial and national championships in Canada and the USA, and achieving top 4 placing at the World Pipe Band Championships in Grade 2. Kahlil also won several individual awards and was crowned Canadian, American and Northern American "Best Bass" Champion. He has also played with the Grade 2 Canadian Forces Composite Pipe Band from 1998-1999, the Grade 2 Glengarry Pipe until 2004, culminating with Kahlil winning the title "World Champion Bass", the Spirit of Scotland Pipe Band, and the Grade 1 78th Highlanders Halifax Citadel Pipe for the past 20 years.

Kahlil is an accredited bass and tenor adjudicator with the Pipers and Pipe Band Society of Ontario and the Atlantic Canada Pipe Band Association and now sits on the Atlantic Canada Pipe Band Association's, Music Committee.

Kahlil is twice a Midwest Highland Arts Fund Gold Medalist.

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PERFORMERS



GARY WEST

Dr Gary West spent almost three decades as a faculty member of the University of Edinburgh where he was the Head of Celtic and Scottish Studies and where he held a personal Chair in Scottish Ethnology. He is known also as 'the voice of piping' having presented 'Pipeline' on BBC Radio Scotland for two decades before developing his own podcast, 'Enjoy Your Piping'. He is a highly esteemed piper and piping teacher, having won both the Scottish and European Championships with the Vale of Atholl Pipe Band, and is now Pipe Major of the famous Atholl Highlanders Regiment, the private army of the Duke of Atholl. Recognised as one of the world's leading players on Scottish Smallpipes, he has performed, recorded and taught widely across Europe and North America. Gary currently serves as External Examiner for the piping degree at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and was delighted to have been inducted into the Scottish Traditional Music Hall of Fame in 2020.

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PERFORMERS



JACK LEE

In the Pipe Band world: Jack is the Pipe Sergeant and co-founder of the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band. The band has won six World Championships. It has also been an extremely consistent prizewinner at the World Championships during the past 30 years, having won either 1st or 2nd on fifteen occasions. Their youth band (Robert Malcolm Memorial) has won the World Juvenile Championships on four occasions.

On a personal level: Jack, and his brother Terry, were both awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by the Governor General of Canada in 1999 and honorary doctorate degrees from Simon Fraser University. Jack and his sons (Andrew, Colin, and John) operate their family business making bagpipes, pipe bags and chanter reeds. In addition, Jack has made over 7,000 tunes from his own recording archives available on their website – Bagpipemusic.com.

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TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCES

- Winter Storm 2025 Faculty Pipe Band
- Nick Hudson
- Kerr McQuillan
- Roddy MacLeod MBE
- Piobaireachd 'Lament for Mary MacLeod'
- Piper to the End
- Andrew Douglas
- Drumming Showcase featuring Stephen Creighton, Jake Jørgensen, Kerr McQuillan, Andrew Elliot, Kahlil Cappuccino, Owen Russell
- Gary West
- Callum Beaumont
- SFU Pipe Band & Friends

Producers:

Murray Blair

Audio:

Nic Aldrich

Lights:

Catie Combs

Desiree Martin

winter storm 2025

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PERFORMERS



TERRY LEE

Pipe-Major Dr. Terry Lee is one of the most prominent and successful pipe band leaders in the world. Under his direction, the SFU Pipe Band captured the World Pipe Band Championship six times (1995, 1996, 1999, 2001, 2008 and 2009), and is one of only two bands in history to win both the Medley and MSR events at the World Championships more than once (MSR five times, Medley five times). Terry is also one of only seven Pipe Majors to win the World Championship more than twice.

His ability to produce superb band performances in both the contemporary and traditional style, and to significantly enhance the musicality and technique of his players is respected worldwide.

He has been the leader and musical director at the band's concerts in many of the world's most well-known venues including Carnegie Hall and the Lincoln Centre in New York City, the Sydney Opera House, the Royal Glasgow Concert Hall, the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, and many others.

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PERFORMERS



MICHAEL GREY

Michael Grey has four times won the North American Championship, the overall title at the Vancouver Indoor Meet twice, the Piobaireachd Society Gold Medal and that venue's March, Strathspey & Reel and Former Winners' MSR on the same day. In 1989 he won the aggregate championship at the Cowal Highland Gathering. He has seventeen times won the professional Ontario Championship Supreme awards for both classical (pibroch) and light music. In 1995 he won the Toronto Piper's Society Knock-Out final. In 2003 he again won this testing event for the third year in succession.

Michael was founding member of the 1987 World Pipe Band Champion 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band, Pipe Major of Peel Regional Police Pipe Band from 1995 to 1999, the Pipe Seargent of Toronto Police Pipe Band from 2007 to 2013 and a member of the legendary Glasgow Police Pipe Band from November 2013 to August 2018. In September 2023 he was appointed Pipe Major of the 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band, one of five grade one bands in North America.

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PERFORMERS



DONALD MACPHEE

Donald MacPhee is an American that moved to Scotland in 1997. A reed maker for over 20 years. Donald has achieved the pinnacle of success at both the solo and pipe band scene. A Gold Medalist at the Northern Meetings in 2005 and an accumulation of pipe band championships over the course of the past 16 years numbering in 33 major pipe band championship wins including 6 World Pipe Band Championships, 8 Champion of Champion titles and 2 Grand Slams.

Donald holds a Graduate and Senior Teacher's Certificate with the Institute of Piping. He has his Advanced and Teacher's Certificate with the RSPBA. A fully qualified RSPBA Adjudicator and a solo adjudicator on the CPA list of Active Competitive Adjudicators. Donald is also a PDQB Assessor for the RSPBA.

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PERFORMERS



RICHARD PARKES, MBE

Richard has been Pipe Major of 13 time World Champion Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band since 1981, making history by leading FMM to become the most successful pipe band ever to come from Northern Ireland. Richard was honored with an MBE from Her Majesty The Queen in 2004 for recognition of his services to pipe band music in Northern Ireland. In 2019 he was awarded honorary doctorates by Queens University and the University of Ulster in recognition of his contribution to pipe bands, both in Northern Ireland and worldwide.

Richard has always put the band first, but he also managed to win seven All Ireland Senior Solo Championships, eight Northern Ireland Piper of the Year titles, nine Ulster Senior Championships, as well as winning the Strachan in London, the Jig in Inverness and a number of other prizes at major solo competitions.

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PERFORMERS



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY PIPE BAND

The Simon Fraser University Pipe Band, based in Burnaby, British Columbia, has been the World Champions on six occasions, as well as North American and Australian Champions, World Drum Corps Champions on six occasions, and are continually successful in local, national, and international competitions. The band has also performed concerts at some of world's most prestigious performing arts venues including Carnegie Hall, Sydney Opera House, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, and Lincoln Center, creating live recordings at these venues among its 13 albums and 3 videos. The Robert Malcolm Memorial Pipe Bands provide a graduated development system for young pipers and drummers including a band in each of competition grades 5, 4, 3, and 2. Robert Malcolm Memorial Pipe Bands have won World Championships six times in three different grades. All the bands perform in competitions and community events throughout the year and across North America's Pacific Northwest as well as international venues.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

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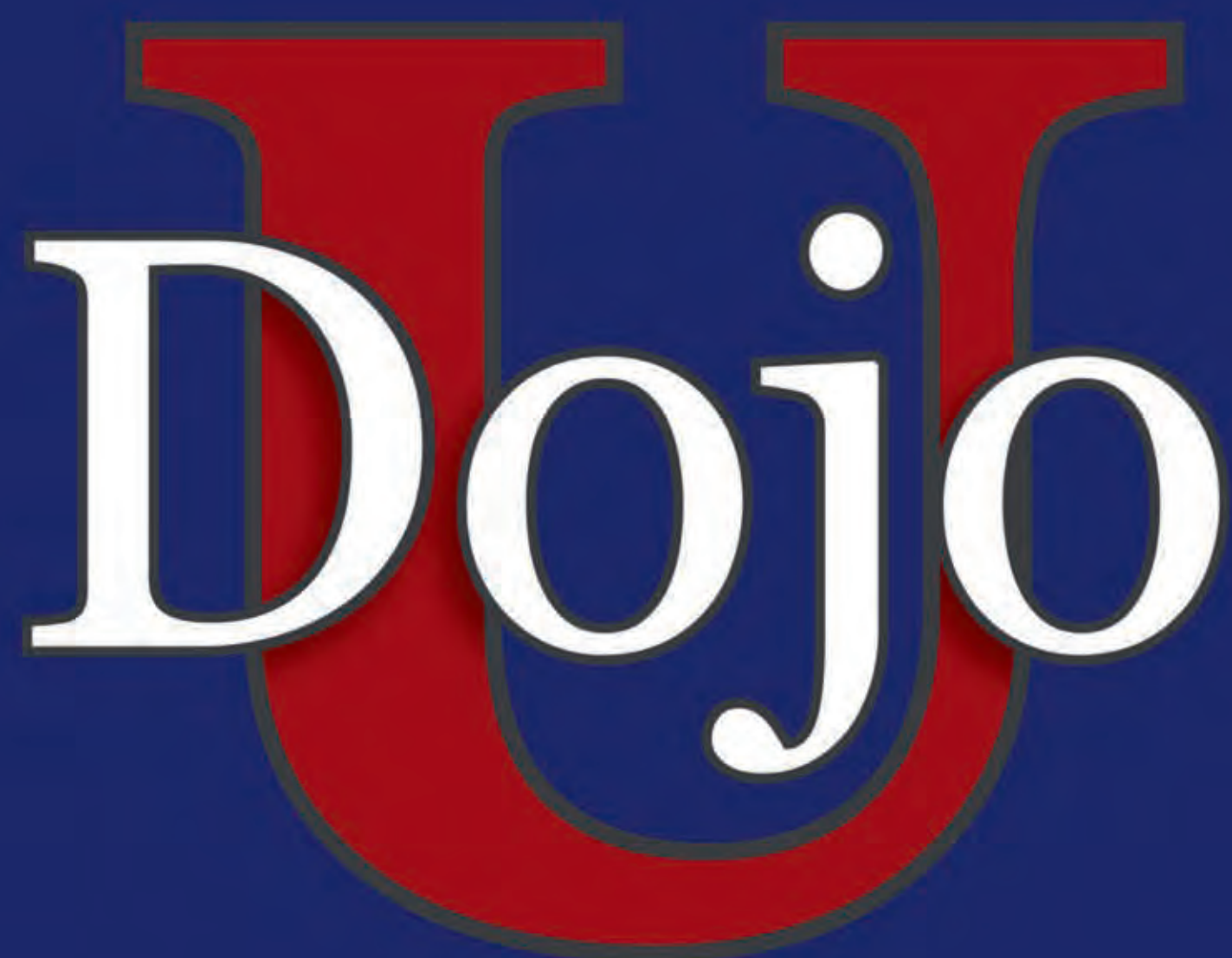
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ACCOMPANISTS



ALEX KULDELL (DJEMBE, ROPE DRUM)

Alex Kuldell began his drumming career in 1986 with the Washington Scottish Pipe Band. Throughout grade school, Kuldell studied with the late Samuel Evans developing his foundation in rudimental drumming while performing with The Patriots of Northern Virginia.

In 1997, Kuldell joined the grade II City of Washington Pipe Band after being recruited by lead drummer Jon Quigg. The band won the 1999 North American Pipe Band Championships and World Pipe Band Championships including taking the best drum corps titles at both events.

Alex joined MacMillan Pipe in 2015 and is the current Lead Drummer. He guested with the City of Dunedin Pipe Band in 2018 winning the grade 2 World Pipe Band Championships including best drum corps.

In August of 2024 he retired from a 20-year career with the U.S. Army's Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps. Currently he continues to be an active solo competitor, educator, and adjudicator with the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association.

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ACCOMPANISTS



CARA WALLINGFORD (KEYBOARDS)

Cara has studied classical piano since age five, beginning her tutelage under Marion Hanson and then later with Scott Anthony at the University of Missouri, Kansas City Conservatory. She attended the University of Colorado, Denver where she continued studying piano as well as recording arts and music business. She worked as a sound engineer in live production for over a decade and has enjoyed playing keys and percussion in numerous alternative, rock, reggae and folk bands in Denver and Kansas City, including Itchy-O, the Kingstonians, and the Biscuit Boys, a KC Celtic folk band with members of the KC St. Andrew Pipes and Drums. Cara has been immersed in the Scottish arts since a young age; she has been a Scottish highland dancer since age seven (her mum said no to learning the bagpipes) and continues to dance with Heartland Highland Dance, a professional Scottish dance group in KC. She has also been a snare drummer with the KC St. Andrew Pipes and Drums for almost 10 years.

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ACCOMPANISTS



GRIFFIN HALL (WHISTLE)

Griffin Hall started playing the bagpipes at age 12 and quickly found himself among his life passion. Griffin's entire career involves teaching the bagpipes, composing and recording music, and working at J. Higgins, LTD, a highly coveted kilt-maker and highland supply shop. He has had notable success in the solo competitions including The Overall Winner of Balmoral Classic in 2014, the Amateur Ceol Mor event at the Metro Cup in 2016, and Grade 1 Overall at Winter Storm in 2019. He is currently the Pipe Seargent of the Kansas City St. Andrews Pipes and Drums and is a front-rank player with the City of Dunedin Pipe Band of Dunedin Florida. Griffin's compositions and arrangements have been played by pipe bands across the globe including the highest level of grade 1 competition. They are also available in his 3 albums "Aspirations", "Intrepid", and "Wild". His YouTube channel also showcases his work in the studio and is his growing creative outlet. Griffin's passion for piping speaks for itself, and he remains a musician to watch.

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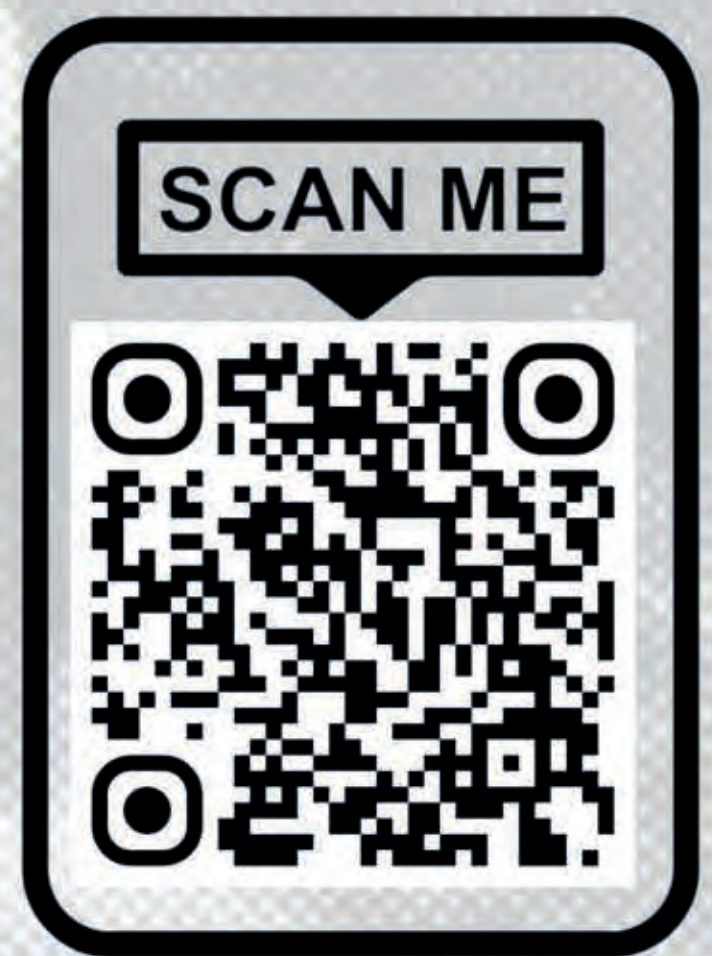
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ACCOMPANISTS



IAN K. MACDONALD (PIPES)

Ian K MacDonald began playing at the age of eight years old and was taught by his father, P/M John MacDonald.

At thirteen he received instruction from Jim McGillivray who introduced Ian to Piobaireachd. This was the year he joined the ranks of the Toronto Police Pipe Band where he has remained a member eventually taking over as Pipe Major from his father in 1996. Ian has recently received instruction from Bill Livingstone and Peter Aumonier.

In 2016 Ian became one of twelve pipers ever to win the "Double" Gold medal in Piobaireachd at Oban and Inverness in the same year capping off one of his finest years in his solo piping career.

In 2019 he joined Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band along with compatriot and long-time friend Sean McKeown and in 2022, they won the World Pipe Band Championships. Ian is currently playing with the 78th Fraser Highlander's.

Ian is a Sergeant with the Toronto Police Service and a proud husband to Brenda, and father to Colin (25), Cameron (23) and Ashlyn (22).

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ACCOMPANISTS



CAMERON BONAR (PIPES)

From Surrey Canada, Cameron Bonar started his piping career at the age of 6 with his father Andrew Bonar. For the past 8 years, he has been fortunate to have Jack Lee as his instructor and mentor. Cameron went through the Robert Malcolm Memorial Band program in grades 5, 4, and 3, and currently plays with the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band. Some of Cameron's recent solo accomplishments include winning Pipe Idol in 2023, winning both Silver Medal events at Winter Storm in 2024, placing first in the B March and second in the B Strathspey and Reel at Oban in 2024, and finishing third overall in the British Columbia Professional Grade Grand Aggregate.

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ACCOMPANISTS



ZEPHAN NICHEL (PIPES)

A grade one band player since 2003, Zephan is currently in his 11th season with the SFU Pipe Band. Zephan is an active open level soloist and has competed at the Argyllshire Gathering in Oban and the Northern Meeting in Inverness several times, winning prizes in both Light Music and Piobaireachd. Zephan works full-time teaching individuals, group classes, pipe bands, and at various piping schools all over North America. He currently teaches beginner bagpiping classes twice a week through the Celtic Arts Foundation in Mount Vernon, WA. He is a new instructor with Dojo University, offering a weekly live smallpipe class. Fun Fact, Zephan's first ever open level competition was at Winter Storm in 2013.

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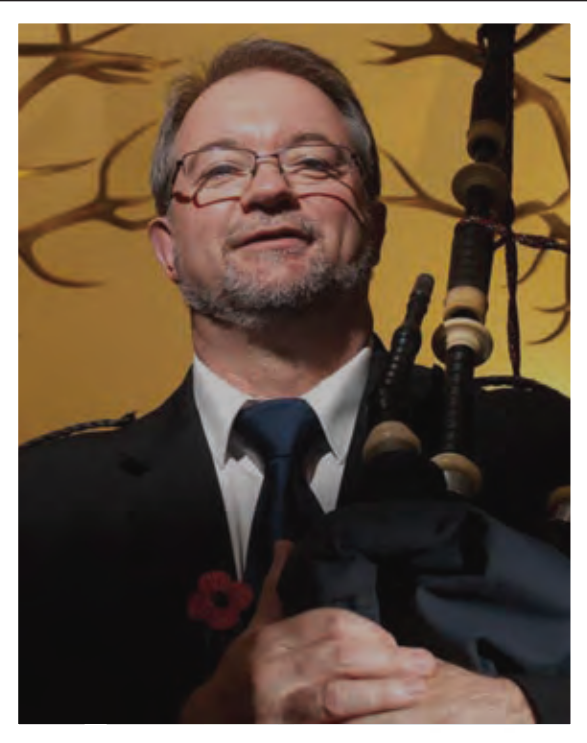
The North American Professional & Amateur
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North American Silver Medal
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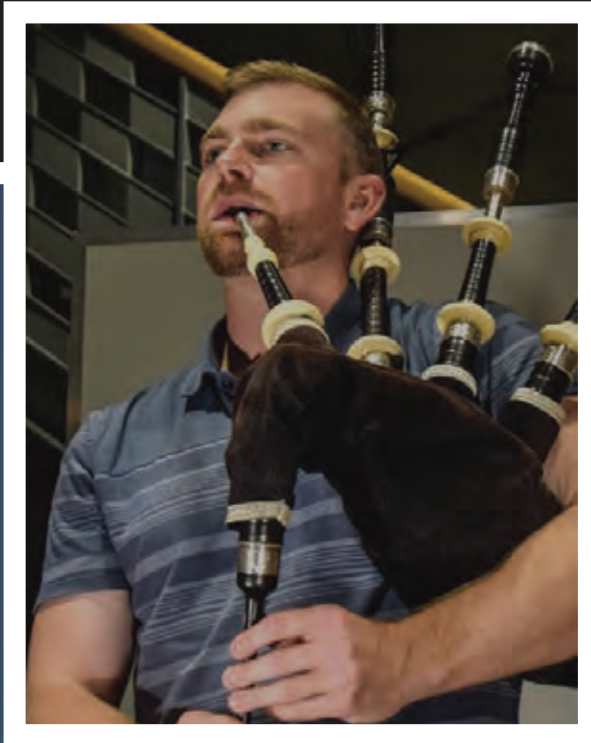
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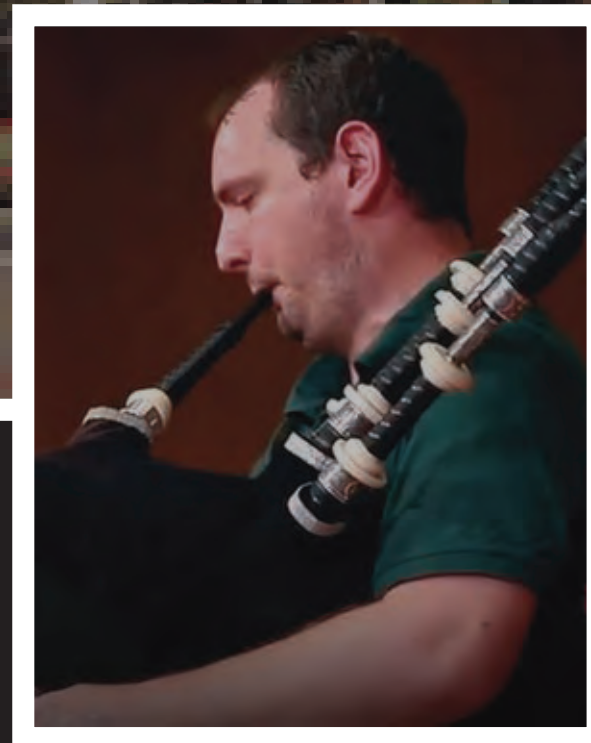
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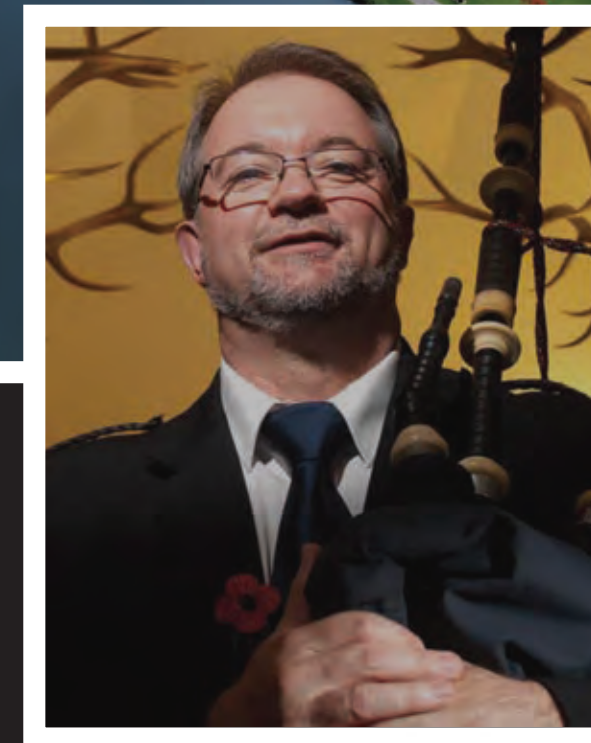
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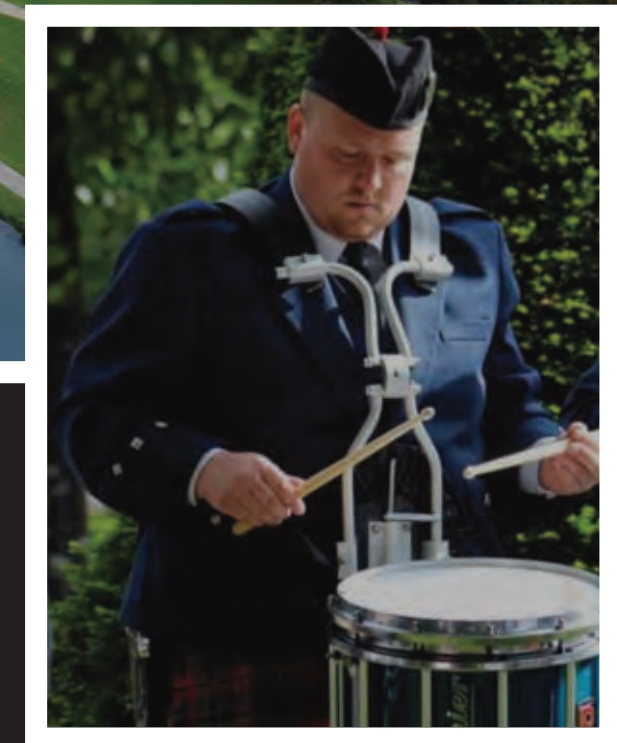
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PennWest-Edinboro
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Gandy



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about midwest highland arts fund & winter storm

Midwest Highland Arts Fund (MHAF) incorporated in 2001 and promotes the Scottish Highland performing arts, primarily through the annual Winter Storm Weekend workshops, concerts, and competitions. A volunteer Board of Directors governs MHAF. Winter Storm events appeal to piping and drumming enthusiasts in the Midwest U.S., North America, and the World. The Internal Revenue Service recognizes Midwest Highland Arts Fund as a tax-exempt organization under IRC § 501 (c)(3), EIN 48-1241277.

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CHARLIE JENKINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

The goal of the foundation is to support and encourage up and coming bagpipers the way Charlie Jenkins did during his lifetime. The foundation awards scholarships each year to Celtic musicians who demonstrate the desire to grow their skills and continue in the musical traditions of their heritage.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on the latest news!
2025 Scholarship Applications are available now - Deadline May 1, 2025!

Two bagpipe and one drumming recipient will be awarded
and sent to Winter Storm 2026!



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