

01|15 - 01|16

2026



competition program

**RG Hardie & Co. and MHAF
United States Gold Medal
Piobaireachd Championship**

**McCallum Bagpipes & MWPBA
United States Silver Medal
Piobaireachd Championship**

**The Tone Protector and MHAF
North American Amateur
Piobaireachd Championships**

Presented by The Tone Protector by BagpipeLessons.com

**Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHAF
North American Gold Medal
Ceol Beag Competition**

**Dojo University and MHAF
North American Silver Medal
Ceol Beag Championship**

Presented by Roddy MacLeod Bagpipes

**Tartantown and MHAF
North American Amateur
Ceol Beag Championships**

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

**The Armstrong, Knox, McDowell, Stanfield, Wells Foundation and MHAF
North American Amateur Grade 4 Bagpipe Championship**

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

**Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHAF
North American Gold Medal
Snare Drumming Championship**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

**GANAAAN Highland Manufacturing and MHAF
North American Amateur
Snare Drumming Championships**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

**Rhythm Monster and MHAF
Gold Medal & Amateur
Tenor Drumming Championship**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion, Ace Percussion

**MassedHead and MHAF
Gold Medal & Amateur
Bass Drumming Championship**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion, Ace Percussion

Your Chance to Win!

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT WINTER STORM: THE PIPES & DRUMS CONCERT IMMEDIATELY AFTER INTERMISSION!

HAND-CRAFTED SGIAN-DUBH

Choice of Bone with Wild Grapevine Handle and Antiqued Scottish Forged Blade **or** Elk Antler with Rough Cedar Handle and Scottish Forged Random-Stripe Damascus Blade.

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TICKETS AVAILABLE

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Steve Denny

DIGITAL BAGPIPE

Features 9 different instruments, vast array of professional sound features such as reverb, metronome, MIDI, vibrato and variable pitch

200

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Blair Bagpipes

YOUR CHOICE OF ANDANTE TENOR DRUM OR SNARE DRUM

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TICKETS AVAILABLE

Generously Sponsored by
**Andante Drums
and Percussion**

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TICKETS AVAILABLE

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R. G. Hardie & Co.

\$20

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PER TICKET**

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NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.**

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World-class sound you can play anywhere, anytime.

Connect headphones or a speaker, and choose up to 9* different Bagpipes to play, all in Stereo.

Features & Sounds:

- Great Highland Bagpipe
- Smallpipe in A, C & D
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*No of instruments depends on file size & memory

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piping competitions

SECTION ORDER:

The United States Gold Medal
Piobaireachd Competition

The United States Silver Medal
Piobaireachd Competition

The North American Amateur
Piobaireachd Competition

The North American Gold Medal
Ceol Beag Championships

North American Silver Medal
Ceol Beag Championship

The North American Amateur
Ceol Beag Championships

The North American Amateur
Grade 4 Bagpipe Championship

[QUICK LINK TO
DRUMMING SECTION](#)

[QUICK LINK TO
ABOUT MHAFF SECTION](#)



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R.G. Hardie & Co. – Midwest Highland Arts Fund

UNITED STATES GOLD MEDAL

Piobaireachd Championship

JUDGES:



BILL CAUDILL

As a solo competitor he won season championships in all amateur grades in EUSPBA before embarking on a successful prize-winning career as a Professional soloist in 1989.

During his Professional career he was ranked among the top 5 Professional competitors in EUSPBA for 18 years consecutively. For 28 years inclusive he received the "Best Carolinas Piper" Award at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games as well as numerous "Piper of the Day" awards at Games throughout the EUSPBA. He joined the Grandfather Mountain Highlanders in 1982 and served as Pipe Major of the band 1987-1991 during their time in Grade II.

Bill has served as Director of the Scottish Heritage Center and Instructor of the Pipe Band at St. Andrews University in Laurinburg, taught at the North American Academy of Piping and Drumming in NC for 29 years and was a 36-year member of the faculty of St. Andrews University in North Carolina. He currently instructs at the Florida School of Piping and Drumming, and is serving in his second term as President of both the EUSPBA as well as ANAPBA.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS:

1. Matt Pantaleoni
2. Edward McIlwaine
3. Blaise Theriault
4. Alastair Lee
5. Joe Biggs
6. Michael Rogers
7. Derek Midgley
8. Cameron Bonar
9. Angus MacPhee
10. Cameron Macdougall
11. Zephan Knichel
12. Andrew Donlon
13. Andrew Lewis
14. Ben McClamrock

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R.G. Hardie & Co. – Midwest Highland Arts Fund

UNITED STATES GOLD MEDAL

Piobaireachd Championship

JUDGES:



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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R.G. Hardie & Co. – Midwest Highland Arts Fund

UNITED STATES GOLD MEDAL

Piobaireachd Championship

JUDGES:



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 "Scantly 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. He was also the 1977 winner of the March and Strathspey/Reel events in Inverness. He was a pupil of Bill Millar, Willie Connell and the late John Wilson.

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R.G. Hardie & Co. – Midwest Highland Arts Fund

UNITED STATES GOLD MEDAL

Piobaireachd Championship

ABOUT THE GOLD MEDAL

The Twenty-First Annual R.G. Hardie & Co. – Midwest Highland Arts Fund United States Gold Medal Piobaireachd Championship will be held January 16, 2026, at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza, in Kansas City.

The R.G. Hardie & Co. – Midwest Highland Arts Fund Gold Medal (USA), 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) diameter of gold-plated metal featuring the MHAF logo on the obverse, will be awarded to the day's Champion in Piobaireachd. Prize moneys include First winning USD \$750, Second \$500, and Third \$250. R.G. Hardie & Co. will also present prizes to the runners-up. Competitors must be eligible to apply for the Gold Medal competitions at Oban or Inverness, or be prior winners of the McCallum Bagpipes-MWPBA Silver Medal. Competitors must submit four tunes of their own choice. Competitors will be notified of the selected tune prior to entering the final tuning-room.

The aggregate winner of the United States Gold Medal Piobaireachd Championship and the United States Gold Medal Ceol Beag Championship will be awarded up to \$1,500 USD for travel to Scotland to participate in professional solo events, or to travel back to Kansas City to compete at Winter Storm 2027. In the event of a tie, the United States Gold Medal Piobaireachd Championship will govern.

ABOUT R.G. HARDIE & CO.

R. G. Hardie & Co. are manufacturers and suppliers of Highland Bagpipes, Piping Accessories, and Pipe Band Highland wear. R. G. Hardie was formed in 1950, since 1972 incorporating Peter Henderson, Ltd. (established 1868); over 100 years have been dedicated to making the finest highland bagpipes in the world.

In 2015 R.G. Hardie & Co. and Gaelic Themes merged to become trading divisions of St. Kilda Holdings Ltd. The company now employs 50 people selling bagpipes and highland wear around the world.

Since 2005 R.G. Hardie & Co. has sponsored Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band and during this period, the band has seen more success on the competitive circuit than ever before in its history. The band assists R.G. Hardie in developing products for the pipe band market and almost half the pipe corps play bagpipes crafted by the company.

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the midwest pipe band association

www.mwpba.org

The MWPBA is a major sponsor of Winter Storm

Terry McHugh Memorial Amateur Solos

Chicago – Saturday, March 21, 2026

Ohio Scottish Games Indoor Competition

Wooster, OH – Saturday, March 28, 2026

PM Ian Swinton Open Professional Solos

Chicago – Saturday, May 2, 2026

MWPBA 2026 Regular Season

St. Louis (May 16) • **Alma** (May 23) • **Milwaukee** (June 6)
Chicago (June 12-13) • **Ohio** (June 27) • **Minnesota** (July 18)
Wisconsin (Sept 5) • **Tulsa** (September 19)

MWPBA 2025 Band Champions Supreme



Grade 2
***Midlothian
Scottish***



Grade 3
***Macalester
College***



Grade 4
***Chicago
Stockyard Kilty***



Grade 5
***Grand
Traverse***

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McCallum Bagpipes and MWPBA
UNITED STATES SILVER MEDAL
**Piobaireachd
Championship**

JUDGES:



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.

As a Teacher: Jack's dedicates many hours per week to private instruction at home and online around the world via Skype. Several of Jack's students have gone on to win major solo prizes in Scotland.

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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COMPETITORS:

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2. Justin Howland
3. Jamie Cuthill
4. Thomas Cangelosi
5. Gillian Blaney
6. Colin Forrest
7. Joseph Stewart
8. David McNally
9. Connor Eckert
10. Dan Lyden
11. Ryan Praskovich
12. Aidan Bowen
13. Teddy Krogh
14. Malachi Johannsen
15. Zak Read
16. Mark Elliott
17. Mary Wallace
18. George Gerules
19. Ross Barker
20. Jack Williamson
21. William Shropshire
22. Kayleigh Johnstone
23. Bobby Durning
24. Micah Babinski
25. Austin Diepenhorst
26. Peter Skae
27. Hugh Dowell
28. Magnus Stone
29. Alastair Murray

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McCallum Bagpipes and MWPBA
UNITED STATES SILVER MEDAL
**Piobaireachd
Championship**

JUDGES:



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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McCallum Bagpipes and MWPBA
UNITED STATES SILVER MEDAL
**Piobaireachd
Championship**

JUDGES:



WILLIE MCCALLUM

A native of Campbeltown, Kintyre, the McCallum family can trace their piping directly back to John McAlister who won the prize pipe in 1782 at the Falkirk Tryst.

He has won almost every prize available including both Gold Medals, Former Winners MSR at Oban five times and Inverness four times, the Senior Piobaireachd at Oban three times, Silver Chanter three times, Bratach Gorm four times and the Glenfiddich Championship eight times. In 2018 he qualified for the Glenfiddich for the 25th time in succession.

In 2019, Willie was appointed by the National Piping Centre as Lead Bagpipe Tutor on the prestigious Bachelor of Music Education Degree which is run by the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. He has played for HM Queen Elizabeth at Balmoral Castle, as well as regularly for HRH Prince Charles.

Willie runs Willie McCallum Piping selling mainly his own McCallum McC² Solo Pipe Chanter.

Willie lives in Bearsden with his wife Christine and children Hailey and Scott.

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McCallum Bagpipes and MWPBA
UNITED STATES SILVER MEDAL
**Piobaireachd
Championship**

ABOUT THE SILVER MEDAL

The Twenty-Second Annual McCallum Bagpipes & MidWest Pipe Band Association United States Silver Medal Piobaireachd Championship will be held January 16, 2026, at the Marriott-Country Club Plaza, in Kansas City. The contest will begin at approximately 8:00 a.m.

The McCallum & MWPBA Silver Medal (USA), 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) diameter featuring the ancient MacCrimmon piper and "MidWest Pipe Band Association" on the obverse, and the Mhaf logo on the reverse, will be awarded to the day's champion in Piobaireachd. Prize moneys include First winning USD \$750 through Fifth \$100. The Silver Medal Champion will also be awarded a set of Duncan MacRae Bagpipes (developed by Stuart Liddell and McCallum Bagpipes), courtesy of Kenny MacLeod and McCallum Bagpipes. Top five finishers receive Willie McCallum Kintyre practice chanters. Open to pipers professional/open by their regional pipe band associations, the piper must submit four tunes of their own choice; Competitors will be notified of the selected tune prior to entering the final tuning room.

ABOUT MCCALLUM BAGPIPES

McCallum Bagpipes has grown in a short period of time into one of the world's leading bagpipe makers. Started in 1998 with 3 people, it now employs over 25. McCallum's state of the art facility produces over forty sets of bagpipes every week, along with pipe chanters, practice chanters, and smallpipes.

McCallum Bagpipes supports piping events worldwide and has been a stalwart sponsor of Winter Storm, and the Silver Medal event.

ABOUT MIDWEST PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION

MidWest Pipe Band Association formed in 1964 with ten pipe bands; membership currently covers fifteen states, with over 50 bands and 300 solo pipers and drummers. Committed to consistency and excellence in grading standards, MWPBA fosters piping by overseeing a dozen sanctioned games in the Midwest yearly.

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- Spend less time tuning and more time playing.

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- Tone Protector™ Reed Case
- Tone Protector™ for Drones
- Tone Protector™ Reed Safe

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 Chris Armstrong • Nick Hudson
 Alan Bevan • Alasdair Henderson
 Cameron Drummond • Craig Sutherland
 Iain Speirs • Ian K. MacDonald
 Bruce Gandy • Alastair Lee
 Alastair Murray • Andrew Carlisle
 Andrew Donlon • Ben Duncan
 Bill Geddes • Bobby Allen
 Bobby Durning • Brendon Eade
 Brody Watson-Massey • Callum Brown
 Callum Watson • Callum Wynd
 Cameron Bonar • Cameron MacDougall
 Connor Sinclair • Craig Muirhead
 Dan Lyden • Darach Urquhart
 Derek Midgley • Ed McIlwaine
 Jack Williamson • James MacHattie
 Joe Biggs • John Dew • Keith Bowe
 Matt MacIsaac • Ross Miller
 Sandy Cameron • Sarah Muir
 Sean McKeown • Steven Leask
 Thomas Congelosi • Willie Rowe
 Zephan Knichel • and more...



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The Tone Protector and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Piobaireachd
Championships**

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JUDGES (GRADE 1):



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

**COMPETITORS
(GRADE 1):**

1. Alexander Walker
2. Luke Ashton
3. Steven McElhaney
4. Mihir Zambre
5. Andrew Zhao
6. Colin Richdale
7. Abigail Long
8. Matthew Launer
9. Ray Flanagan
10. Jacob Bowers
11. Logan Gorsuch
12. Greg Bowen
13. Erin Bell
14. Michael Saxer
15. Kevin Neveau
16. Tak Tang
17. Aaron Malcomb
18. Ian Minnear
19. Jack Martin
20. Jennifer Piccione
21. Evan MacKay
22. Flora Stone
23. Alex Pavlovic
24. John Hughes
25. John Bertino
26. Ethan DesChamps
27. Olivia Corcoran
28. Henry McCarthy

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The Tone Protector and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Piobaireachd
Championships**

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The Tone Protector and MHAFF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Piobaireachd
Championships**

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JUDGES (GRADE 2):



BILL CAUDILL

As a solo competitor he won season championships in all amateur grades in EUSPBA before embarking on a successful prize-winning career as a Professional soloist in 1989.

During his Professional career he was ranked among the top 5 Professional competitors in EUSPBA for 18 years consecutively. For 28 years inclusive he received the "Best Carolinas Piper" Award at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games as well as numerous "Piper of the Day" awards at Games throughout the EUSPBA. He joined the Grandfather Mountain Highlanders in 1982 and served as Pipe Major of the band 1987-1991 during their time in Grade II.

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(GRADE 2):**

1. Stephen Anderson
2. Meghan McElhinney
3. Bridget Englebretson
4. Jacob Layrock
5. Stella Jacoby
6. Ryan Behnke
7. Sylvia Thiessen
8. Agustin Arguelles
9. Robbie Rogers
10. Sheldon Birkett
11. Jacob Bowers
12. Amy Howard
13. Kim Greeley
14. Eddie Selden
15. Brandon Ward
16. Janna Freed
17. Brigitta Benroth

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The Tone Protector and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Piobaireachd
Championships**

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JUDGES (GRADE 2):



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.

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2. Meghan McElhinney
3. Bridget Englebretson
4. Jacob Layrock
5. Stella Jacoby
6. Ryan Behnke
7. Sylvia Thiessen
8. Agustin Arguelles
9. Robbie Rogers
10. Sheldon Birkett
11. Jacob Bowers
12. Amy Howard
13. Kim Greeley
14. Eddie Selden
15. Brandon Ward
16. Janna Freed
17. Brigitta Benroth

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



The Tone Protector and MHA
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Piobaireachd
Championships**

Presented by The Tone Protector by BagpipeLessons.com

JUDGES (GRADE 3):



MARGARET HOULIHAN

From 10 years of age Margaret has been a part of her local pipe band, the Cullen Pipe Band. In 2006, Margaret returned as Pipe Major and led the band to a Grade 3B win at the World Pipe Band Championships in 2007. The band progressed to grade 2, where they won the All-Ireland Pipe Band Championships in 2013.

In 1998, Margaret joined the Shotts and Dykehead Caledonia Pipe Band, under Pipe Major Robert Mathieson, and with them won the World Pipe Band Championships in Grade 1 in 2000 (returning in 2023, under Pipe Major Emmett Conway).

Some of her prizes to date include: 1st MacGregor Memorial Piobaireachd (22 and under) Argyllshire Gathering (1999); 1st B Grade March, Argyllshire Gathering (1999); 1st Strachan Memorial A MSR, London (2000); 1st Duncan Johnstone Memorial Piobaireachd (2001); 1st A Grade Strathspey and Reel, Argyllshire Gathering (2003).

Margaret is an integral part of the National Piping Centre and additionally has a key role in facilitating the Competition League of Amateur Solo Pipers (The CLASP).

Margaret is also a proud mum to Callum (15) and Rory (13).

ORDER OF PLAY

**COMPETITORS
(GRADE 3):**

1. Daniel Paterson
2. Michael Braunsky
3. Eden Svangtun
4. Allison Hildebrand
5. Cliff Ermatinger
6. Olivia Boydston
7. Christopher Spagnolo
8. Justice Peterson
9. Patrick Neff
10. Sebastião Ribeiro
11. Steven Coontz
12. Eileen Howe
13. Eric Poleski
14. Kimberly Meek
15. Andra Stoller
16. Paul Dailey
17. Michelle Blam
18. Hunter Nichols
19. Jonathan Gobert
20. Keegan Beard

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



The Tone Protector and MHAFF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Piobaireachd
Championships**

Presented by The Tone Protector by BagpipeLessons.com

JUDGES (GRADE 3):



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

**COMPETITORS
(GRADE 3):**

1. Daniel Paterson
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The Tone Protector and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Piobaireachd
Championships**

Presented by The Tone Protector by BagpipeLessons.com

ABOUT THE AMATEUR PIOBAIREACHD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Midwest Highland Arts Fund North American Amateur Piobaireachd Championships will be held January 15, 2026 at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza, in Kansas City. The age of the Competitor in Amateur Grades 1, 2, and 3 will not be restricted. Depending upon the grade, the Competitor must submit one, two, or three tunes. Pipers placing First through Third in the three grades will win the MHAF North American Amateur Medal. The bronze medals are 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) in diameter, featuring the MHAF logo. In addition, pipers placing First through Third in the three grades will be awarded the Tone Protector Digital Chanter Cap with Two-Way Humidity Control and the InTune Mic: Wireless Clip-on Instrument Microphone for Smartphones.

ABOUT TONE PROTECTOR

The Tone Protector is an award-winning, best-selling and patented series of products, highly trusted by pipers and pipe bands across the globe for maintaining their reeds in prime playing condition. The Tone Protector Chanter Cap and Reed Case utilize advanced two-way humidity control technology that maintains a consistent and precisely chosen humidity level, ensuring stable, optimal reed performance, improved sound quality, reduced tuning time, and reeds that last to 3-4 times longer. Invented by Jori Chisholm, the Tone Protector has become an essential product in the piping world, contributing significantly to hundreds of wins at prestigious piping competitions worldwide. Available from ToneProtector.com.

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Without the generosity of our donors and volunteers, our workshops and concerts would not be possible. Midwest Highland Arts Fund is recognized by the IRS as a nonprofit organization, making all donations tax-deductible. We are dependent and appreciative of donations of all sizes. Donations can be sent through PayPal to www.mhaf.org. Our tax identification number is 48-1241277.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS (GRADE 1):

1. Alexander Walker
2. Luke Ashton
3. Steven McElhaney
4. Mihir Zambre
5. Andrew Zhao
6. Colin Richdale
7. Abigail Long
8. Matthew Launer
9. Ray Flanagan
10. Jacob Bowers
11. Logan Gorsuch
12. Greg Bowen
13. Erin Bell
14. Michael Saxer
15. Kevin Neveau
16. Tak Tang
17. Aaron Malcomb
18. Ian Minnear
19. Jack Martin
20. Jennifer Piccione
21. Evan MacKay
22. Flora Stone
23. Alex Pavlovic
24. John Hughes
25. John Bertino
26. Ethan DesChamps
27. Olivia Corcoran
28. Henry McCarthy

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Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHA
NORTH AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL

Ceol Beag Competition

JUDGES:



CALLUM BEAUMONT

Callum resides in Guardbridge, Fife, with his wife Eilidh.

Callum is a full time member of staff at Dollar Academy where he leads the Novice A pipe band. During his time at the school so far, the band have accumulated over 20 major championship wins. Outside of school, Callum runs his own teaching business and is fortunate to have dedicated and successful students worldwide.

Callum has had an extremely successful solo career to-date, winning many of the world's top prizes. Prizes have included; The Glenfiddich, The Clasp, 5 times, The Silver Star at the Northern Meeting and the overall at the Scottish Piping Society of London, 5 times.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS:

1. Alastair Lee
2. Cameron Bonar
3. Ben McClamrock
4. Cameron Macdougall
5. Derek Midgley
6. Austin Diepenhorst
7. Andrew Donlon
8. Ryan Praskovich
9. Jack Williamson
10. Joe Biggs
11. Angus MacPhee

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Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHAFF
NORTH AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL

Ceol Beag Competition

JUDGES:



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS:

1. Alastair Lee
2. Cameron Bonar
3. Ben McClamrock
4. Cameron Macdougall
5. Derek Midgley
6. Austin Diepenhorst
7. Andrew Donlon
8. Ryan Praskovich
9. Jack Williamson
10. Joe Biggs
11. Angus MacPhee

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Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHA
NORTH AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL

Ceol Beag Competition

JUDGES:



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS:

1. Alastair Lee
2. Cameron Bonar
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winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL

Ceol Beag Competition

ABOUT THE CEOL BEAG GOLD MEDAL COMPETITION

The Eighteenth Annual Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply – Midwest Highland Arts Fund North American Gold Medal Ceol Beag Championship will be held January 16, 2026, at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza, in Kansas City. The contest will begin at approximately 2:00 p.m.

The Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply – Midwest Highland Arts Fund Gold Medal (USA), 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) diameter gold plated metal featuring the Henderson logo on the obverse, and the MHAF logo on the reverse, will be awarded to the day's Champion. Prize moneys include First winning USD \$750, Second \$500, and Third \$250. The event is open to pipers eligible to compete for the A Grade or Premier Grade medal competitions at Oban or Inverness. The Judges will choose a march, a strathspey, and a reel from five submitted by the Competitor, with the three highest scores determining prize placing.

The aggregate winner of the United States Gold Medal Piobaireachd Championship and the United States Gold Medal Ceol Beag Championship will be awarded up to \$1,500 USD for air travel from North America to Scotland to participate in professional solo events, or to travel back to Kansas City to compete at Winter Storm 2027. In the event of a tie, the United States Gold Medal Piobaireachd Championship will govern.

ABOUT HENDERSON'S PIPE & DRUM SUPPLY

Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply stocks a complete selection of top brand pipes, drums, and uniforms, but more importantly has the knowledge and experience to serve you. Their friendly staff is always ready to help!

Named in tribute to great-grandfather Alexander Henderson, James Moore founded the company in the mid-1990s, and promotes and preserves traditional Scottish culture through clinics, competitions, and service.

ORDER OF PLAY

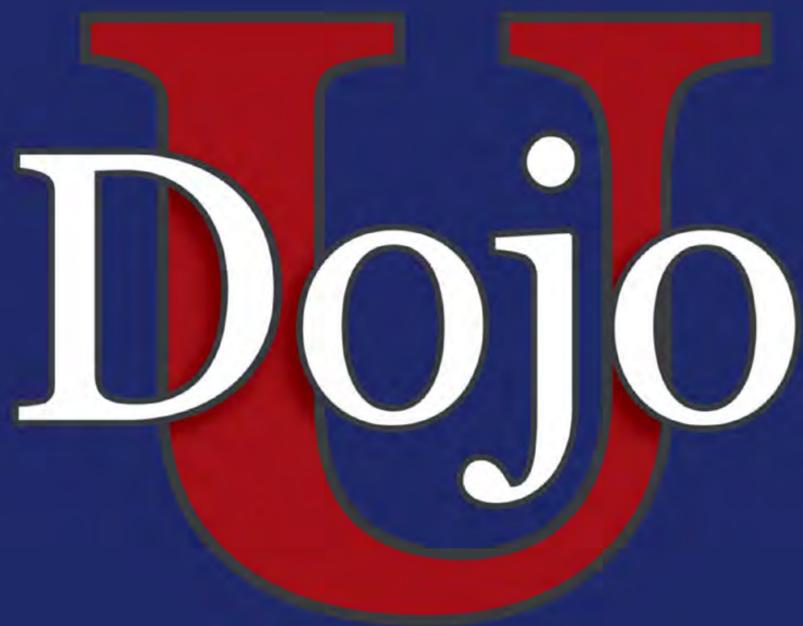
COMPETITORS:

1. Alastair Lee
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6. Austin Diepenhorst
7. Andrew Donlon
8. Ryan Praskovich
9. Jack Williamson
10. Joe Biggs
11. Angus MacPhee



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DOJO UNIVERSITY

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Dojo University and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN SILVER MEDAL

Ceol Beag Championship

Presented by Roddy MacLeod Bagpipes

JUDGES:



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS:

1. Mary Wallace
2. Magnus Stone
3. Hugh Dowell
4. Andrew Lewis
5. Andrew Hutton
6. Gillian Blaney
7. Connor Eckert
8. Colin Forrest
9. Thomas Cangelosi
10. Gerules George
11. William Shropshire
12. Micah Babinski
13. Ross Barker
14. Malachi Johannsen
15. Edward McIlwaine
16. Teddy Krogh
17. Zephan Knichel
18. Michael Rogers
19. Matt Pantaleoni
20. Blaise Theriault
21. David McNally
22. Mark Elliott
23. Dan Lyden
24. Zak Read
25. Brennan Foley
26. Alastair Murray
27. Joseph Stewart
28. Aidan Bowen
29. Kayleigh Johnstone
30. Bobby Durning
31. Justin Howland
32. Bill Peters
33. Peter Skae

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Dojo University and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN SILVER MEDAL

Ceol Beag Championship

Presented by Roddy MacLeod Bagpipes

JUDGES:



MARGARET HOULIHAN

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Margaret is an integral part of the National Piping Centre and additionally has a key role in facilitating the Competition League of Amateur Solo Pipers (The CLASP).

Margaret is also a proud mum to Callum (15) and Rory (13).

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Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Dojo University and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN SILVER MEDAL

Ceol Beag Championship

Presented by Roddy MacLeod Bagpipes

JUDGES:



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

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winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Dojo University and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN SILVER MEDAL

Ceol Beag Championship

Presented by Roddy MacLeod Bagpipes

ABOUT THE CEOL BEAG SILVER MEDAL COMPETITION

The Fourth Annual North American Silver Medal Ceol Beag Championship will be held January 16, 2026, at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza, in Kansas City. The contest will begin at 8:00 a.m.

The North American Silver Medal Ceol Beag Silver Medal, 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) featuring the MHAF logo will be awarded to the day's Champion. Prize moneys include First winning USD \$750, Second \$500, and Third \$250. Pipers graded Open/Professional by their Pipe Band Association are eligible to compete. The Judges will choose a march, a strathspey, and a reel from four submitted by the Competitor, with the three highest scores determining prize placing.

ABOUT DOJO UNIVERSITY

Dojo University is an online bagpipe school where pipers of any level can study the essential fundamentals they need to become great musicians.

More importantly though, they're a community organized around a simple idea - that the bagpipes are the ultimate tool to develop and to explore your own unique creative voice.

SUPPORT MIDWEST HIGHLAND ARTS FUND!

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ORDER OF PLAY

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8. Colin Forrest
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10. Gerules George
11. William Shropshire
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14. Malachi Johannsen
15. Edward McIlwaine
16. Teddy Krogh
17. Zephan Knichel
18. Michael Rogers
19. Matt Pantaleoni
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29. Kayleigh Johnstone
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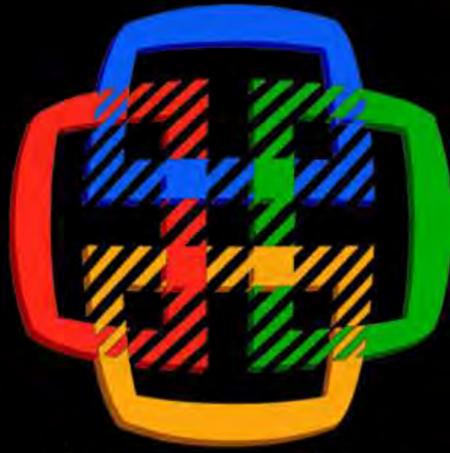
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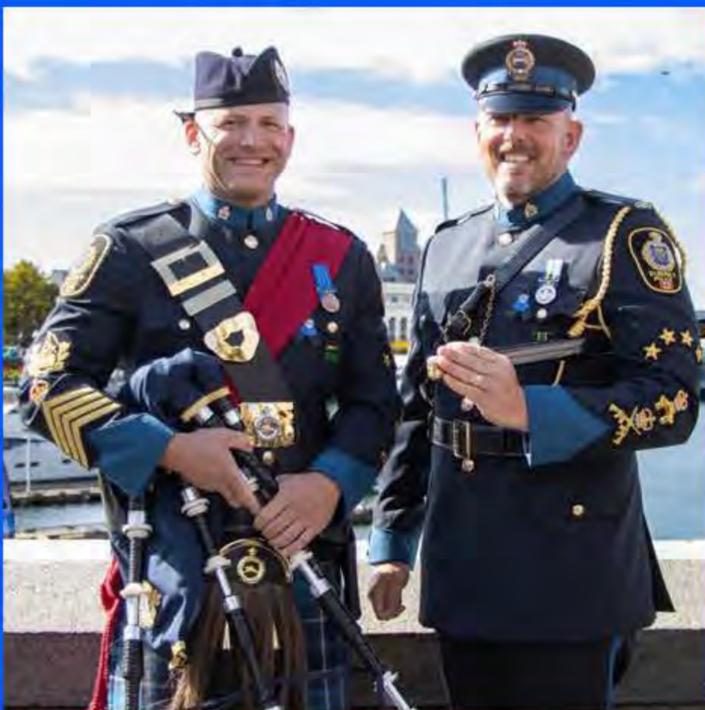
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NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Ceol Beag
Championships**

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JUDGES (GRADE 1):



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

**COMPETITORS
(GRADE 1):**

1. Evan MacKay
2. John Bertino
3. Steven McElhaney
4. Ethan DesChamps
5. Alexander Walker
6. Aaron Malcomb
7. Michael Saxer
8. Colin Richdale
9. Erin Bell
10. Mihir Zambre
11. Logan Gorsuch
12. Ian Minnear
13. Olivia Corcoran
14. Andrew Zhao
15. Abigail Long
16. Alex Pavlovic
17. Paul Mackay
18. Kevin Neveau
19. Matthew Launer
20. Beatrix Carter
21. Greg Bowen
22. Henry McCarthy
23. Flora Stone
24. Jack Martin
25. Ray Flanagan
26. Luke Ashton
27. Jennifer Piccione
28. John Hughes
29. Duncan McCorkell
30. Jacob Bowers

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Tartantown and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Ceol Beag
Championships**

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

JUDGES (GRADE 1):



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. He was also the 1977 winner of the March and Strathspey/Reel events in Inverness. He was a pupil of Bill Millar, Willie Connell and the late John Wilson.

ORDER OF PLAY

**COMPETITORS
(GRADE 1):**

1. Evan MacKay
2. John Bertino
3. Steven McElhaney
4. Ethan DesChamps
5. Alexander Walker
6. Aaron Malcomb
7. Michael Saxer
8. Colin Richdale
9. Erin Bell
10. Mihir Zambre
11. Logan Gorsuch
12. Ian Minnear
13. Olivia Corcoran
14. Andrew Zhao
15. Abigail Long
16. Alex Pavlovic
17. Paul Mackay
18. Kevin Neveau
19. Matthew Launer
20. Beatrix Carter
21. Greg Bowen
22. Henry McCarthy
23. Flora Stone
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25. Ray Flanagan
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Tartantown and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Ceol Beag
Championships**

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

JUDGES (GRADE 2):



CALLUM BEAUMONT

Callum resides in Guardbridge, Fife, with his wife Eilidh.

Callum is a full time member of staff at Dollar Academy where he leads the Novice A pipe band. During his time at the school so far, the band have accumulated over 20 major championship wins. Outside of school, Callum runs his own teaching business and is fortunate to have dedicated and successful students worldwide.

Callum has had an extremely successful solo career to-date, winning many of the world's top prizes. Prizes have included; The Glenfiddich, The Clasp, 5 times, The Silver Star at the Northern Meeting and the overall at the Scottish Piping Society of London, 5 times.

ORDER OF PLAY

**COMPETITORS
(GRADE 2):**

1. Brandon Ward
2. Silas Neale
3. Meghan McElhinney
4. Jacob Bowers
5. Christopher Spagnolo
6. Janna Freed
7. Stella Jacoby
8. Jacob Layrock
9. Sylvia Thiessen
10. Sheldon Birkett
11. Bridget Englebretson
12. Tak Tang
13. Justice Peterson
14. Agustin Arguelles
15. Orin Weiss
16. Anthony St Clair
17. Amy Howard
18. Kim Greeley
19. Robbie Rogers
20. Sebastião Ribeiro
21. James Douglas
22. Ryan Behnke

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Tartantown and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Ceol Beag
Championships**

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

JUDGES (GRADE 2):



WILLIE MCCALLUM

A native of Campbeltown, Kintyre, the McCallum family can trace their piping directly back to John McAlister who won the prize pipe in 1782 at the Falkirk Tryst.

He has won almost every prize available including both Gold Medals, Former Winners MSR at Oban five times and Inverness four times, the Senior Piobaireachd at Oban three times, Silver Chanter three times, Bratach Gorm four times and the Glenfiddich Championship eight times. In 2018 he qualified for the Glenfiddich for the 25th time in succession.

In 2019, Willie was appointed by the National Piping Centre as Lead Bagpipe Tutor on the prestigious Bachelor of Music Education Degree which is run by the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. He has played for HM Queen Elizabeth at Balmoral Castle, as well as regularly for HRH Prince Charles.

Willie runs Willie McCallum Piping selling mainly his own McCallum McC² Solo Pipe Chanter.

Willie lives in Bearsden with his wife Christine and children Hailey and Scott.

ORDER OF PLAY

**COMPETITORS
(GRADE 2):**

1. Brandon Ward
2. Silas Neale
3. Meghan McElhinney
4. Jacob Bowers
5. Christopher Spagnolo
6. Janna Freed
7. Stella Jacoby
8. Jacob Layrock
9. Sylvia Thiessen
10. Sheldon Birkett
11. Bridget Englebretson
12. Tak Tang
13. Justice Peterson
14. Agustin Arguelles
15. Orin Weiss
16. Anthony St Clair
17. Amy Howard
18. Kim Greeley
19. Robbie Rogers
20. Sebastião Ribeiro
21. James Douglas
22. Ryan Behnke

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Tartantown and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Ceol Beag
Championships**

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

JUDGE (GRADE 3):



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

**COMPETITORS
(GRADE 3):**

1. Eddie Selden
2. Steven Coontz
3. Adrian Terkelson
4. Eric Poleski
5. Eden Svangtun
6. Sydney Lybert
7. Michelle Blam
8. Joseph Kern
9. Michael Braunsky
10. Aidan Rito
11. Hunter Nichols
12. Paul Dailey
13. Keegan Beard
14. Nolan Schoenle
15. Andra Stoller
16. Brigitta Benroth
17. Peter Liu
18. Patrick Neff
19. Olivia Boydston
20. Kimberly Meek
21. Eileen Howe
22. Jonathan Gobert

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Tartantown and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Ceol Beag
Championships**

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

JUDGE (GRADE 3):



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.

ORDER OF PLAY

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winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Tartantown and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Ceol Beag
Championships**

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

ABOUT THE AMATEUR CEOL BEAG CHAMPIONSHIP

Tartantown and Midwest Highland Arts Fund North American Amateur Ceol Beag Championships will be held January 15, 2026 at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza, in Kansas City.

The age of the Competitor in Amateur Grades 1, 2, and 3 will not be restricted. The Competitor must submit an MSR. Pipers placing First through Third in the three grades will win the MHAF North American Amateur Medal. The bronze medals are 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) in diameter, featuring the MHAF logo. In addition, pipers placing First through Third in the three grades will be awarded a custom made pipe bag of their choice from Lee & Sons Bagpipes.

ABOUT TARTANTOWN

Tartantown is one of the largest suppliers to pipe bands, pipers, drummers, and Highland dancers in the world, and is managed by Pipe Major Terry Lee. With the knowledgeable expertise of its employees, Tartantown provides professional supplies and services for individual dancers, pipers and drummers as well as pipe bands and the general Scottish community.

SUPPORT MIDWEST HIGHLAND ARTS FUND!

Without the generosity of our donors and volunteers, our workshops and concerts would not be possible. Midwest Highland Arts Fund is recognized by the IRS as a nonprofit organization, making all donations tax-deductible. We are dependent and appreciative of donations of all sizes. Donations can be sent through PayPal to www.mhaf.org. Our tax identification number is 48-1241277.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS (GRADE 1):

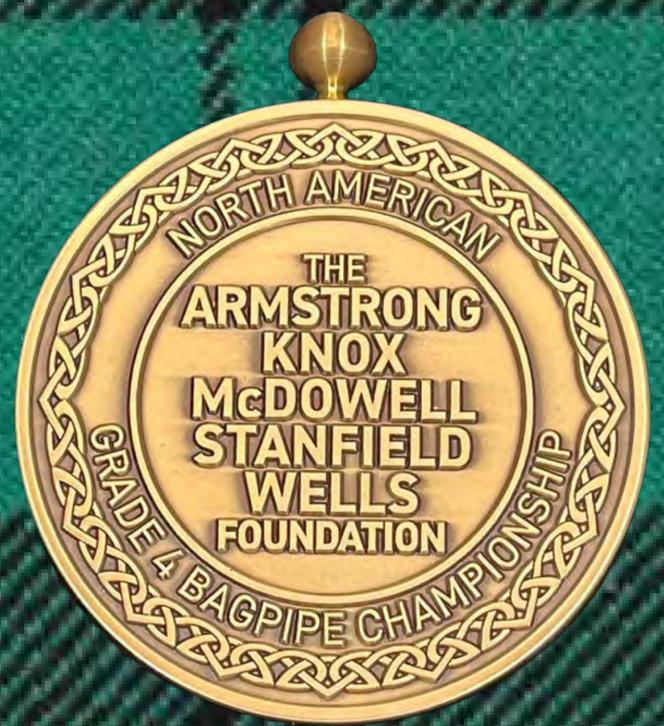
1. Evan MacKay
2. John Bertino
3. Steven McElhaney
4. Ethan DesChamps
5. Alexander Walker
6. Aaron Malcomb
7. Michael Saxer
8. Colin Richdale
9. Erin Bell
10. Mihir Zambre
11. Logan Gorsuch
12. Ian Minnear
13. Olivia Corcoran
14. Andrew Zhao
15. Abigail Long
16. Alex Pavlovic
17. Paul Mackay
18. Kevin Neveau
19. Matthew Launer
20. Beatrix Carter
21. Greg Bowen
22. Henry McCarthy
23. Flora Stone
24. Jack Martin
25. Ray Flanagan
26. Luke Ashton
27. Jennifer Piccione
28. John Hughes
29. Duncan McCorkell
30. Jacob Bowers

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



The Armstrong Knox McDowell Stanfield Wells Arts & Music Awards



*Honored to Sponsor the
North American Grade 4
Bagpipe Championship.*

WS26

NEW in 2026

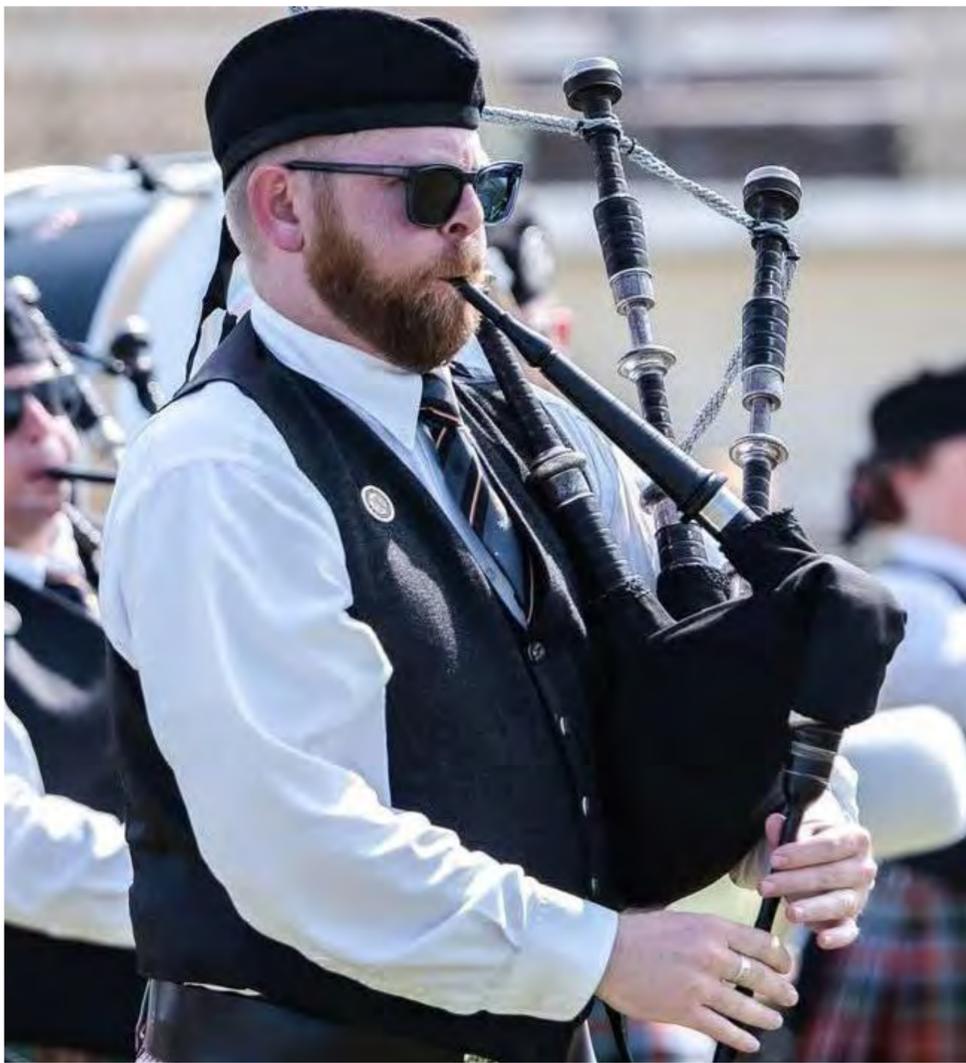
The Armstrong, Knox, McDowell,
Stanfield, Wells Foundation and MHAf

NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR

Grade 4 Bagpipe Championship

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

JUDGES:



TRISTAN WILSON

Tristan Wilson took over the role of Pipe Major of the Midlothian Scottish Pipe Band in 2014 and was formerly the Pipe Sergeant of the Grade 1 City of Chicago Pipe Band. Originally from Kansas, he was a third-generation member of the Kansas City St. Andrew's Pipes and Drums. Tristan started playing pipes at the age of 8 under Dr. Thomas McKee. He continued piping lessons under PM Jim Higgins of the KC St. Andrew's Pipes and Drums (a significant mentor in his teenage years), Alasdair Gillies, Jimmy McIntosh, and Andrew Wright. While also taking piping lessons, Tristan taught himself snare. Tristan looks up to Pipe Major Angus MacDonald as an inspiration for playing and is an open-level piping soloist and amateur-level snare soloist.

Outside of piping, Tristan enjoys spending time with his lovely wife Andi, their three children, and their dog, Rosie.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS:

1. Danny Paterson II
2. Jessica Troester
3. Peter Schmidt
4. Daniel Paterson
5. Susan Martin
6. Linda Bomya
7. Brian Krouse
8. Brett Radcliff
9. Chris Layton
10. Jameson Cox
11. Mica Murdoch
12. Tanya Berg
13. Timothy Gatehouse
14. Timothy Hess
15. Linda Quanstrom
16. Jeffrey Farmer
17. Hunter Rhoades
18. Curt Atwell

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



NEW in 2026

**The Armstrong, Knox, McDowell,
Stanfield, Wells Foundation and MHAF**

NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR

Grade 4 Bagpipe Championship

Presented by Lee & Sons Bagpipes

ABOUT THE GRADE 4 BAGPIPE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Armstrong, Knox, McDowell, Stanfield, Wells Foundation and Midwest Highland Arts Fund Grade 4 Bagpipe Championship will be held January 15, 2026 at the Marriott - Country Club Plaza in Kansas City.

The age of the Competitor will not be restricted. Pipers placing First through Third in grade 4 will win the Armstrong, Knox, McDowell, Stanfield, Wells Foundation bronze medal, 2.5-inch diameter (6.5 cm) and a custom pipe bag from Lee & Sons Bagpipes. The first-place winner will receive the Ken Eller Scholarship, which includes Winter Storm workshop registration, four nights of hotel accomodation and contest entry for the following year.

ABOUT THE ARMSTRONG, KNOX, MCDOWELL, STANFIELD, WELLS FOUNDATION

As a cofounding member of Winter Storm/Midwest Highland Arts Fund, Mark Stanfield and his family are honored to sponsor the inaugural North American Grade 4 Bagpipe Championship. Mark and his family would like to thank and congratulate all those that have celebrated, participated, volunteered and made friendships during the Winter Storm Competitions, Concerts, and Workshops.

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14. Timothy Hess
15. Linda Quanstrom
16. Jeffrey Farmer
17. Hunter Rhoades
18. Curt Atwell

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



The Rewards of Natural Selection

Left to right:

COWHIDE

GOAT SKIN

SHEEP SKIN

SHEEP SKIN PREMIUM

At right, 3-time
Glenfiddich Champion
Jack Lee



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drumming competitions

SECTION ORDER:

The North American Gold Medal
Snare Drumming Championships

The North American Amateur
Snare Drumming Championships

Amateur & Gold Medal
Tenor Drumming Championships

Amateur & Gold Medal
Bass Drumming Championships

[QUICK LINK BACK TO
PIPING SECTION](#)

[QUICK LINK BACK TO
ABOUT MHAFF SECTION](#)

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Winter Storm!*

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Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHA
NORTH AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL

Snare Drumming Championship

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

JUDGES:



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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7. Graham Brown
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9. Matt Page
10. Sebastian Arguelles
11. Mark McKendrick
12. Amanda Colwell
13. Malcolm Fuller

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL
**Snare Drumming
Championship**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

JUDGES:



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 over the same time frame, including the World Drum Corps Title in 2002, 2003, 2005, and 2014 (plus seven Champion of Champions Drum Corps titles). After twelve combined years with Shotts & Dykehead, which were followed by two years leading the Lothian & Borders Police drum corps, Jake took on the Leading Drummer position with ScottishPower Pipe Band (2014). 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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winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL
**Snare Drumming
Championship**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

JUDGES:



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.

In 2023, in his first attempt, Kerr became the youngest on record to win the adult World Solo Drumming Championships. He 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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winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL
**Snare Drumming
Championship**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

ABOUT THE GOLD MEDAL DRUMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

The Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply – Midwest Highland Arts Fund North American Gold Medal Drumming Championship will be held January 16, 2026 at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza in Kansas City.

The North American Gold Medal, 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) diameter gold-plated metal, featuring the MHAF logo on the obverse, and the Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply logo on the reverse, will be awarded to the Winner in Scottish snare drumming. Prize moneys include First USD \$750, Second \$500, and Third \$250. MHAF will supplement the First Prize to include up to \$1,500 USD for air travel from North America for the Champion and his/her piper to compete in the World Solo Drumming Championships in October 2026, or to travel back to Kansas City to compete at Winter Storm 2027. The North American Gold Medal Champion will choose his/her prize snare drum from an array of Andante drums.

Each open/professional competitor shall perform one MSRHH (march, strathspey, reel, hornpipe, jig) with a minimum of four parts each. All Gold Medal snare competitors must be accompanied by one piper. Rankings will be determined by the adjudicator(s).

ABOUT HENDERSON'S PIPE & DRUM SUPPLY

Henderson's Pipe & Drum Supply stocks a complete selection of top brand pipes, drums, and uniforms, but more importantly has the knowledge and experience to serve you. Their friendly staff is always ready to help!

Named in tribute to great-grandfather Alexander Henderson, James Moore founded the company in the mid-1990s, and promotes and preserves traditional Scottish culture through clinics, competitions, and service.

ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS:

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winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



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The Executive Committee and entire membership of the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association offer our best wishes for success to the Midwest Highland Arts Fund and the 2026 Winter Storm. As Sisters and Brothers in the piping and drumming world, the continued success of this major event benefits us all.

Thank you!

EUSPBA Executive Committee

President – Bill Caudill

Vice President – Joe McGonigal

Executive Secretary – Jim Engle

Treasurer – Matt Wood

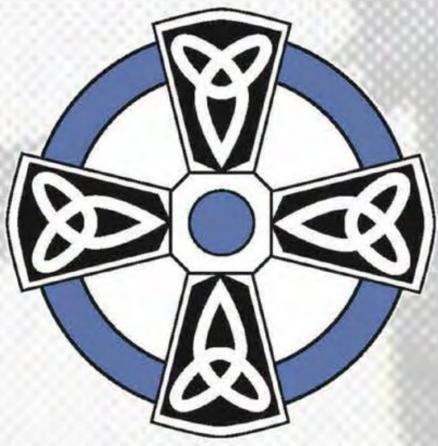
Recording Secretary – Stephanie Valley

Officer at Large – Scott Fletcher

Officer at Large – Andrew Douglas

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48th Highlanders of Canada
15th Battalion 3rd Brigade
1914 to 1919*

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GANAAAN Highland Manufacturing and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Snare Drumming
Championships**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

JUDGES:



STEPHEN CREIGHTON (GRADE 3)

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.

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ORDER OF PLAY

COMPETITORS (GR 1):

1. Quinn Faith
2. Matt Biggs
3. Terrance Cadiente
4. Luca Damiani
5. Susan Shoemaker
6. Jayce Edetsberger
7. Alexandra Bieschke
8. Jonathan Giles
9. Samuel Giles
10. Kevin Dill

COMPETITORS (GR 2):

1. Andrew Koupal
2. Eric Légère
3. Danielle Nauss
4. Tony Todero
5. Ken Decker
6. Max Fenwick
7. Andrew Galpin
8. Leilani Lucas

COMPETITORS (GR 3):

1. Jeremy Downs
2. David Torrance
3. Scarlett Jacoby
4. Michael Ferrara
5. Tate Mauzy
6. Andrew Keppel
7. Kyle Womelduff
8. Rohan Patel
9. Ryan Seigmiller
10. Brenden Good
11. Aarya Madan
12. Sebastian Allen

winter storm 2026

Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



GANAAN Highland Manufacturing and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Snare Drumming
Championships**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

JUDGES:



JAKE JØRGENSEN (GRADES 1 & 2)

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winter storm 2026

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GANAAN Highland Manufacturing and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Snare Drumming
Championships**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

JUDGES:



KERR MCQUILLAN (GRADES 1 & 2)

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.

In 2023, in his first attempt, Kerr became the youngest on record to win the adult World Solo Drumming Championships. He 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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4. Tony Todero
5. Ken Decker
6. Max Fenwick
7. Andrew Galpin
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winter storm 2026

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GANAAN Highland Manufacturing and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Snare Drumming
Championships**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

JUDGES:



JIM SIM (GRADE 3)

Jim Sim started drumming lessons with his Father at the age of 8. His first band was the Stock Yard Kilty Band from Chicago. In 1975 along with Pipe Major Ian Swinton the new Midlothian Scottish Pipe Band was formed. The band started in Grade 4. The band with Jim as the Leading Drummer went on to win many titles. In 1985 the band was promoted to Grade 1 which finished one of the band's early goals which was to go from Grade 4 to Grade 1 in ten years using mostly players taught by Ian and Jim. Midlothian won many titles several times including the U.S. Open Championship, and the North American Championship and several placings in the top 6 at the World Championships.

Jim retired from active playing after the 2009 season to devote more time to teaching and judging. Jim has taught many young players who have gone on to win many contests of their own as well as many of the bands in North America. Jim has also had the honor of playing with The Chieftains, and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He is currently a Full Adjudicator, President of the MidWest Pipe Band Assoc., and on the board of ANAPBA.

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GANAAN Highland Manufacturing and MHAF
NORTH AMERICAN AMATEUR
**Snare Drumming
Championships**

Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion

ABOUT THE AMATEUR SNARE DRUMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The GANAAN Highland Manufacturing North American Amateur Drumming Championships will be held January 15, 2026 at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza in Kansas City. The contest will be held prior the North American Gold Medal Championship.

The age of the Competitor in Amateur Grades 1, 2, and 3 will not be restricted. All Competitors must submit a MSR, and be accompanied by a piper.

Drummers placing First through Third in the three grades will win the North American Amateur Medal. The bronze medal is 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) in diameter, featuring the MHAF logo on the obverse, and the GANAAN logo on the reverse. The Champion in each grade will choose his/her prize snare drum from an array of Andante drums.

ABOUT GANAAN HIGHLAND MANUFACTURING

GANAAN Highland Manufacturing Ltd. was established in February 2017 by Garth Newlands and his son, Austin. Located in Surrey, British Columbia, just 25 km from Vancouver, GANAAN specializes in researching, designing, and manufacturing innovative products for bagpipes and drums. With over 27 years of experience in the local piping and drumming community, GANAAN's engineering team listens to players and consistently introduces new products focusing on enhancing comfort and using the finest materials to ensure top-tier quality.

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5. Susan Shoemaker
6. Jayce Edetsberger
7. Alexandra Bieschke
8. Jonathan Giles
9. Samuel Giles
10. Kevin Dill

COMPETITORS (GR 2):

1. Andrew Koupal
2. Eric Légère
3. Danielle Nauss
4. Tony Todero
5. Ken Decker
6. Max Fenwick
7. Andrew Galpin
8. Leilani Lucas

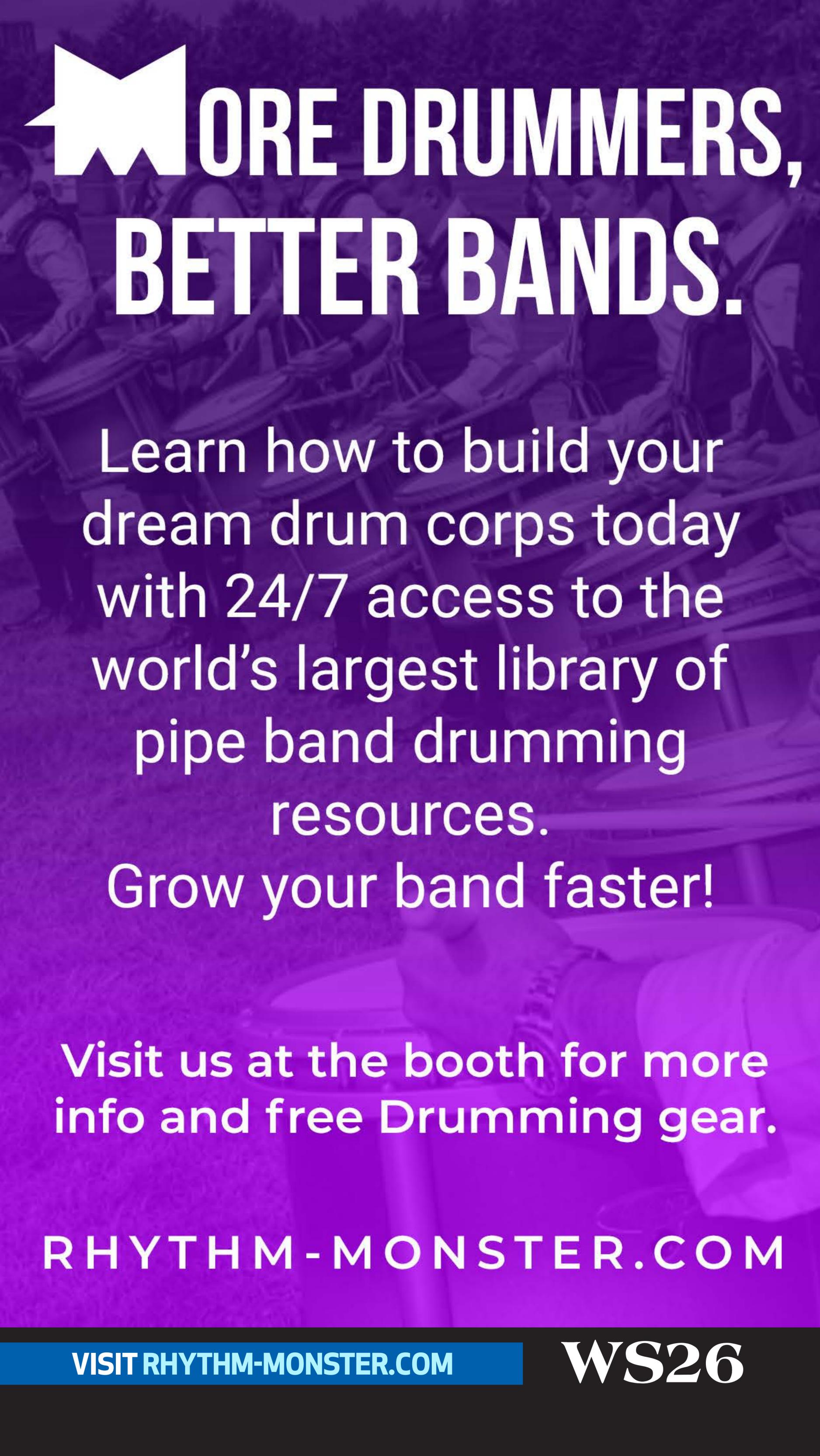
COMPETITORS (GR 3):

1. Jeremy Downs
2. David Torrance
3. Scarlett Jacoby
4. Michael Ferrara
5. Tate Mauzy
6. Andrew Keppel
7. Kyle Womelduff
8. Rohan Patel
9. Ryan Seigmiller
10. Brenden Good
11. Aarya Madan
12. Sebastian Allen

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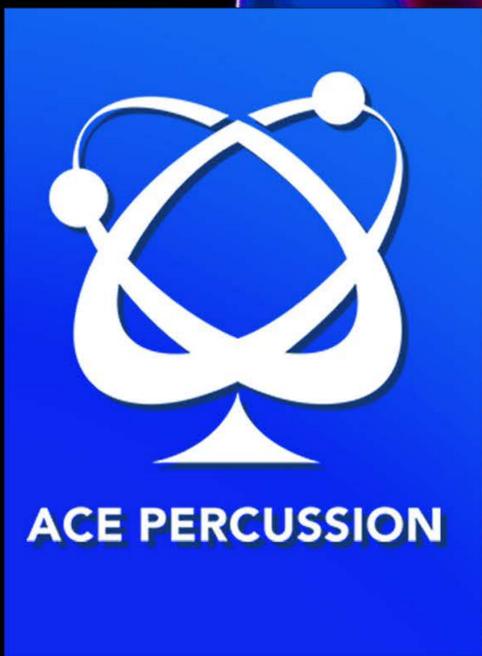
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GOLD MEDAL AND AMATEUR
**Tenor Drumming
Championship**

*Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion,
Ace Percussion*

JUDGES:



CHRISTINA HENRY

Christina's involvement in the pipe band world began through performances with pipe bands as a dancer, eventually leading her to pick up tenor drumming with the Manchester Pipe Band. She later transitioned to bass drum and spent eleven seasons with the Oran Mor Pipe Band, playing a key role as the band advanced from Grade 2 to Grade 1. Christina then joined the renowned 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band in Ontario, where she performed for seven seasons—five as a tenor drummer and two as a bass drummer. In the fall of 2019, she became a member of the City of Dunedin Pipe Band, contributing for three seasons. She is also a respected educator and adjudicator, serving as a certified Bass and Tenor judge for the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association (EUSPBA) and as a member of its Music Board. Currently, Christina is taking a step back from active competition to focus on motherhood, while continuing to support the community through instruction and mentorship.

ORDER OF PLAY

**GOLD MEDAL
COMPETITORS:**

1. Alexis Hagen
2. Katie Byzewski
3. Carolin Stonier
4. Iris Fugate
5. Harry Justice
6. Taylor Page
7. Whitney Glenn
8. Elise Svangtun

**AMATEUR
COMPETITORS:**

1. Phoebe Morris
2. Caitlyn Skinner
3. Felisha Gomez
4. Allison Hildebrand
5. Eric Légère
6. Cori Kirkland
7. Marielle Webster
8. Sophia Jantzen

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Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Rhythm Monster and Mhaf
GOLD MEDAL AND AMATEUR
**Tenor Drumming
Championship**

*Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion,
Ace Percussion*

JUDGES:



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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Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



Rhythm Monster and MHAF
GOLD MEDAL AND AMATEUR
**Tenor Drumming
Championship**

*Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion,
Ace Percussion*

**ABOUT GOLD MEDAL AND AMATEUR
TENOR DRUMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Twentieth Annual Midwest Highland Arts Fund Gold Medal and Amateur Tenor Drumming Championships will be held January 15-16, 2026, at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza in Kansas City.

The age of the Competitor in Amateur Grades 1, 2, and 3 will not be restricted. All Competitors must submit a MSR, and be accompanied by a piper.

Drummers placing First through Third in the three grades will win the North American Amateur Medal. The bronze medal is 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) in diameter, featuring the MHAF logo on the obverse, and the Rhythm Monster logo on the reverse. The Champion in each grade will choose his/her prize snare drum from an array of Andante drums.

The MHAF Gold Medal, 2.5 inch (6.5 cm) diameter gold-plated metal, featuring the MHAF logo, will be awarded to the day's Champion in Tenor Drumming. Open to all professionals and amateurs, the drummer must submit one March - Strathspey - Reel and one Hornpipe - Jig set, and be accompanied by a piper and a snare drummer. Prize moneys include First winning USD \$750, Second \$500, and Third \$250. In addition, the Champion will be awarded a tenor drum supplied by Andante Percussion.

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MassedHead and Mhaf
GOLD MEDAL AND AMATEUR
**Bass Drumming
Championship**

*Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion,
Ace Percussion*

JUDGES:



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Christina's involvement in the pipe band world began through performances with pipe bands as a dancer, eventually leading her to pick up tenor drumming with the Manchester Pipe Band. She later transitioned to bass drum and spent eleven seasons with the Oran Mor Pipe Band, playing a key role as the band advanced from Grade 2 to Grade 1. Christina then joined the renowned 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band in Ontario, where she performed for seven seasons—five as a tenor drummer and two as a bass drummer. In the fall of 2019, she became a member of the City of Dunedin Pipe Band, contributing for three seasons. She is also a respected educator and adjudicator, serving as a certified Bass and Tenor judge for the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association (EUSPBA) and as a member of its Music Board. Currently, Christina is taking a step back from active competition to focus on motherhood, while continuing to support the community through instruction and mentorship.

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4. Terrance Cadiente
5. Joanne Sherry

**AMATEUR
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1. Sean Stewart
2. Lauren Lane
3. Steven Shoemaker
4. Liam Baird
5. Andrew Koupal
6. Isla Ross
7. Timothy Harjus
8. Shawn Tobin
9. Marie Rude

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MassedHead and MHAF
GOLD MEDAL AND AMATEUR
**Bass Drumming
Championship**

*Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion,
Ace Percussion*

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Presented by Midwest Highland Arts Fund



MassedHead and MHAF
GOLD MEDAL AND AMATEUR
**Bass Drumming
Championship**

*Presented by Andante Drums and Percussion,
Ace Percussion*

**ABOUT THE GOLD MEDAL AND AMATEUR
BASS DRUMMING CHAMPIONSHIP**

The Eighteenth Annual MassedHead – Midwest Highland Arts Fund Gold Medal and Amateur Bass Drumming Championship will be held on January 15 - 16, 2026 at the Marriott – Country Club Plaza, in Kansas City.

The age of the Competitor in Amateur Grades 1, 2, and 3 will not be restricted. All Competitors must submit a MSR, and be accompanied by a piper. Drummers placing First through Third in the three grades will win the North American Amateur Medal. Minted with the Gold Medal, the bronze replica is 2.5 inches (6.5 cm) in diameter, featuring the MHAF logo on the obverse, and the Cameron logo on the reverse. The Champion in each grade will choose his/her prize snare drum from an array of Andante drums.

The MHAF Gold Medal, 2.5 inch (6.5 cm) diameter gold-plated metal, featuring the MHAF logo, will be awarded to the day's Champion in Bass Drumming. Prize moneys include First winning USD \$750, Second \$500, and Third \$250. In addition, the winner will be awarded a bass drum supplied by Andante Percussion. Open to all professionals and amateurs, the drummer must submit one March – Strathspey - Reel and one Hornpipe - Jig set, and be accompanied by a piper and a snare drummer.

ABOUT MASSEDHEAD

MassedHead is a full service pipe band branding and percussion design company based in Toronto. MassedHead creates affordable custom bass drum head designs that command attention to fit the unique character and culture of any band. With over 30 years in marketing, corporate communications and advertising, MassedHead also offers strategic marketing strategies and custom digital merchandising.

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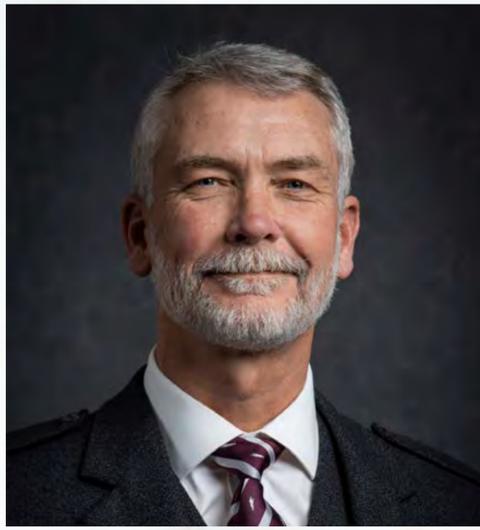
about midwest highland arts fund & winter storm

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.

board of directors



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Without the generosity of our donors and volunteers, our workshops and concerts would not be possible. Midwest Highland Arts Fund is recognized by the IRS as a nonprofit organization, making all donations tax-deductible. We are dependent and appreciative of donations of all sizes. Donations can be sent through PayPal or mailed. For more details visit www.mhaf.org.

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Congratulations to the four scholarship recipients attending this year's Winter Storm!



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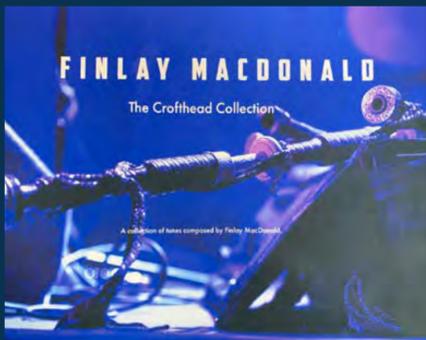
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[QUICK LINK BACK TO DRUMMING SECTION](#)