

Tyler Bridge Bio

An accomplished multi-instrumentalist, Tyler is a graduate of the University of Guelph Music Program where his area of concentration was Jazz guitar. He started learning snare drum and bagpipes at age 5 but he began his competitive career with the Guelph Pipe Band in the drum corps at age 11. After several successful competition seasons, the band stopped competing in 2004 and Tyler took the opportunity to focus on his piping. In 2005 he started learning guitar under the guidance of Dan Drysdale and spent much of his teenage and early adult years playing in various heavy metal bands as well as pursuing a degree in music.

At the same time, Tyler continued to play bagpipes with the Guelph Pipe Band under the direction of Bruce Anderson and Bruce MacDonald until 2013 when he was offered the position of Pipe Major. From 2009-2015 he also played as a civilian volunteer with the 48th Highlanders of Canada which included appearances at the Virginia International Tattoo and the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Since 2013, Tyler has led the Guelph Pipe Band back into competition, building from a group of 14 players to an organisation of over 70 members with competitive bands in grades 5, 4, and 3.

In 2014 Tyler made his competitive solo piping debut under the tutelage of the late Ed Neigh. In 2014 and 2015 he placed 1st overall in Ontario for Senior Amateur Piobaireachd and grade 1 light music, earning invitations to the prestigious Nicol Brown and George Sherriff competitions. In 2016, Tyler entered the professional competition circuit in Ontario and has continued to work his way into the prize lists. His competitive successes include 2nd place in the Piobaireachd Society of Canada Gold Medal contest in 2018, overall Champion Supreme title in the B grade Piobaireachd in 2016, 2018, 2019 and 2022, Toronto Pipers Society Knockout Contest winner in 2023, 3rd place in the MSR at the 2023 Livingstone Invitational contest, Professional Piper of the Day at the 2022/2023 Embro Highland Games and Fergus Highland Games as well as featuring regularly in the prize lists at many of the competitions throughout Ontario. Tyler attributes much of his recent success to the guidance he receives from Bob Worrall who he began seeing for light music and piobaireachd tuition in 2020.

Tyler started teaching bagpipes in 2007 when he took on his first beginner students. Since then, many of his students have gone on to achieve competitive success at the top amateur levels including prizes at the grade 2 and 1 levels in Ontario. Several of them have joined the Guelph Pipe Band and have won both Champion Supreme and North American Championship titles with the band.

Tyler co-manages a music school in Guelph called JamSchool that offers lessons on many different instruments and currently has around 600 students. He also continues to teach piping on a regular basis and volunteers with the Guelph Air Cadet Pipe Band. Outside of competitive playing, Tyler also plays border pipes and guitar with several Ceilidh bands. He is also an amateur videographer and creates, edits, and produces much of the social media and advertising content for both JamSchool and the Guelph Pipe Band.