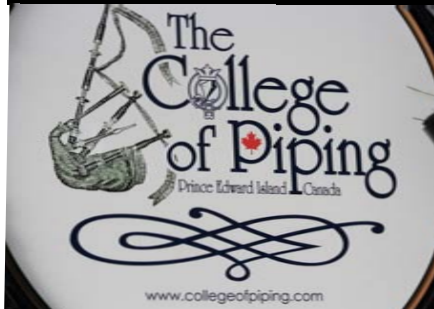


the Celtic Connection

FOR STUDENTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS



EMAILS

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Our newsletter is published every month. It is available in hardcopy and on our website:
www.collegeofpiping.com

The College website is a fantastic source of information on the College of Piping and its activities. You will find up to date information on the blog, access to our Facebook page and Twitter account, pictures of events at The College and at events we have attended. Class offerings, staff biographies, College history, competition results, photos and much more can be found on the site. Take a look and find out more about us.

Snow, Wind, Ice, Sleet, Freezing Rain – Winter Weather

In case of bad weather please make sure that you check the College of Piping blog at www.collegeofpiping.com, check out our FaceBook page, or go online and check out the cancellation lists on the various local radio station's webpages (keep scrolling past the schools!). **We do not always follow the school closings!**



Islander Day



Monday, February 15th

A reminder to all students and parents that The College will be closed on Monday, February 15th for Islander Day. Classes won't be in session, so take some time to practice at home instead!

The Highland Dance Corner



Thinking about competing for Highland Dance?

Competing is a wonderful way for kids to have fun dancing, make new friends from all over, and to learn many important life skills like goal-setting, how to perform in front of an audience and deal with pressure, success and disappointment. Many of our dancing parents might not be aware that competitions are not just for advanced students, but are for all ages and skill levels. Many of our youngest dancers already know enough dances to compete, or will soon know enough to compete, so if your dancer has any interest in trying one out, ask Marielle about it! Although most competitions are off-island, remember that car-pooling and sharing hotel rooms is a great way to get to know your classmates and to keep costs affordable.

Winter Highland Weekend

Our very first Winter Highland Weekend was a resounding success! A total of 53 dancers and their families travelled from PEI, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland to take part in our workshop weekend and learn from our 4 fantastic guest instructors. Dancers had 2 full days of classes in highland technique, ballet for highland and musical theatre with Janice Macquarrie, Chantal Watt, Ellen Cameron and Eleanor Belton. On Saturday night, the College hosted a pizza party/ceilidh where the dancers could unwind from their busy day, relax and have fun. Dancers played "Highland Bingo", learned some social Scottish country dance sets, and had a "dance challenge" to our ceilidh band. One of the highlights of the weekend was the dancers' performances of Eleanor Belton's "Hairspray" and "Mary Poppins" musical theatre routines for the parents; the smiles couldn't have been bigger (check out the College of Piping's Facebook page for clips of these routines)!

Instructors for 2015/2016 year

James MacHattie –
Director of Education

Kylie MacHattie - Bagpiping
Nick vanOuwkerk - Bagpiping
Chris Coleman - Drumming
Sam Ramsay - Drumming
Dance

Marielle Lespérance - Highland
Chelsey Sanderson - Step(Lead)

Skype Lessons

Skype lessons are being offered in piping, drumming and highland dance. Please contact our director of Education, James MacHattie, for more information on how you can learn to pipe or drum from the comforts of your own home.

Contact

If you have any questions, concerns or words of praise, please contact Karen Hatcher, Executive Director or James MacHattie, Director of Education. They can be reached at 436-5377 or e-mailed at karen.hatcher@collegeofpiping.com or james.machattie@collegeofpiping.com

Competitions and Photos

Please check the College of Piping website for the most up-to-date results from the summer competitions. These can be found at: <http://www.collegeofpiping.com/competitionresults.php>. You can also find the most up-to-date photos from all of our various competitions, fundraisers and events. These can be found at: <http://www.collegeofpiping.com/photogalleries.php>



Handicapped Parking

Only vehicles with handicapped parking stickers should be parking in the handicapped parking designated areas. Thank you very much for your co-operation.



L to R: Eleanor Belton, Janice Macquarrie, Marielle Lesperance, Chantal Watt and Ellen Cameron

A big thank you goes out to the College of Piping parents who volunteered at this event, making lunches for the dancers, helping show our attendees around, setting up for our ceilidh and helping to clean up. We have received many comments about how much everyone enjoyed the event, and without our volunteers it would not have been such a huge success!

The Step Dancing Corner



Step Dance Company News

November of 2015 marked our first ever audition experience for the College of Piping's Junior Dance Company. The JDC, much like our Senior

Step Dance Company, is a competitive group that rehearses outside of class time, and will be travelling off-island to the BATD competition in May. We had quite a few students audition for this experience, and only four spots available, so the decision was a very tough one to make. We would like to send out a big congratulations to everyone who auditioned, and also to the members of the 2016 Step Dance Companies:

Junior Dance Company: Alizée Cyr-Comeault, Eithne Brydon, Jacqueline Moase, Kaylee Howes, and alternate: Sarah MacEachern

Senior Dance Company: Alyssa Howes, MacKenzie Stewart, Mikaila Murray, Robert Larsen, Sherra Rogers, and Sophie Toole

Performers of both of these groups performed on Saturday January 23rd at our Robbie Burns dinner. Both groups worked an extremely long day with practices starting at 10am for some, and they worked very hard, acted extremely professional, and performed an amazing show! Great job, and well done to everyone involved.



Gold Rush 50/50 Draw

Don't forget to put your toonie in for the 50/50 Draw! You could be the lucky winner. The draw will be made each Thursday evening at the College of Piping in Summerside. If the number drawn on the draw day is a number for a person who did not sign in for that week's draw, that portion of the money is added to the following week's draw. This will increase the amount of winnings until a number is drawn that belongs to someone who has signed in. If you haven't signed up yet, come to The College or any of the participating locations, fill out a number slip and add your name to the book. Then all you have to do is put your toonie in each week and wait to be the winner!

Participating locations

- College of Piping, Summerside
- Kensington Food Basket, Kensington
- Gallants Clover Farm, Rustico
- Gass's Store, New Haven
- Race Trac Gas, Stanley Bridge
- Wilson Gas, Summerside
- Reids Corner Esso, Summerside
- Granville Street Esso, Summerside
- Griffins Smoke Shop, Sobeys, Summerside
- Lights Smoke Shop, Summerside
- Summerside Butcher Shop
- Water Street Bakery, Summerside
- Credit Union Place, Summerside
- Needs Convenience, Water St. Summerside

Pass this message on to your friends and family and get them to enter our weekly draw and support the College of Piping Pipe Bands.

Bottle and Can Drive!

Keep saving those bottles! The College of Piping dancers are hoping that you will continue to save your bottles and drop them off to Don's bottle exchange at your convenience (just make you sure mention that they are being donated to the College of Piping account when you do)!

Thank you! Please let your Face book friends know as well, you never know who'd be willing to help support our dancers' fundraising goals!



The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada Post Secondary Scholarship Criteria

Purpose

The purpose of The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada Post Secondary Scholarship is to financially support the post secondary learning endeavors of a graduating high school student who is registered at The College of Piping & Celtic Performing Arts of Canada. Awarding of this scholarship shall help to preserve the unique traditions and skills associated with performing the historic Scottish arts and to provide funding for continued study and development. One \$1,000.00 non-renewable scholarship is available to a graduate of any of the 11 high schools on Prince Edward Island.

Criteria

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant must be a registered student of The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada
- Applicants must have proof of acceptance at a recognized Canadian university or college
- Demonstrate a commitment to learning and show excellence, or the potential for excellence, in their chosen College of Piping discipline

NB: Consideration will be given to extra-curricular involvement, leadership roles and education plans
Consideration will be given for community volunteerism

Application Requirements

Applicants must send the following:

- **A submission letter** (include name, address, contact information, instructor's name)
- **A letter of recommendation** from their current instructor (should outline the applicant's skill level, frequency of instruction, progress made thus far, commitment, demonstrated proficiency, and anticipated development)
- **A short essay** stating your educational plans and why you should be considered for The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada Scholarship. No more than 500 words. The applicant introduces themselves to the committee (indicating their background in their College of Piping discipline, personal accomplishments, future goals, extra-curricular involvement, volunteerism, etc.)

All awarded monies will be sent directly from The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada to the applicant's accepted university or college. No payments will be made directly to the applicant.

Completed applications should be sent by April 1, 2016 to:

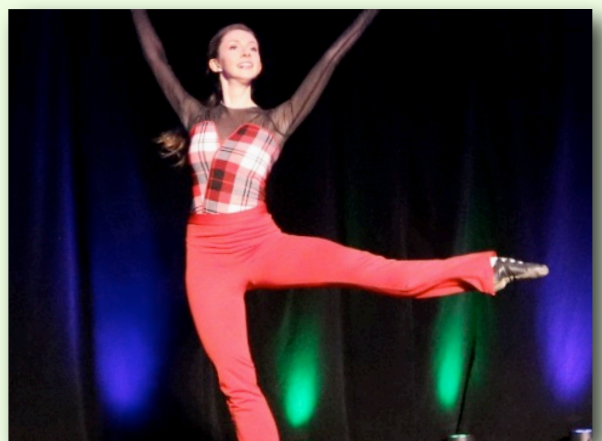
Karen Hatcher

Executive Director

The College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada

Robbie Burns Fundraising Gala 2016

Thank you to everyone who attended our wonderful Robbie Burns Fundraising Gala on Saturday evening! It was great to see so many familiar faces and welcome new friends to this event. Thank you to Credit Union Place, Duke, Emily and your team, the food was delicious. The entertainment provided by our Faculty and students was outstanding. Marielle put on a wonderful dance piece, allowing everyone to get a glimpse of the talent she possesses! Thank you also to Jay Perry at Points East Audio Visual for making the room look so great, the lighting really added to the event. Thank you to all who worked so hard to put on this event and to Andrew Campbell for his address to the Haggis. We look forward to seeing you all next year at next year's event and do come and visit us this summer and see our all new production of Highland Storm!



Here are a few pictures from our evening with photo credit going to Susan Topping.

Scent Free
ZONE

