

The Western United States Pipe Band Association is proud to present its inaugural solo piping competition for the top professional and amateur bagpipers in the Western States.

Western States Champion Solo Invitational Saturday, November 2nd, 2024 Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church 15821 Sunset Blvd., Pacific Palisades, CA

We are actively seeking a partnership with a major sponsor with the specific goal of branding this event for the Western United States in the way that Glenfiddich has become ubiquitous with prestigious Highland piping in Scotland. Our goal is to become a qualifying event for the major international solo invitationals, attracting the best professional pipers in the world at the same time as we support and celebrate the excellence of our Western States amateur pipers.

The prestigious 2024 invitation-only event will be located in beautiful Pacific Palisades, California, and will be adjudicated by some of the world's finest pipers and piping judges; 5-time Glenfiddich-winner <u>Roddy</u> <u>MacLeod MBE</u>, "Voice of the Worlds" <u>Bob Worrall</u>, North American piping legend <u>Jack Lee</u>, and multiple Glenfiddich and Oban winner, <u>Stuart Liddell MBE</u>. These remarkable musicians have also agreed to play in a pre-competition Judges Ceilidh, the likes of which can usually only be experienced at Winter Storm or in the UK. Both the Judges Ceilidh and the Invitational are open to the public, and tickets are available at <u>WUSPBA.com</u>.

Western States Invitational Judges Ceilidh Friday, Nov. 1, 7pm Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church

The competitors in the Western States Champion Solo Invitational are all leaders in their grade's aggregate totals for the 2024 competition season, and were invited for their overall excellence as pipers. This extraordinary event is unique in its celebration of the achievements of professional pipers *and* the top amateur pipers in Grades 1-4, as all of their continued successes help make the Western United States Pipe Band Association as rich in diversity as it is in musical talent.

WUSPBA SOLO INVITATIONAL



Roddy MacLeod MBE is considered to be one of the most accomplished pipers of his generation and a highly regarded teacher, recitalist and adjudicator. He is a Grade 1 Championship winning Pipe Major, a five time Glenfiddich World Solo Piping Champion, and in 2012 he was inducted into the Scottish Traditional Music Awards Hall of Fame.

As Principal of The National Piping Centre from 1996-2020 he was a driving force behind the establishment of the National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland and the formation of the Piping and Drumming Qualifications Board. He was made a Member of the British Empire in recognition of his services to piping, and most recently was awarded the Balvenie Medal for Services to Piping at the 50th Glenfiddich Championships in 2023. For nearly forty years, Jack Lee has been ranked among the world's most accomplished pipers. He has won all the top solo prizes available: The Glenfiddich Championship, Gold Medals at both Oban and Inverness, the Clasp at Inverness (2), the Silver Star at Inverness (4), the Bratach Gorm at London (3) the Open Piobaireachd at Oban (2), the Silver Star at Oban and the



Masters Invitational (2). Jack Lee co-founded the six-time World Champion Simon Fraser University Pipe Band and has been the pipe sergeant throughout its existence. He recently achieved a lifetime goal of recording the entire Piobaireachd Society Collection (Books 1-16), and has recorded over 4,000 tunes which are available from his website – Leeandsonsbagpipes.com



Bob Worrall is one of North America's leading teachers, adjudicators and performers, as well as a respected composer. After a piping career with a number of Ontario's leading pipe bands, and extensive solo accomplishments in both North America and Scotland, including an unprecedented 7 North American Professional Championship wins, Bob retired from competitive piping in 1983. A member

of North American and the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association's judging panels, Bob has been selected to judge the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow on fourteen occasions and is "the voice of the Worlds" for the BBC's broadcast of the World Pipe Band Championships. He is a member of the Piobaireachd Society's Senior Judges list and has adjudicated major competitions throughout the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Australia, Brittany and South Africa. One of the most gifted pipers in the world today, Stuart Liddell has won three Clasps at Inverness, the Senior Piobaireachd at Oban five times, both Gold Medals, is a three -time Glenfiddich Piping Champion, the Donald MacLeod Memorial in 2016, and most recently, the Springbank Invitational in Campbeltown 2023. Stuart is founder and Pipe Major of the Inveraray & District Pipe Band, winners of the



World Pipe Band Championship in 2017, 2019, and 2024. Previously he was a member of the Scottish Power Pipe Band for seven years and the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band with whom he played for ten years. He is a piping instructor at Mid Argyll Primary and Lochgilphead High Schools, and was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in King Charles III's first honors in 2023 for his services to music and education.

PACIFIC PALISADES PRESBYTERIAN FRIDAY NOV 1,7PM UDGES CELLUN