

# JOINING THE BAND

The Kutztown Pipe Band teaches bagpipes to anyone interested in learning through free intro-to-piping lessons. Students who go through the piping instruction program are encouraged to join the band when they transition from practice chanter to bagpipes. Already established pipers and drummers are also welcome to join the band.

If learning to play the bagpipes is something you'd like to explore, you should expect the following:

- 6 months to a year on a practice chanter that you purchase (around \$100)
- Attend free KPB lessons and practice every day (twice daily for 10-15 minutes is preferable)
- Memorize and accurately play 5 substantial tunes on your practice chanter
- Purchase your bagpipes! (around \$1500)
- Build up the endurance to play the tunes that you know on the practice chanter on the bagpipes (could take a year or more)



## ABOUT THE BAND

The Kutztown Pipe Band is both a student group at Kutztown University and a non-profit community group in the Borough of Kutztown. Starting in Fall 2017 with a group of 5 very dedicated and enthusiastic intro to piping students, the KPB has grown to include approximately 2 dozen members, including faculty and staff from Kutztown University, staff and students from Kutztown Area School District, and residents of the Borough of Kutztown and nearby communities. We are a learning and performing band, that offers educational outreach programs for local schools and learning centers, free bagpipe or drumming lessons through our program, and event performances.



## CONTACT US

Performance:  
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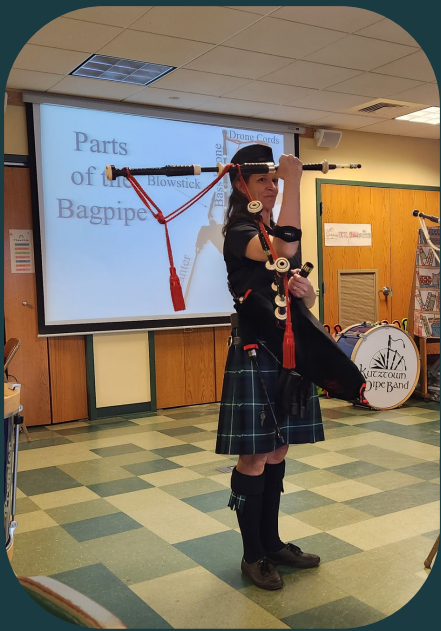
Instruction & Educational Outreach:  
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Providing entertainment,  
education, and  
instruction with the  
Great Highland Bagpipes



<https://kutztownpipeband.com>



## EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

The Great Highland Bagpipe is complex and has a fascinating history. This unique instrument is the only instrument to be declared a weapon of war, inspiring fear in the opposing military forces with its characteristic sound. It contains both single and double reeds, requires skillful tuning techniques, and has numerous variations.

The Kutztown Pipe Band offers K-12 Learn About Bagpipes or adult Bagpipes Calling presentations during which band members explain the functionality of the instrument, the distinctive Scottish garb, and the different types of bagpipes with their connections to the Great Highland Bagpipes. Each presentation is tailored to the audience, with a variety of tunes played.

## PERFORMANCE

Interested in having the Kutztown Pipe Band perform at your event? We are available for educational demonstrations, parades, festivals, weddings, funerals and memorial services (and lots of other events, too!)

Previous performance venues include:

- Berks Celtic Fest
  - Ganly's Irish Pub & Restaurant
  - Albright College Commencement
  - Kutztown Community Library
  - West Reading Armed Forces Day Parade
    - PIAC St. Patrick's Day Parade
  - Kutztown Memorial Day Parade and service
    - Kutztown Area Middle School
    - Kutztown Folk Fest
    - Muhlenberg River Fest
  - Kutztown University Memorial Ceremony
- Several local nursing homes including:
- Kutztown Manor
  - Mosser Nursing Home
  - Keystone Villa Retirement Home
  - Lehigh Commons



## KUTZTOWN CELTIC SESSION

The Kutztown Celtic Session is a branch of the Kutztown Pipe Band which started in 2022 as a weekly session practice for our multi-instrumentalist band members. Our current session group members bring talent on acoustic guitar, fiddle, flute, smallpipes, uilleann pipes, vocals, whistle, and more! The KCS hosts weekly open sessions each Monday, welcoming anyone who has a love of Celtic music.

