

Piper Shiels (she/her) is a Canadian horn player and passionate music educator from Richmond Hill, Ontario. She began playing the horn at age ten and has since built a multifaceted career as a performer, teacher and researcher.

Piper is the Lead Teaching Artist for the Brass Area at the Jacobs Virtual Academy, where she oversees a team of instructors working with students across Indiana, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. She also teaches at the Canadian Forces Music Training Centre in Borden, Ontario, where she mentors developing military musicians during the summer term. A dedicated advocate for music education, she is a member of the Ontario and Canadian Music Educators' Associations and the Ontario Band Association. Her teaching experience includes staff roles at the National Music Camp of Canada and current research on horn-related injuries and disability in music, with a focus on inclusive pedagogy for brass players.

She serves in the Canadian Armed Forces as a musician with the Band of the Royal Regiment of Canada and previously held the first horn chair with the Ceremonial Guard in Ottawa during the 2023 and 2024 seasons. While studying in the United States, she also serves with the 38th Infantry Division Band of the U.S. Army National Guard. She has received numerous honours including the IU Jacobs Graduate Tuition Scholarship, the National Honour Award at MusicFest Canada and the Ontario Gold Medal for her RCM horn performance studies.

Piper is currently completing her Master of Music in Performance at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, studying with Denise Tryon. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Performance from the University of Toronto, where her teachers included Chris Gongos and Nick Hartman. Her performance credits include the Toronto Youth Wind Orchestra, Hannaford Youth Band, Denis Wick Canadian Wind Orchestra, Opera York, University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the National Youth Band of Canada, where she served as Principal Horn.

Outside of music, Piper enjoys travelling, attending concerts and collecting funky socks.