BOSTON POPS CLOSES 2013 SPRING SEASON, JUNE 13-15,
WITH CELEBRATED NASHVILLE SONGWRITERS
BRETT JAMES, HILLARY LINDSEY, AND GORDIE SAMPSON IN
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF “FREE,” A NEW SONG THEY
CO-WROTE ESPECIALLY IN HONOR OF THE PROGRAM THEME:
“A COUNTRY SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS”

JAMES, LINDSEY, AND SAMPSON TO PERFORM THEIR OWN MUSIC AND SHARE
BEHIND-THE-SCENES STORIES THAT INFLUENCED SOME OF THEIR HIT SONGS;
SELECTIONS TO BE FEATURED INCLUDE “IT’S AMERICA,”
“JESUS TAKE THE WHEEL,” “AMERICAN HONEY,” AND CHANGE YOUR MIND,
FEATURED IN THE ABC HIT SERIES NASHVILLE

Three of Nashville’s top songwriters—Music City Hitmakers Hillary Lindsey, Gordie Sampson,
and Brett James—join Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops to close the 2013 Boston Pops season, June
13-15. Inspired by the evening’s theme, A Country Salute to Our Troops, James, Lindsey, and Sampson
have co-written a new song, “Free,” to receive its world premiere at these Pops concerts.

Symphony Hall will evoke the songwriter atmosphere of the Bluebird Cafe as the legendary
Music City Hitmakers share music and stories from their careers, over which they have penned more
than twenty Billboard #1 singles for some of today's most iconic stars. The program will include the hits
“Blessed,” (Martina McBride) “American Honey” (Lady Antebellum), “Jesus Take the Wheel” (Carrie
Underwood), “Out Last Night” (Kenny Chesney), and “It’s America” (Rodney Atkins). The concert will
also feature a special performance of the song “Change Your Mind,” written by Hillary Lindsey and
Gordie Sampson for the characters Scarlett and Gunner in the ABC hit series Nashville. Tickets for the
2013 Boston Pops Season, priced $22-$105, may be purchased by visiting www.bostonpops.org, calling 888-266-1200, or visiting the Symphony Hall box office at 301 Massachusetts Avenue. On June 13 and 15 tickets are being offered to military personnel with a 30% discount.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FOR A COUNTRY SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS, JUNE 13-15

The “A Country Salute to Our Troops” program will open with a Boston Pops rendition of the “Star-Spangled Banner” led by conductor Keith Lockhart. On June 14, the concert opens with a special performance of the national anthem by former United States Army Ranger and country music singer Keni Thomas, who served during the Battle of Mogadishu, which was immortalized in the film Black Hawk Down. Under conductor Keith Lockhart’s direction the Pops will also perform renditions of “Let Freedom Ring,” “America the Beautiful,” and excerpts from Boston Pops Conductor Laureate John Williams’s score to Saving Private Ryan.

The June 13-15 concerts will also feature Oladunni and Olayeni Olapido, two talented young sisters from Canton, Massachusetts who will also take the Boston Pops stage to present a new composition “A Song for America,” written by their older sister Olaitan.

On Flag Day, June 14, a USO fundraiser will take place in conjunction with the Boston Pops concert, which is also open to the public.

MORE ON BRETT JAMES
Over the past decade, Grammy-winning songwriter and producer Brett James has established himself as one of the most prolific and versatile songwriters in Nashville. James is a two time ASCAP Songwriter of the Year with thirteen number one songs and over three hundred songs recorded. Top hits include; Kenny Chesney's "When The Sun Goes Down," "Out Last Night," "Reality," Carrie Underwood's "Cowboy Casanova," Daughtry's "Life After You," and Kelly Clarkson's "Mr. Know It All" Brett also produces country's fastest rising star Kip Moore ("Somethin’ Bout A Truck,” “Beer Money,” “Hey Pretty Girl”).

MORE ON HILLARY LINDSEY
Hillary Lindsey is an Oscar and two-time Golden Globe nominee with ten Billboard #1 songs to her credit. Lindsey’s top hits include Carrie Underwood’s “Two Black Cadillacs,” "Last Name," "Wasted," "Just A Dream," and "So Small," Gary Allan’s “Every Storm Runs Out Of Rain," Lady Antebellum’s "American Honey," and two hit songs featured in the ABC hit series Nashville: Telescope” performed by Hayden Panettiere and “Change Your Mind” performed by Claire Bowen (Scarlett) and Sam Palladio (Gunner). The Grammy-winning songstress hails from the small town of Washington, GA, and remembers writing songs as early as age 10. In 1994, Hillary entered Belmont University’s esteemed Music Business School where she discovered her penchant for songwriting.

MORE ON GORDIE SAMPSON
Gordie Sampson is a SOCAN and Juno award winning artist with four solo albums. Sampson’s top hits include Carrie Underwood's "Just A Dream," Hunter Hayes's "Storm Warning," Faith Hill's "Paris," and “Change Your Mind” featured in the ABC hit series Nashville performed by Claire Bowen (Scarlett) and Sam Palladio (Gunner). Gordie Sampson is a musical whirlwind, perpetually creating in the fields of writing, producing, and performing. Gordie has received numerous national and international awards including the prestigious 2007 Grammy Award for "Best Country Song of the Year."
2013 BOSTON POPS SEASON OVERVIEW

The 2013 Boston Pops season, May 8-June 15, under the direction of Keith Lockhart, presents a season-long tribute to the world of movie music, along with programs featuring a wide variety of American musical styles, including jazz, country, gospel, pop, classic standards from the '50s and '60s, and show-stopping songs from Broadway and the American Songbook. For the programs focusing on the season theme, “Best of Hollywood Film Music,” audiences will hear their favorite music from classic movies and today’s popular soundtracks performed live by the Boston Pops, while the related movie clips are projected on a giant screen suspended above the orchestra. Each concert will feature selections from some of the most celebrated film scores of our time.

TICKET AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION
TICKET INFORMATION
Tickets for the 2013 Boston Pops season at Symphony Hall, priced from $22-105, are on sale now at www.bostonpops.org. All performances start at 8 PM. Tickets may be purchased online at www.bostonpops.org or by phone through SymphonyCharge at 617-266-1200 or 888-266-1200, Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 6 PM (with a $6.25 handling fee for each ticket ordered online or by phone). Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Symphony Hall box office, open 10 AM to 6 PM, Monday through Friday, and noon to 6 PM on Saturday. On concert days during the Pops Season, the box office remains open until 8:30 PM. Most major credit cards and cash are accepted at the box office. For Group Sales of 25 or more, please call 617-638-9345 or 800-933-4255.

The Boston Symphony has a dedicated line for disabled patrons who would like to purchase tickets to BSO, Boston Pops, or Tanglewood concerts, or who need information about disability services at Symphony Hall or Tanglewood. This line can be reached by dialing 617-638-9431. For access via TDD/TTY, please call 617-638-9289. Patrons with disabilities can access Symphony Hall through the Cohen Wing on Huntington Avenue or through the Massachusetts Avenue entrance.

SPONSORSHIP
Opening Night at Pops and the entire 2013 Boston Pops season are sponsored by Fidelity Investments. John Williams’ Film Night Series (June 7-8 and 11-12) is sponsored by Arbella Insurance Foundation. The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel is the Official Hotel of the Boston Pops. Commonwealth Worldwide is the Official Chauffeured Transportation Provider of the Boston Pops. American Airlines is the Official Airline of the Boston Pops.

PRESS CONTACTS:
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BOSTON POPS 2013 SEASON LISTING – A COUNTRY SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS
Thursday, June 13, 8 PM
Friday, June 14, 8 PM
Saturday, June 15, 3 PM
A Country Salute to Our Troops
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Music City Hitmakers, guest artists
Brett James, Hillary Lindsey, and Gordie Sampson