KEITH LOCKHART LEADS THE BOSTON POPS ON TOUR TO SEVEN CITIES IN ARIZONA, NEVADA, AND CALIFORNIA, NOVEMBER 15—NOVEMBER 22

“THE VERY BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS” TOUR TO FEATURE THE FILM MUSIC OF BOSTON POPS LAUREATE CONDUCTOR JOHN WILLIAMS AND WORKS BY AMERICAN COMPOSERS LEONARD BERNSTEIN, AARON COPLAND, DUKE ELLINGTON, AND GEORGE GERSHWIN; ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE CLASSIC POPS ARRANGEMENTS OF HIT SONGS BY QUEEN AND ABBA, AND AN AUDIENCE CINEMATIC SING-ALONG

BOSTON POPS TOUR TO VISIT ARIZONA: TUCSON (11/15) AND MESA (11/16); LAS VEGAS, NEVADA (11/17); AND CALIFORNIA: PALM DESERT (11/19); SAN DIEGO (11/20); NORTHRIDGE (11/21); AND COSTA MESA (11/22)

The Boston Pops and conductor Keith Lockhart will tour the Southwest United States from November 15—22 with stops in seven cities in Arizona, Nevada, and California. “The Very Best of the Boston Pops” Southwest tour will showcase the extraordinary range of “America’s Orchestra,” with a special focus on several of this country’s most treasured composers, including Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Duke Ellington, and George Gershwin, as well as recent film music favorites from the incomparable John Williams. Alongside these giants of American music, the orchestra will also perform crowd-pleasing orchestrations of Queen’s Bohemian Rhapsody and ABBA’s Dancing Queen, on a program that will also include music from Riverdance and 42nd Street and a cinematic sing-along with such timeless classics as Over the Rainbow, The Way We Were, Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head, and Moon River. The Boston Pops will end performances with their signature seasonal piece Sleigh Ride to kick off the holiday season.
and celebrate the release of their new album, “A Boston Pops Christmas - Live from Symphony Hall,” available in October through www.bostonpops.org or 888-266-1200.

“One of my favorite parts of being the conductor of the Boston Pops is the privilege of taking the orchestra on tour and sharing some of its unique collection of great music with Pops fans across the country,” said Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart. “In typical Pops style, ‘The Very Best of the Boston Pops’ tour program will include music from some of America’s great masters including Leonard Bernstein, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, and Aaron Copland, as well as film music classics from our own Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams, alongside such popular favorites as Queen’s Bohemian Rhapsody!, ABBA’s Dancing Queen, and an audience cinematic sing-along that ends with one of the greatest songs ever written, Over the Rainbow. There is only one place you can hear all this great music performed in a single concert—at a Boston Pops concert—and we are thrilled to share it with our fans far and wide."

MORE ON “THE BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS” SOUTHWEST TOUR PROGRAM
Since establishing the Pops genre in 1885, the year of the orchestra’s founding, the Boston Pops has cultivated an impressive library of music reflecting over a century of America’s wide-ranging musical tastes. “The Very Best of the Boston Pops” draws from the 3,400 titles in the orchestra’s library—music prepared by some of the best arrangers and composers from every generation since the orchestra’s founding 128 years ago. This vast collection—virtually all of which is the exclusive domain of the Boston Pops—including everything from Beatles medleys, college fight songs, American songbook classics, film music, and Broadway scores for full orchestra, to jazz standards, full-length symphonies, sing-alongs for every occasion, and contemporary pop hits, as well as original works commissioned especially for the one and only Boston Pops Orchestra.

The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and Keith Lockhart will showcase the orchestra’s wide-ranging repertoire with a program that kicks off with a performance of the overture to Leonard Bernstein’s Candide, followed by “Buckaroo Holiday” from Aaron Copland’s cowboy ballet Rodeo, and an excerpt from Antonín Dvořák’s New World Symphony, a tribute to American music. The Boston Pops then perform Don Sebesky’s arrangement of the Duke Ellington jazz standard, It Don’t Mean a Thing, and George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue featuring pianist Michael Chertock. After a brief intermission, Keith and the Pops will perform Chris Walden’s orchestrations of Queen’s Bohemian Rhapsody and ABBA’s Dancing Queen. The program will also feature music from two stage classics—Riverdance, arranged by longtime Boston Pops percussionist Pat Hollenbeck, and 42nd Street, arranged for full orchestra by Don Sebesky.

The post-intermission set will also feature selections from Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams’s celebrated film scores to the movies Harry Potter and E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial. After an encore performance of the Boston Pops signature, Leroy Anderson’s Sleigh Ride (written for the Boston Pops, Sleigh Ride continues to be one of ASCAP’s most-played Christmas songs each season), to herald the coming holiday season, the concert will close with a cinematic sing-along arranged by Don Sebesky and including such infectious tunes as Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head, Moon River, and Over the
Rainbow. The Mesa and Palm Desert concerts will feature modified programs. A tour itinerary and program listings for all tour stops appear at the end of this release.

THE VERY BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS" TOUR ITINERARY
Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra begin their tour on Friday, November 15, at 8 p.m., at the University of Arizona Centennial Hall in Tucson, Arizona. The tour continues to Hohokum Stadium in Mesa, Arizona, on Saturday, November 16, at 5 p.m., before heading to the Smith Center for the Performing Arts/Reynolds Hall in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Sunday, November 17, at 5 p.m. The California leg of the tour includes performances in the McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert on Tuesday, November 19, at 8 p.m.; Copley Symphony Hall in San Diego on Wednesday, November 20, at 8 p.m., Valley Performing Arts Center, CSU in Northridge on Thursday, November 21, at 8 p.m. and Segerstrom Concert Hall in Costa Mesa on Friday, November 22, at 8 p.m. A tour itinerary and program listings appear at the end of this release.

KEITH LOCKHART BIOGRAPHY
Keith Lockhart became the twentieth conductor of the Boston Pops in 1995, adding his artistic vision to the Pops tradition established by his predecessors John Williams and Arthur Fiedler. Mr. Lockhart holds the Julian and Eunice Cohen Boston Pops Conductor chair. He has worked with a wide array of established artists from virtually every corner of the entertainment world, while also promoting programs that focus on talented young musicians from the Tanglewood Music Center, Boston Conservatory, and Berklee College of Music. During his nineteen-year tenure, he has conducted more than 1,500 Boston Pops concerts and introduced the innovative JazzFest and EdgeFest series, featuring prominent jazz and indie artists performing with the Pops. Mr. Lockhart has also introduced concert performances of full-length Broadway shows, including Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Carousel and Stephen Sondheim’s A Little Night Music, and the PopSearch and High School Sing-Off competitions. Under his leadership, the Boston Pops has commissioned several new works—including The Dream Lives On, a tribute to the Kennedy brothers, which was premiered in May 2010 during the 125th anniversary season—and dozens of new arrangements.

Audiences worldwide love Keith Lockhart’s inimitable style, expressed not only through his consummate music-making, but also by his unique ability to speak directly to the audience about the music to which he feels so passionately committed. He and the Boston Pops have released four self-produced recordings—Sleigh Ride, America, Oscar & Tony, and The Red Sox Album—and also recorded eight albums with RCA Victor—Runnin’ Wild: The Boston Pops Play Glenn Miller, American Visions, the Grammy-nominated The Celtic Album, Holiday Pops, A Splash of Pops, Encore!, the Latin Grammy-nominated The Latin Album, and My Favorite Things: A Richard Rodgers Celebration. Keith Lockhart has made 74 television shows with the Boston Pops, including a 2009 concert featuring jazz trumpeter Chris Botti, and special guests Sting, John Mayer, and Steven Tyler, and the annual Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular, broadcast nationally on CBS Television. He has also led many Holiday Pops telecasts, as well as 38 new programs for PBS’s Evening at Pops (1970-2004). He has led the Boston Pops on 37 national tours, as well as performances at Carnegie Hall and Radio City Music Hall, and brought the music of “America’s Orchestra” overseas in four tours of Japan and Korea. Mr. Lockhart has led the Boston Pops in the national anthem for numerous major sports events.

Keith Lockhart currently serves as principal conductor of the BBC Concert Orchestra in London, which he led in the June 2012 Diamond Jubilee Concert for Queen Elizabeth II, and as artistic director of the
Brevard Music Center summer institute and festival in North Carolina. He has appeared as a guest conductor with virtually every major symphonic ensemble in North America, as well as several in Asia and Europe. He was music director of the Utah Symphony from 1998 to 2009, and led that orchestra in performances at the 2002 Olympic Games, as well as on its first European tour in two decades. Prior to coming to Boston, he was the associate conductor of both the Cincinnati Symphony and Cincinnati Pops orchestras, as well as music director of the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra.

Born in Poughkeepsie, NY, Keith Lockhart began his musical studies with piano lessons at the age of seven. He holds degrees from Furman University and Carnegie Mellon University, and honorary doctorates from several American universities. Visit keithlockhart.com for further information.

About the Boston Pops
Affectionately known as “America’s Orchestra,” the Boston Pops is the most recorded and arguably the most beloved orchestra in the country, beginning with the establishment of the modern-era Pops by Arthur Fiedler and continuing through the innovations introduced by John Williams and the new-millennium Pops spearheaded by Keith Lockhart. In 2010, with the 125th anniversary season, the Boston Pops reached a landmark moment in a remarkable history that began with its founding in 1885. Fours years earlier, in 1881, Civil War veteran Henry Lee Higginson founded the Boston Symphony Orchestra, calling its establishment “the dream of my life.” From the start he intended to present, in the warmer months, concerts of light classics and the popular music of the day. From a practical perspective, Higginson realized that these “lighter” performances would provide year-round employment for his musicians. The “Promenade Concerts,” as they were originally called, were soon informally known as “Popular Concerts,” which eventually became shortened to “Pops,” the name officially adopted in 1900. The following year the orchestra performed for the first time in its new home, Symphony Hall. Not only is this performance space acoustically outstanding, it was also designed, at Higginson’s insistence, so that the rows of seats for Boston Symphony concerts could be replaced by tables and chairs for Pops concerts.

Some people may not realize that there were seventeen Pops conductors, beginning with the German Adolf Neuendorff, who preceded Arthur Fiedler, the first American-born musician to lead the orchestra. In his nearly 50-year tenure as Pops Conductor (1930-1979), Arthur Fiedler established the Boston Pops as a national icon. He moved the Pops beyond its origins in light-classical music into the world of pop culture, showcasing the popular artists of the day as well as the work of young American composers and arrangers. Mr. Fiedler organized the first free outdoor orchestral concerts on the Charles River Esplanade that led to Boston’s now-famous Fourth of July concert, established the Pops as the most recorded orchestra in history—including the best-seller “Jalousie”—and introduced the Evening at Pops television series, bringing the orchestra into the living rooms of countless Americans.

When John Williams (1980-1993) succeeded Arthur Fiedler, he was the most highly acclaimed composer in Hollywood, and today, with 48 Academy Award nominations, he is the most-nominated living person in Academy history. With the Pops, Mr. Williams continued the orchestra’s prolific recording tradition with a series of best-selling albums for the Philips and Sony Classical labels, broadened and updated the Pops repertoire—commissioning new compositions and introducing new arrangements of Boston Pops classics— and entertained audiences with live orchestral accompaniment to film clips of memorable movie scenes, many of which featured iconic music from his own film scores. He traveled extensively with the Pops both nationally and internationally, leading the Pops on its first tours to Japan. Mr. Williams also brought a bit of Hollywood to the Pops stage, with special appearances by Steven
Spielberg, Martin Scorsese, and Frank Langella, not to mention Darth Vader, R2D2, and C3PO.

Having led more than 1,500 Boston Pops concerts, Keith Lockhart (1995-present) is now in his nineteenth season as Boston Pops Conductor. In response to the ever-diversifying trends in music, Keith Lockhart has taken the Pops in new directions, creating programs that reach out to a broader and younger audience by presenting artists—both established performers and rising stars—from virtually every corner of the entertainment world, all the while maintaining the Pops’ appeal to its core audience. He has made 74 television shows, led 37 national and four overseas tours with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, and recorded eleven albums. Mr. Lockhart’s tenure has been marked by a dramatic increase in touring, the orchestra’s first Grammy nominations, the first major network national broadcast (on CBS Television) of the Fourth-of-July spectacular from the Esplanade, and the release of the Boston Pops’ first self-produced and self-distributed recordings. He has also led the Boston Pops at several high profile sports events, including the pre-game show of NFL’s Super Bowl XXXVI with the New England Patriots, the national anthem for the 2008 NBA Finals with the Boston Celtics, and the opening game of MLB’s 2007 World Series, at Fenway Park with the Boston Red Sox.

The focus of the 128th Boston Pops Spring season was music for the movies, ranging from Hollywood’s Golden Age to today’s blockbusters. “Fantasia in Concert” drew upon selections featured in the original groundbreaking 1940 Disney feature and in Fantasia 2000. Film clips from such recent family favorites as Finding Nemo and Monsters, Inc., were showcased in “Pixar in Concert.” Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams returned for “Film Night,” leading music from his own Oscar-nominated score to Steven Spielberg’s Lincoln. For the Pops’ tribute to the late Marvin Hamlisch, vocalists Donna McKechnie, Jodi Benson, and Doug LaBrecque performed some of Mr. Hamlisch’s most memorable tunes from both stage and screen. Matthew Morrison (Glee) and Megan Hilty (Smash)—Broadway performers who are also making their mark in television series—brought their considerable talents to the Symphony Hall stage. Broadway star and Seinfeld regular Jason Alexander returned as special guest for the annual “Presidents at Pops” concert. Another television hit, Mad Men, was the inspiration for an early-’60s-themed program. Patrons at these concerts were encouraged to dress in period fashions, and fans submitted family photos from that era for inclusion in a Pops collage. As in every season, the Pops programs explored the remarkable richness and variety to be found in American music. Returning guest conductor Charles Floyd and the Boston Pops Gospel Choir joined forces with Pastor Wintley Phipps for another rousing “Gospel Night.” The sounds of country music bookended the season: Opening Night marked the return to the Pops stage of superstar Vince Gill and, to close the season, the Music City Hitmakers (Brett James, Hillary Lindsey, and Gordie Sampson) saluted our troops with the debut of a new song, “Free” written especially for these performances. “Free” was again performed on the 40th Anniversary of the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular on July 4th on the Charles River Esplanade.

**“THE VERY BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS” SOUTHWEST TOUR SCHEDULE**

- Friday, November 15, 8 p.m. University of Arizona Centennial Hall; Tucson, AZ
- Saturday, November 16, 5 p.m. Hohokum Stadium; Mesa, AZ
- Sunday, November 17, 5 p.m. Smith Center for the Performing Arts / Reynolds Hall; Las Vegas, AZ
- Tuesday, November 19, 8 p.m. McCallum Theatre; Palm Desert, CA
- Wednesday, November 20, 8 p.m. Copley Symphony Hall; San Diego, CA
- Thursday, November 21, 8 p.m. Valley Performing Arts Center, CSU Northridge; Northridge, CA
- Friday, November 22, 8 p.m. Segerstrom Concert Hall; Costa Mesa, CA

**“THE VERY BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS” SOUTHWEST TOUR PROGRAMS**

THE BOSTON POPS ESPLANADE ORCHESTRA
KEITH LOCKHART, Conductor
Program for November 15, Tuscon; November 17, Las Vegas; November 20, San Diego; November 21, Northridge; and November 22, Costa Mesa

Overture to Candide Bernstein
Buckaroo Holiday, from Rodeo Copland
Largo, from New World Symphony Dvorák
It Don’t Mean a Thing Ellington-Sebesky
Rhapsody in Blue, Michael Chertock, piano Gershwin

INTERMISSION

42nd Street Warren-Sebesky
Riverdance Whelan-Hollenbeck
Bohemian Rhapsody Mercury-Walden
Dancing Queen Anderson/Ulvaeus/Anderson-Walden
The Music of John Williams
   Hedwig’s Theme, from Harry Potter Williams
   Flying Theme, from E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial Williams
You Must Remember This: A Cinematic Sing-Along arr. Sebesky
   As Time Goes By - Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head -
   Moon River - The Way We Were - Que Sera, Sera -
   Zip-A-Dee-Do-Dah - Over the Rainbow
Sleigh Ride Anderson

THE BOSTON POPS ESPLANADE ORCHESTRA
KEITH LOCKHART, Conductor
Program for November 16, Mesa, AZ

Overture to Candide Bernstein
Buckaroo Holiday, from Rodeo Copland
It Don’t Mean a Thing (If It Ain’t Got That Swing) Ellington-Sebesky
The Music of John Williams
   Hedwig’s Theme, from Harry Potter Williams
   Flying Theme, from E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial Williams
Rhapsody in Blue, Michael Chertock, piano Gershwin

INTERMISSION

Joy! Sebesky
The Christmas Song Torme-Wells/Morley
Sleigh Ride Anderson
Bohemian Rhapsody Mercury-Walden
Dancing Queen Andersson/Ulvaeus/Anderson-Walden
Doodletown Fifers Sauter-Hollenbeck
Patriotic Sing-Along arr. Hayman
1812 Overture Tchaikovsky

THE BOSTON POPS ESPLANADE ORCHESTRA
KEITH LOCKHART, Conductor
Program for November 19, Palm Desert

Overture to Candide Bernstein
Buckaroo Holiday, from Rodeo Copland
It Don’t Mean a Thing (If It Ain’t Got That Swing) Ellington-Sebesky
The Music of John Williams
   Hedwig’s Theme, from Harry Potter Williams
   Flying Theme, from E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial Williams
Rhapsody in Blue, Michael Chertock, piano Gershwin

INTERMISSION

Joy! Sebesky
The Christmas Song Torme-Wells/Morley
Sleigh Ride Anderson
Bohemian Rhapsody Mercury-Walden
Dancing Queen Andersson/Ulvaeus/Anderson-Walden
Doodletown Fifers Sauter-Hollenbeck
Patriotic Sing-Along arr. Hayman
1812 Overture Tchaikovsky
Overture to Candide
Bernstein
Buckaroo Holiday, from Rodeo
Copland
Largo, from New World Symphony
Dvorák
It Don’t Mean a Thing
Ellington-Sebesky
An American in Paris
Gershwin

INTERMISSION
42nd Street
Warren-Sebesky
Riverdance
Whelan-Hollenbeck
Bohemian Rhapsody
Mercury-Walden
Dancing Queen
Andersson/Ulvaeus/Anderson-Walden

The Music of John Williams
Hedwig’s Theme, from Harry Potter
Williams
Flying Theme, from E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial
Williams
Sleigh Ride
Anderson
You Must Remember This: A Cinematic Sing-Along
arr. Sebesky
As Time Goes By - Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head -
Moon River - The Way We Were - Que Sera, Sera -
Zip-A-Dee-Do-Dah - Over the Rainbow