GRAMMY- AND OSCAR-WINNING MELISSA ETHERIDGE JOINS KEITH LOCKHART AND THE BOSTON POPS FOR THEIR 2014 SPRING SEASON SCHEDULE, JUNE 12 AND 13, IN WHAT WILL BE HER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA DEBUT

TICKETS FOR HER DEBUT POPS PERFORMANCE GO ON SALE DECEMBER 20, 10 A.M.

JUNE 12 “BERKLEE NIGHT” PERFORMANCE WILL FEATURE ETHERIDGE AND UP-AND-COMING MUSICIANS FROM BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC, THE FAMED SINGER-SONGWRITER’S ALMA MATER

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS OF “THE VERY BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS” SEASON, MAY 7-JUNE 14, INCLUDE WARREN HAYNES IN HIS JERRY GARCIA SYMPHONIC CELEBRATION AND BOSTON POPS DEBUTS BY TONY-AWARD WINNER BILLY PORTER, CONDUCTOR SARAH HICKS, CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE, AND THE HOT SARDINES, AS WELL AS JASON ALEXANDER IN AN EVENING OF COMEDY, SONG, AND DANCE AND A SPECIAL FILM PRESENTATION OF THE WIZARD OF OZ WITH THE BOSTON POPS PERFORMING THE ORCHESTRAL SCORE; THESE PROGRAMS TO TAKE PLACE ALONGSIDE CLASSIC POPS ARRANGEMENTS OF MUSIC FROM THE BROADWAY STAGE, GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK, AND HOLLYWOOD FILM SCORE CLASSICS, WITH JOHN WILLIAMS LEADING THE EVER-POPULAR FILM NIGHT SERIES—MORE DETAILS AT WWW.BOSTONPOPS.ORG

For more information about the “Very Best of the Boston Pops” 2014 spring season including a press release and photos and bios of the season guest artists please click here.

High Resolution photos and a bio for Melissa Etheridge may be accessed by clicking here

Grammy- and Oscar-winning American rock singer-songwriter Melissa Etheridge will join the Boston Pops under conductor Keith Lockhart on June 12 and 13 for her first-ever appearances with a symphony orchestra. Tickets for these concerts go on sale Friday,
December 20th at 10 a.m. at www.bostonpops.org or 888-266-1200 and range from $24 -$94. With these performances, Etheridge joins “The Very Best of the Boston Pops” 2014 Boston Pops season, May 7-June 14, showcasing the amazing range of music and entertainment that audiences have come to expect from “America’s Orchestra,” under the direction of Keith Lockhart, at Symphony Hall in Boston, MA. Further details are available at www.bostonpops.org (season details also appear below).

Melissa Etheridge, who will bring her mixture of personal lyrics, pop-based folk-rock, and smoky vocals to the Boston Pops stage, is an alumna of Berklee College of Music, which is a co-sponsor of the June 12 program. “Berklee Night,” one of many spring concerts celebrating the collegiate neighbors of the Boston Pops, will feature talented students from the prestigious performing arts school during the first half of the program. The incomparable Etheridge will take the stage after intermission to perform some of her most recognizable hit songs to the accompaniment of the Boston Pops. The first half of the June 13th program taps into the overarching theme of the spring season—“The Very Best of the Boston Pops”—which draws from over 3,400 titles in the orchestra’s massive library.

MORE ON MELISSA ETHERIDGE
In February 2007, Melissa Etheridge celebrated a career milestone with a victory in the “Best Song” category at the Academy® Awards for “I Need to Wake Up,” written for the Al Gore documentary on global warming, An Inconvenient Truth. Over the course of her more than two decades as a performer and songwriter, Etheridge has shown herself to be an artist who has never allowed “inconvenient truths” to keep her down. Earlier in her recording career, Etheridge acknowledged her sexual orientation when it was considered less than prudent to do so. In October 2004, Etheridge was diagnosed with breast cancer, a health battle that, with her typical tenacity, she won. Despite losing her hair from chemotherapy, Etheridge appeared on the 2005 Grammy® telecast to sing “Piece of My Heart” in tribute to Janis Joplin. By doing so she gave hope to many women afflicted with the disease. In 2012, she released her most recent album 4th St. Feeling. Melissa Etheridge opened the 2013 Tanglewood Season this past June, one of several popular music acts chosen to perform at the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS OF “THE VERY BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS” SEASON
“The Very Best of the Boston Pops” 2014 Boston Pops season, May 7-June 14, will showcase the amazing range of music and entertainment that audiences have come to expect from “America’s Orchestra,” under the direction of Keith Lockhart, at Symphony Hall in Boston, MA. Along with the orchestra’s beloved tradition of presenting classic hits from Broadway, film, and the Great American Songbook—all chosen from its exclusive library of extraordinary music—the 2014 Boston Pops spring season will also introduce its audiences to debut appearances by Warren Haynes (5/13 & 14), Tony award-winning Billy Porter (5/20 &21), and conductor Sarah Hicks (5/23 & 24), as well as first-time collaborations with the New York-based jazz band sensation The Hot Sardines (5/28-30) and Cirque de la Symphonie (5/16 & 17), the wildly unique circus act that brings its aerial flyers, acrobats, dancers, and jugglers to orchestral stages.
throughout the country.

The Boston Pops Opening night concert on May 7 will feature Jason Alexander—actor, director, producer, writer, singer, and comedian, best-known for his role as George Costanza of Seinfeld fame—who will join Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Orchestra for an evening of comedy, song, and dance. Additional season highlights include a screening of the complete Wizard of Oz with live orchestra accompaniment (5/10 & 11), the annual Film Night series with Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams (6/6, 7, 10, 11), Gospel Night with Grammy-award winning a cappella group Take Six and the world premiere of a new work, “The Song of Solomon” by conductor Charles Floyd (6/14), as well as performances by the winners of the 2014 Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition at the Boston Pops and original Dreamgirls cast member Jennifer Holliday (6/3). Holiday will also make a special appearance during the annual Gala fundraising event, Presidents at Pops (6/4).

Founded in 1885, the Boston Pops performs at world-famous Symphony Hall—where Pops patrons sit at cabaret-style tables and order food and drink with family and friends, all while taking in the fun-filled atmosphere of music and entertainment presented by the one and only Boston Pops. Tickets to the 2014 Boston Pops season, priced from $22-124, go on sale Wednesday, December 5, at 888-266-1200 or www.bostonpops.org.

**TICKET AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION**

**TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for the 2014 Boston Pops season at Symphony Hall, priced from $22-124, go on sale at 10 AM at www.bostonpops.org or 617-266-1200 on Wednesday, December 5. All performances start at 8 PM, except for the Oz With Orchestra performances on May 10 and 11 and the Cirque de la Symphonie performance on May 17. These three Kids Matinee concerts start at 3 p.m. and tickets for children ages 12 and younger are 50% off.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.bostonpops.org or by phone through SymphonyCharge at 617-266-1200 or 888-266-1200, Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 6 PM and on Saturday from 12 noon 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.
Ticket packages to *Presidents at Pops*, the BSO's exclusive spring corporate gala, start at $5,500 and include floor and balcony tickets with a sponsor page in the evening's commemorative program book. Lead Sponsorships are available from $25,000 to $75,000, and include premium seating, full-color sponsor pages, sponsorship of children at DARTS (Days in the Arts at Tanglewood), the BSO's summer arts immersion camp in the Berkshires, membership in the BSO Business Partners, as well as recognition at the event and throughout the Pops season.

**SPONSORSHIP**
Opening Night at Pops and the entire 2014 Boston Pops season are sponsored by Fidelity Investments. John Williams' Film Night Series (June 6, 7, 10, 11) 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.

**Melissa Etheridge Concert Listing**
**Thursday, June 12, 8 p.m.**
**Friday, June 13, 8 p.m.**
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Melissa Etheridge, guest artist