FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DATE: May 1, 2014

LEGENDARY ACTOR LEONARD NIMOY, THE ORIGINAL MR. SPOCK IN STAR TREK, TO MAKE BOSTON POPS DEBUT IN “OUT OF THIS WORLD” SPACE-THEMED CONCERTS LED BY SARAH HICKS, PRINCIPAL POPS CONDUCTOR OF THE MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA (MAY 23 & 24)

TONY- AND GRAMMY- AWARD WINNING ENTERTAINER BILLY PORTER DEBUTS WITH THE BOSTON POPS “AT THE CORNER OF BROADWAY AND SOUL,” FEATURING TUNES FROM HIS NEW ALBUM AND CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED MUSICAL KINKY BOOTS (MAY 20 & 21)

View Video of Leonard Nimoy Here

View video of Billy Porter Here

FOR DOWNLOADABLE PHOTOS AND BIOS OF SEASON GUEST ARTISTS AND THE BOSTON POPS PLEASE CLICK HERE

PRESS TICKETS FOR SEASON CONCERTS ARE AVAILABLE BY EMAILING DMCCADDEN@BSO.ORG OR CALLING 617-638-9286

This May, Boston Pops audiences can visit the Milky Way and the Great White Way, in a week of concerts celebrating the cosmos and Broadway. In his Boston Pops debut, famed Star Trek actor Leonard Nimoy joins the orchestra and Harvard-trained conductor Sarah Hicks as the distinguished host of the space-themed “Out of This World” concerts, May 23 and 24. Broadway powerhouse Billy Porter also debuts with the Pops on May 20 and 21, to perform tunes from the wildly popular musical Kinky Boots, for which he won a Tony award, and songs
from his new album, *Billy’s Back on Broadway*, released on April 15. **Tickets for “At the Corner of Broadway and Soul,” with Billy Porter (May 20 & 21) and for “Out of this World” with Leonard Nimoy (May 23 & 24) run from $24-$94. Purchase tickets by calling 888-266-1200 or visiting www.bostonpops.org.**

**MORE ON “AT THE CORNER OF BROADWAY AND SOUL” WITH BILLY PORTER (MAY 20 & 21)**

Broadway comes to the Boston Pops this spring in the form of **Billy Porter**, a phenomenal vocalist who electrified New York audiences last year with his performance in the hit *Kinky Boots*, for which he won the Tony Award for Best Leading Actor in a Musical. Mr. Porter—in his first appearance with the Pops—will join the orchestra and Keith Lockhart at “the corner of Broadway and soul,” where Broadway ballads intersect with R&B beats and Gospel instincts.

In addition to his Broadway roles in *Grease, Smokey Joe’s Cafe*, and *Miss Saigon*, Mr. Porter is a recording artist, songwriter, and director. His song and dance set will include a medley from *Kinky Boots*, in addition to Broadway classics from his brand new-album *Billy’s Back on Broadway* including “But The World Goes ’Round,” “I’ve Gotta Be Me,” and the *Gypsy* tune “Everything’s Coming Up Roses.”

**MORE ON “OUT OF THIS WORLD” WITH LEONARD NIMOY (MAY 23 & 24)**

Iconic **Star Trek** actor **Leonard Nimoy** will join the Boston Pops as the host of two *Out of This World* space-themed concerts this May 23 and 24 at Symphony Hall in Boston. The program, led by guest conductor **Sarah Hicks** — in her Boston Pops spring season debut—features music inspired by outer space, with onstage commentary from the celebrated actor. Highlights include Holst’s *The Planets*, the theme from *Star Trek*, the *Also Sprach Zarathustra* theme popularized in the film *2001: A Space Odyssey*, and Boston Pops Laureate Conductor **John Williams**’s intergalactic music from *Star Wars, E.T.*, and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. The concert will also feature several visually stunning short films by astronomer and experimental photographer **José Francisco Salgado**. Sarah Hicks’s podium appearance is also a Boston homecoming, as the conductor received her bachelor’s degree in composition at Harvard in 1993.

**THE VERY BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS SEASON OVERVIEW**

“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), Grammy- and Oscar-winning **Melissa Etheridge** (6/12 & 13), 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), Out Of This World space-themed concerts with Leonard Nimoy; 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 star Jennifer Holliday (6/3). Ms. Holliday will also make a special appearance during the annual Gala fundraising event, Presidents at Pops (6/4).

MORE ON “THE VERY BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS” SEASON
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—includes 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.

DETAILS OF FAN PARTICIPATION FOR THE 2014 SEASON
In celebration of the 75th anniversary of The Wizard of Oz, the Boston Pops orchestra invites fans to submit video renditions of The Wizard of Oz Academy Award-winning song “Over the Rainbow.” The best entries will be selected to feature in a very special video compilation, which will include guest artists from the 2014 season, and will be shown during Boston Pops concerts at Symphony Hall. Participants of all ages can submit video of themselves singing all or part of “Over the Rainbow.” Fans are encouraged to email their video submissions to press@bso.org. Videos chosen to be part of the “Over the Rainbow” video compilation will also be featured on the Boston Pops YouTube channel and on the Boston Pops website www.BostonPops.org.

TICKET AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION
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Tickets for the 2014 Boston Pops season at Symphony Hall, priced from $22-124, are on sale at www.bostonpops.org or 617-266-1200. All performances start at 8 p.m., 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.

**Boston Pops Concert Listing**
**Tuesday, May 20, 8 p.m.**
At the Corner of Broadway and Soul
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Billy Porter, special guest

**Tuesday, May 23, 8 p.m.**
Out of this World
Sarah Hicks, conductor
Leonard Nimoy, guest