KEITH LOCKHART-LED BOSTON POPS CONCERT WITH ORIGINAL DREAMGIRLS STAR JENNIFER HOLLIDAY TO FEATURE WINNERS OF THE FIDELITY INVESTMENTS YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION AT SYMPHONY HALL (JUNE 3)

WINNERS OF THE FIDELITY INVESTMENTS YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION AT THE BOSTON POPS INCLUDE TALENTED MASSACHUSETTS STUDENTS FROM BOSTON, ARLINGTON, MEDFORD, MARBLEHEAD, AND MELROSE

BOSTON POPS’ 2014 SEASON SPONSORED BY FIDELITY INVESTMENTS®

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The winners of the 2014 Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition at the Boston Pops will perform with the orchestra in a Keith Lockhart-led Pops concert featuring original Dreamgirls cast member Jennifer Holliday. This year’s winners are young vocalist Claire Dickson, from Medford, MA; pianist Kevin Sherman, from Marblehead, MA; Chinese bamboo flutist Jeffrey Zhou, from Boston, MA; and the three members of the rock band Liquid Sun: Jay Ricco and Niels Versavel, both from Arlington, MA; and Rebecca Noelle Zama, from Melrose, MA. Tickets for the June 3 Boston Pops concert run from $24 to $94 and are available by calling 888-266-1200 or visiting www.bostonpops.org.
MORE ON 2014 FIDELITY INVESTMENTS YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION AT THE BOSTON POPS

Created by Fidelity Investments® in 2008, to expand its long standing support of the arts in local communities, the Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition at the Boston Pops is an opportunity for high school students to compete for a chance to perform at a special Boston Pops Concert on June 3 at Symphony Hall. Four acts were selected as winners from a large pool of applicants a live audition round at Symphony Hall.

Pianist Kevin Sherman, a Marblehead High School student and resident of Marblehead, will perform an excerpt from the first movement of Chopin’s Concerto No. 1 in E minor. Claire Dickson, of Medford, will lend her vocals to the tune “Skylark” with the Boston Pops. Boston Latin School student Jeffrey Zhou will perform “Horses Come to Town” on Chinese flute, accompanied by eight musicians from the Boston Chinese Musicians Association. Finally, the young rock group Liquid Sun will perform the Pink Floyd tune “Shine On You Crazy Diamond” with the orchestra. Liquid Sun is made up of International School of Boston students Niels Versavel (a keyboardist from Arlington) and Rebecca Noelle Zama (a vocalist from Melrose), as well as Boston College High School Student Jay Ricco (a guitarist from Arlington). Please see below for a list of the winners by high school, hometown, and instrument.

The first half of this Boston Pops concert will feature Pops renditions of Dvořák’s Carnival Overture and a new arrangement of Dave Brubeck’s Blue Rondo à la Turk, written by Chris Brubeck, the late composer’s son. Famed singer Jennifer Holliday takes the stage during the concert’s second act for some of the best tunes from Broadway, including the show-stopping “And I Am Telling You I’m Not Going,” from Dreamgirls, for which Jennifer Holliday won a Tony award as an original cast member. Holliday also performs during the 33rd annual “Presidents at Pops” fundraiser at Symphony Hall the following evening, Wednesday, June 4.

MORE ON CLAIRE DICKSON

Seventeen-year-old Claire Dickson comes from a musical family. Her father is a klezmer clarinetist and bandleader, her sister a singer-songwriter, and her brother a folk guitarist and mandolinist. Claire has performed with New Repertory Theatre, the Reagle Players, Revels, and other theatrical groups. At age eleven she fell in love with jazz when her father put an Ella Fitzgerald album on the family mp3 player; ever since she has devoted herself to its study and performance. She is the recipient of six Downbeat Student Music Awards, was a 2014 National YoungArts Foundation finalist, and earned a full scholarship to Terri Lyne Carrington’s 2013 Summer Jazz Workshop at Berklee College of Music. Later this month she will compete as a regional finalist in Michael Feinstein’s Great American Songbook High School Vocal Competition. Active in the Boston jazz community, Claire blogs about jazz for WBUR’s Artery and serves as JazzBoston’s newsletter editor. You can learn more about her musical life at www.clairedicksonmusic.com. A homeschooled student from Medford, Claire Dickson is also a member of the Arlington Model United Nations Club, and volunteers for the Samaritans, at Massachusetts General Hospital, and as a math tutor for local elementary school students. She thanks Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops for this amazing opportunity.
MORE ON JEFFREY ZHOU
A freshman at the Boston Latin School, Jeffrey Zhou started playing the Chinese bamboo flute (dizi) at age seven. Having been exposed to various genres of music from a young age, he has always appreciated the Chinese bamboo flute, as well as the tradition and culture behind the music. He started playing his first instrument, piano, at age five; since then, he has branched off to many different instruments, including flute, saxophone, and various types of traditional Chinese instruments. In his early years of dizi-playing, Jeffrey played for personal enjoyment, performing only for close friends and family. It wasn’t until he won the gold medal at the Boston Annual Chinese Instrument Competition in 2009 that he realized the potential of his playing. Since then, he has participated in various competitions and performances widely known among the Chinese community. Now passionate about bringing the beauty of this music to a wider and more diverse audience, he is eager to perform with the Boston Pops and to share his love for music with all cultures and ethnicities.

MORE ON KEVIN SHERMAN
At age seventeen Kevin Sherman is a seasoned performer with a passion for the piano, especially for the music of his favorite composer, Frédéric Chopin. Born in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1996, Kevin began studying music with Valerie Henkin in 2005. Since his first solo recital in 2007, he has performed regularly, and has won MMTA piano competitions every year since 2006. Between 2008 and 2011 he traveled to New York seven times to play in Carnegie Hall. His 2009 performance with the Salem Philharmonic Orchestra of Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 20 in D minor delighted over a thousand listeners. The following year he won the Middle School, MTNA regional, and Ithaca College international competitions and also performed a benefit concert for 800 contributors to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Killington Music Festival introduced Kevin to chamber music in 2011. That summer he performed Mendelssohn’s D minor Trio and in the fall entered the New England Conservatory preparatory school for further chamber music study, ending the year with a performance of Mendelssohn’s C minor Trio at Boston’s Jordan Hall. In 2012 Kevin won the Ruth Davidson High School Piano Competition and a separate award for the best performance of a modern piece. Kevin says his unique gift is to “discover beauty in a musical piece and deliver it to the audience.”

MORE ON THE MEMBERS OF LIQUID SUN
Jay Ricco, a graduating senior at Boston College High School, first started playing guitar, along with many other instruments, at age ten. With little formal musical training on guitar, he continues to learn and progress solely by listening, imitating, and experimenting. This rings true especially in live performances, where he enjoys improvising solos. Most will never be the same; however, all will display a bit of rock ‘n’ roll/heavy metal influence. Jay and the other members of Liquid Sun came together in the ensemble program at the School of Groove. He is one of the first and longest-serving members of the band, beginning with a show at the Hard Rock Café in 2008. After watching a video of the neo-classical/metal guitarist Yngwie Malmsteen performing with an orchestra, Jay has always wanted the opportunity himself, and therefore is ecstatic to be playing with the Boston Pops. “There is just so much room for amazing things to happen!”
Niels Versavel is sixteen years old and currently lives in Arlington, Massachusetts. Originally from Belgium, he lived in Europe for the first six years of his life. Niels has been studying the piano since the age of six, and picked up the guitar at thirteen, drawing inspiration from such artists as Herbie Hancock, Stevie Wonder, Elton John, and Billy Joel. He currently takes music lessons at the School of Groove in Cambridge, where he is also a member of the band Liquid Sun together with Rebecca Zama, Elijah Harris, Jay Ricco, Madison Russo, and their mentor, James Auburn Tootle. Niels plans to strive artistically and to continue nurturing his passion for music throughout his college years and beyond.

Rebecca Noelle Zama is a Boston-based Haitian-American singer who has found her passion in music. She has been performing publicly since the age of three all around Massachusetts, from galas to political events to fundraisers. Initially singing in Boston’s populous Haitian community, she has since branched out. Although she specializes in jazz, r&b, blues, and pop, Rebecca sings a bit of everything, consistently infusing her Haitian heritage, of which she is proud, into her music. Among her inspirations are legends Etta James and Whitney Houston and newer sensations Beyoncé and Lauryn Hill. Rebecca had no formal training until 2011, when she started taking voice lessons at the School of Groove. She joined Liquid Sun in 2013 and has greatly enjoyed her time playing with the group. Also a songwriter and dancer, she has been working on releasing an album that features some of her original songs. Currently a sophomore at the International School of Boston, she hopes to pursue a career as a full-time musician.

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 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 has already welcomed debuts by Warren Haynes (5/13 & 14) 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 featured Jason Alexander—actor, director, producer, writer, singer, and comedian, best-known for his role as George Costanza of Seinfeld fame—who joined Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Orchestra for an evening of comedy, song, and dance. The Boston Pops also presented a screening of the complete Wizard of Oz with live orchestra accompaniment (5/10 & 11). Additional season highlights include 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 make a special appearance during the annual Gala fundraising event, Presidents at Pops (6/4). The orchestra will also celebrate the 200th anniversary of “The Star-Spangled Banner,” with a newly commissioned arrangement of the national anthem with a celebrity guest narrator.

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.

TICKET AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION
TICKET INFORMATION
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.

**WINNERS OF FIDELITY INVESTMENTS® YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION AT THE BOSTON POPS**
Jeffrey Zhou, Chinese flute
Boston Latin School
Boston, MA

Kevin Sherman, piano
Marblehead High School
Marblehead, MA

Claire Dickson, vocalist
Home Schooled
Medford, MA

Jay Ricco, Liquid Sun (guitar)
Boston College High School
Arlington, MA

Niels Versavel, Liquid Sun (keys)
International School of Boston
Arlington, MA

Rebecca Noelle Zama, Liquid Sun (vocals)
International School of Boston
Melrose, MA

**Boston Pops Listing**
Tuesday, June 3
Boston Pops
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Jennifer Holliday, guest