KEITH LOCKHART LEADS JULY 4 BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR ON CHARLES RIVER ESPLANADE FEATURING LEGENDARY BAND THE BEACH BOYS, BROADWAY AND TV SENSATION MEGAN HILTY, PRINCIPALS FROM THE SPECTACULAR NEW PRODUCTION OF THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, AND THE AWARD-WINNING BOSTON CHILDREN’S CHORUS

41st ANNUAL BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR WILL BE TELEVISED EXCLUSIVELY ON CBS BOSTON’S WBZ-TV FROM 8 P.M. – 11 P.M.

A FIRST-EVER WEBCAST OF THE BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR, SPONSORED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM, WILL STREAM LIVE FROM 8 P.M. ON WWW.BOSTONPOPSJULY4TH.ORG AND WWW.CBSBOSTON.COM, BRINGING THE EVENT TO A WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE

POP-UP POPS, TEN-MEMBER BOSTON POPS ENSEMBLE LED BY KEITH LOCKHART TO VISIT LOCATIONS AROUND THE NORTHEAST TO HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE JULY 4 SHOW AND WEBCAST

JULY 4 CONTEST TO WIN A CHANCE TO CONDUCT THE BOSTON POPS IN 2015!
Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra will be joined by special guests The Beach Boys, Megan Hilty, Julia Udine and Ben Jacoby from the new production of Phantom of the Opera, and the Boston Children’s Chorus in celebrating one of the nation’s proudest holiday traditions, the Boston Pops’ Fourth-of-July concert at the Hatch Shell on Boston’s Charles River Esplanade, Friday, July 4, 8 p.m., celebrating its 41st year. For the first time, there will be a live webcast of the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular available at www.BostonPopsJuly4th.org and www.cbsboston.com, sponsored by the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism. This event will also be the first free webcast of a full Boston Pops concert. The Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular will be televised exclusively on CBS Boston’s WBZ-TV from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. The broadcast recently won an Emmy Award for Outstanding Special Event Coverage presented by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Boston/New England.

“We’re thrilled that WBZ-TV is continuing its commitment to broadcast the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular for its huge fan base in Boston, Massachusetts, and New England,” said Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart. “We’re grateful for the continued support of Liberty Mutual Insurance, and thanks to the generosity of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, we couldn’t be happier to announce the first-ever webcast of the event, giving us the potential of reaching millions of additional music-loving patriots throughout the country and beyond. That’s great news for this country’s leading Independence Day celebration!”

BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR PROGRAM

The Beach Boys’ vocal harmonies are unmistakable and enduring, and their torrent of hits changed the musical landscape profoundly. The Beach Boys continue to create and perform with the same bold imagination and style that marked their explosive debut over 50 years ago. Captained by Mike Love, The Beach Boys play an astoundingly busy schedule of concerts, averaging 150 shows a year. The Beach Boys are led by Mike Love and Bruce Johnson, who along with Christian Love, Randell Kirsch, Tim Bonhomme, John Cowsill, and Scott Totten continue the legacy of the iconic American band. Few, if any, acts can match The Beach Boys’ concert presence, spirit, and performance.

Star of television and the Broadway stage, singer and actress Megan Hilty will perform at this year’s concert along with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra. After stints on Broadway in Wicked, 9 to 5: The Musical, and Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Megan Hilty became one of TV’s newest stars with her leading role in the popular NBC series Smash. Hilty recently starred alongside Sean Hayes in NBC’s comedy Sean Saves the World. In March 2013, she released her debut solo album, It Happens All the Time, and made her debut with Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall in May 2013.
Julia Udine, who plays Christine Daaé, is honored to be making her touring debut with this new production of The Phantom of the Opera. Her theater credits include: *Jack’s Back*, *West Side Story*. TV: *Law and Order SVU, All My Children*. Ben Jacoby, who plays Raoul, Vicomte de Chagny, comes to Phantom directly from the Chicago-area Marriott Theatre. Regionally, Ben has appeared at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Maine State Music Theatre and in several productions at the Utah Shakespeare Festival.

The Boston Children’s Chorus is a creative social integration organization that unites area children ages 7-18 across differences of race, religion and socioeconomic status. Their focus is not on one specific community, but the energy of the intersection of all our communities. Through intensive choral training and once-in-a-lifetime performing experiences locally, nationally and around the world, BCC enhances the education and social development of youth as future leaders and global citizens in the 21st century.

This year’s program will be hosted by WBZ-TV News anchors Lisa Hughes and Jonathan Elias and will feature members of WBZ-TV News: WBZ-TV morning news anchors Kate Merrill and David Wade, evening anchors Paula Ebben and Jack Williams, Chief Meteorologist Eric Fisher, and Sports Director Steve Burton. It will also air locally on WBZ NewsRadio 1030 hosted by Jordan Rich with reports from WBZ News anchor Joe Mathieu. Additionally, the broadcast will stream live on the FM dial on WCRB 99.5 beginning at 7 p.m. with Ron Della Chiesa and Laura Carlo. The WBZ-TV Emmy-winning broadcast marks the twelfth year that WBZ-TV has carried the program.

This year’s Spectacular will keep alive several of the Boston holiday traditions including the Pops’ now classic Independence Day rendition of Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*, which features real cannons, the live ringing of area church bells, and fireworks. Also on the program is *The Stars and Stripes Forever*, which includes the ceremonial American flag drop and confetti shot. The Spectacular will be capped off by a magnificent fireworks array that fills the skies above Boston with a stunning exhibition of color and breathtaking pageantry.

The Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular is an annual, free outdoor concert at the DCR Hatch Shell on the Esplanade and is sponsored by Liberty Mutual Insurance, one of America’s leading insurers, offering auto, home, and life insurance for individuals and families, as well as a variety of insurance products and services for businesses. The final 20 minutes of the broadcast, featuring the spectacular fireworks display, will be presented commercial-free by Liberty Mutual Insurance.
“POP-UP POPS” CONCERTS THROUGHOUT THE NORTHEAST LEADING UP TO JULY 4

Highlighting the www.BostonPopsJuly4th.org and www.cbsboston.com webcast, “Pop-Up Pops,” a ten-member ensemble from the Boston Pops, conducted by Keith Lockhart (for the June 30 events), will tour the Northeast, visiting numerous locations to perform patriotic favorites to get people in the spirit ahead of the July 4 webcast. On June 29, “Pop-Up Pops” will visit Six Flags New England, and Titus Sparrow Park in Boston’s South End. On June 30, “Pop-Up Pops” will perform in downtown Stamford, Connecticut, on Bedford Street, and the ensemble will also visit New York City, performing at Father Duffy Square in Time Square. The group will also perform at Boston’s Logan Airport, Terminal B, the home of American Airlines (the official airline of the Boston Pops).

Six Flags New England, Sunday, June 29, noon
Six Flags New England always has something new to offer including thrilling rides, the water park, family entertainment, dining, and more. New this June, Pop-Up Pops, featuring members of the Boston Pops, visits Six Flags New England on Sunday, June 29, at noon for a performance. www.sixflags.com

Titus Sparrow Park, Boston, Sunday, June 29, 5 p.m.
Pop-Up Pops will perform in Boston’s South End neighborhood, in Titus Sparrow Park, a green oasis, located a short walk away from Symphony Hall.

Downtown Stamford, Monday, June 30, 5:30 p.m.
Stamford Downtown offers a broad array of shops, services, restaurants, arts, education, and events. On June 30, Stamford Downtown presents Conductor Keith Lockhart and members of the Boston Pops performing patriotic and swing dance favorites live on Bedford Street for a free event. www.stamford-downtown.com

Duffy Square, Times Square, New York City, June 30, 2 p.m.
Keith Lockhart will lead the Pop-Up Pops ensemble in a performance in the heart of Times Square, one of New York City’s most iconic spaces, at Duffy Square at 45th Street between Broadway and Seventh Avenue.

Logan Airport, Terminal B, Monday June 30, 7:30 a.m.
Members of the Boston Pops will bring some Independence Week spirit to travelers passing through Boston’s Logan Airport Terminal. This concert is co-presented by Massport and the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism. www.massport.com/logan-airport

“TWEET TO WIN” SWEEPSTAKES TO WIN A CHANCE TO CONDUCT THE BOSTON POPS
Win a chance to conduct the Boston Pops in 2015! One grand prize-winner will get the chance to conduct the **Boston Pops** during the 2015 Spring Pops Season at Symphony Hall. The winner will also receive roundtrip airfare to Boston, and a 3-night stay at the Fairmont Copley Plaza hotel. Further details of this “Tweet to Win” sweepstakes will be announced in the coming days.

Find the Boston Pops on facebook at [www.facebook.com/TheBostonPops](http://www.facebook.com/TheBostonPops) and follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/TheBostonPops](http://www.twitter.com/TheBostonPops).

**BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR**

**Thursday, July 3, 2014**
8:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

**Friday, July 4, 2014**
8 p.m. – 11 p.m. (10:30 p.m. fireworks)
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra
The Beach Boys
Megan Hilty
Julia Udine and Ben Jacoby, *Phantom of the Opera*
Boston Children’s Chorus

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