PRESS CONTACT:
Bernadette Horgan, bhorgan@bso.org
617-638-9280

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 25, 2014

THE BSO’S PREMIER HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER,
31ST ANNUAL “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” TO FEATURE
CELEBRITY GUEST CASEY AFFLECK NARRATING
“TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS” AND PERFORMANCE BY
EMMY AND GRAMMY AWARD-NOMINATED ENTERTAINER
MICHAEL FEINSTEIN, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

“A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS” AND SISTER EVENT
“PRESIDENT AT POPS” REACH MAJOR MILESTONE:
50 MILLION DOLLARS RAISED BY COMBINED EVENTS SINCE 1982

CEO KAREN KAPLAN, OF HILL HOLIDAY ADVERTISING IS CHAIR OF THIS YEAR’S “A
COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” WHICH HAS RAISED OVER $1.1 MILLION FOR
THE BOSTON SYMPHONY AND BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRAS

200 YOUNGSTERS FROM BOSTON-AREA CHILDREN’S SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
WILL ATTEND “COMPANY CHRISTMAS” AS SPECIAL GUESTS

CONCERT-ONLY TICKETS ON SALE NOW TO GENERAL PUBLIC

On Wednesday, December 10, at 8 p.m. Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart will lead the
31st annual “A Company Christmas at Pops,” with special guest Michael Feinstein performing some of
the best-loved songs of the Holiday season. Actor, director, producer, and screenwriter **Casey Affleck** will also join the Pops on this festive evening for a guest narration of “Twas the Night Before Christmas.” This year’s “A Company Christmas at Pops”—the BSO’s premier Holiday fundraiser—has raised more than $1.1 million to date, representing support from more than 100 companies and the leadership of event chair Karen Kaplan of Hill Holliday Advertising. Please see below for a full listing of committee members. “A Company Christmas at Pops” and sister event “Presidents at Pops” have reached a major milestone this season, with over 50 million dollars now raised by the combined events since 1982.

Ticket packages—including cocktails, dinner, concert tickets, and recognition in the evening’s program book—are available by calling 617-638-9278. The doors open at 6:00 p.m. for a festive pre-concert reception, followed by a gourmet boxed dinner and the concert in the hall. A limited number of concert-only tickets, priced $30 to $98, are available through the BSO box office, online at [www.bostonpops.org](http://www.bostonpops.org), or by calling Symphony Charge at 888-266-1200.

“A Company Christmas at Pops” is part of the **Holiday Pops Season**, which takes place December 3-31, at Symphony Hall, specially decorated to evoke all the magic and charm of the season. Further details are available at [www.bostonpops.org](http://www.bostonpops.org). For a list of the CEOs, presidents, executives, and New England companies who are taking part in this year’s gala please see the “A Company Christmas at Pops” Lead Sponsors and Committee Members lists found below.

**PROGRAM DETAILS FOR “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10**

The 2014 “A Company Christmas At Pops” presents some of the most beloved holiday music including selections from the 2013 popular recording **A Boston Pops Christmas – Live From Symphony Hall**. The program kicks off with Randol Bass’s “Gloria” and the spirit-raising “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s *Messiah*. Concert-goers will also be treated to the instantly recognizable “Waltz of the Snowflakes” from Tchaikovsky’s *The Nutcracker*. The concert will also present a performance of “A Soldier’s Carol: The Christmas Truce of 1914,” which pays tribute to a brief special episode during one of the darkest periods in human history. This new work, by Tony Award-winning Broadway composing team **Stephen Flaherty** and **Lynn Ahrens** (*Ragtime*, *Seussical*), celebrates the remarkable display of humanity during World War I, when widespread impromptu ceasefires spread across the Western Front during Christmas 1914. Actor Karen MacDonald will narrate the work. In addition, no Holiday Pops concert would be complete without the orchestra’s signature rendition of Leroy Anderson’s *Sleigh Ride*, a piece written expressly for the Boston Pops, and regularly ranked the most popular Christmas tune by ASCAP.

After intermission, the Boston Pops, Keith Lockhart, and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus will welcome American Songbook connoisseur **Michael Feinstein** to the Pops stage for renditions of some of the best songs of this special season. Mr. Feinstein will present such holiday tunes as “We Need A Little Christmas,” Mel Tormé’s classic “The Christmas Song,” and of course Irving Berlin’s “White Christmas” in his distinctive vocal style. A charismatic and delightful showman, Michael Feinstein will also share behind the scenes stories of some of the great holiday music found in the American Songbook. Closing the concert is an audience sing-along of assorted holiday favorites including “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,” “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,” “Winter Wonderland,” and “Jingle Bells.”
BACKGROUND ON “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS”
“A Company Christmas at Pops” is a unique holiday gala that celebrates the extraordinary partnership between the corporate community and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Since their inception, “A Company Christmas at Pops,” an annual holiday tradition since 1984 for area business leaders and their guests, and its sister event, “Presidents at Pops,” which began in 1982, have raised over $50 million. The revenue raised through these events helps support the BSO’s Education and Community Engagement programs.

TRADITION OF INVITING YOUNG PEOPLE TO “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS” CONTINUES
Building on a 30-year tradition, 200 youngsters from children’s service organizations throughout greater Boston will be invited as special guests to this year’s event. The “A Company Christmas at Pops” Children’s Program will take place at The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston. Children will enjoy dinner, visits from Santa and costumed characters, and goodie bags provided by a variety of in-kind donors. Silver Fox Motorcoaches will provide buses to transport the children from the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel to Symphony Hall, where the children join the corporate guests for the concert—and receive acknowledgement from the stage by conductor Keith Lockhart.

TICKET INFORMATION FOR A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS
Ticket packages for "A Company Christmas at Pops"—including cocktails, dinner, concert tickets, and recognition in the evening’s program book—are still available starting at $5,500. Please call Mary Thomson at 617-638-9278 for more information. A limited number of “A Company Christmas at Pops” gala tickets are currently available for $500 each for floor seats and $300 for balcony seats, and include the cocktail reception, boxed dinner, and concert. A limited number of concert-only tickets are also available for public sale through the BSO box office, online at bostonpops.org, and by calling Symphony Charge at 888-266-1200. Concert-only tickets run from $30 to $98. Please note that ticket admission for “A Company Christmas at Pops” is at 7:30 p.m. and includes only the concert. Companies interested in information about this program or other corporate programs at the BSO should contact Mary Thomson, Director of Corporate Initiatives, at 617-638-9278.

# # #

PRESS CONTACT:
Bernadette Horgan, Director of Public Relations (bhorgan@bso.org)  617-638-9285