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2015 BOSTON POPS SEASON CELEBRATES KEITH LOCKHART’S 20TH ANNIVERSARY AS CONDUCTOR

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION A CENTRAL THEME IN 2015 BOSTON POPS SEASON HIGHLIGHTED BY FIRST-EVER “BY POPULAR DEMAND” PROGRAMS: AUDIENCE MEMBERS LIVE-VOTE DURING CONCERTS FOR THEIR FAVORITE SONG SELECTIONS FROM THEIR MOBILE DEVICES AND HELP PROGRAM ENTIRE SECOND HALF OF CONCERT THEY ARE ATTENDING (MAY 7, 16, 26, 29 & JUNE 5)

BOSTON POPS HASHTAG CONTEST ENCOURAGES FANS TO SHARE THEIR POPS MEMORIES AND PHOTOS FROM THE LAST 20 YEARS BY TWEETING @THEBOSTONPOPS AND USING #HAPPY20THKEITH; PARTICIPANTS WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE ENTERED TO WIN ONE OF THREE CHANCES TO ATTEND A POPS PERFORMANCE

In an effort to bring audiences directly into the concert experience like never before, Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops will present “By Popular Demand,” five concerts (5/7, 16, 26, 29 & 6/5) that offer concertgoers a chance to vote, live during the concert, for their favorite piece of music through their web-enabled devices, giving Pops audiences an opportunity to help program the entire second half of the concert they are attending. Votes will be tabulated within seconds after the voting procedure and the musical selection with the most votes will be performed that same evening. Audiences will vote for tunes in such categories as “Favorite John Williams Movie Theme” and “Favorite Iconic Rock Ballad” and even “Favorite Bugs Bunny Moment,” showcasing the great musical variety found in the Boston Pops library of 3,500 exclusive charts. A “Kids Choice” Family Concert on May 16 puts the programming power in the hands of the next generation, including such categories as “Favorite Star Wars Character,” and “Favorite Princess Song.” See below for a full list of songs to be made available during these
Tickets for “By Popular Demand” concerts (May 7, 16, 26, 29 & June 5) run from $24-$94 at www.bostonpops.org or by calling 888-266-1200.

BOSTON POPS #Happy20thKeith CONTEST
The Boston Pops is running a hashtag contest inviting the Pops community to use #Happy20thKeith to help us celebrate Keith Lockhart’s 20th anniversary season. Throughout the spring season, May 6-June 13, fans will be asked to share their Boston Pops memories and photos from the last 20 years by using #Happy20thKeith on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram; participants in the contest will automatically be entered to win one of three chances to attend a Pops performance. Prizes include 20 tickets to attend the June 13th, Cirque de la Symphonie concert, complete with complimentary food and beverages (winner selected Friday May 29, 2015); two VIP tickets to the July 4th Boston Pops Concert on the Charles River Esplanade (winner selected June 13, 2015); and a weekend getaway for two to Tanglewood to attend the Cirque de la Symphonie Pops concert on August 21, with transportation and hotel provided (winner selected June 13, 2015). Contest participants must be 18 or older. The Boston Pops is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thebostonpops and can be found on Twitter and Instagram @thebostonpops.

Founded in 1885, the Boston Pops performs at world-famous Symphony Hall, festively decorated for the season, 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.

BOSTON POPS 2015 SPRING SEASON OVERVIEW
Celebrating Keith Lockhart’s 20th anniversary as Boston Pops Conductor, the Boston Pops 2015 season, May 6-June 13 at Symphony Hall, will showcase a remarkable range of music genres, while introducing new artists, world premieres, and innovative programming, and bringing the best of the Boston Pops library to the orchestra’s loyal audiences in greater Boston, the New England region, and beyond.

Featuring Tony Award-winning actress Bernadette Peters, the Boston Pops Opening Night concert on May 6 will sets the stage for a season featuring some of the biggest names on Broadway. Audra McDonald, another leading lady in the arenas of Broadway, television, film, and the concert stage, will bring her much-loved stage presence to Symphony Hall on June 2 and again for the 34th annual “Presidents at Pops” on June 3. Also sure to be a highlight of the Boston Pops 2015 season are performances of Simply Sondheim—a night devoted to the legendary musical theater genius Stephen Sondheim highlighted by orchestra arrangements of his music featuring the return to the Pops stage of Broadway stars Marin Mazzie and Jason Danieley. This performance will also feature talented Vocal Fellows from the Tanglewood Music Center, which celebrates its 75th Anniversary in the summer of 2015 (6/10 & 6/11).

Five “By Popular Demand,” concerts (5/7, 16, 26, 29, & 6/5) will offer concertgoers a chance to vote, live during the concert, for their favorite piece of music through their web-enabled devices, giving Pops audiences an opportunity to help program the entire second half of the concert they are attending. The 2015 Boston Pops season will bring the debuts of The Midtown Men—four stars from the original cast of the Broadway hit Jersey Boys—for music of the 1960s (5/19, 20, & 21) and living legends of gospel, The Blind Boys of Alabama, on Gospel Night (6/6). Two additional debut performances will feature Irish
singer Karan Casey and Galician multi-instrumentalist Carlos Núñez in A Celtic Sojourn at Pops hosted and curated by WGBH’s Brian O’Donovan and planned for broadcast on his immensely popular radio program “A Celtic Sojourn,” which airs locally on Saturdays from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The season will also shine a special spotlight on some of the most popular concert themes of recent years, including a great Pops tradition—the annual Film Night series led by Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams (5/22 & 23). Returning to the Symphony Hall stage after an acclaimed debut last season, Cirque de la Symphonie will no doubt once again entertain crowds with their daring aerial flyers, acrobats, dancers, and jugglers (6/12 & 13). Building on the success of the recent Wizard of Oz and West Side Story film score screenings/performances at Symphony Hall, classic movie fans will be treated to a screening of the complete 1952 musical Singin’ in the Rain—number 1 on the American Film Institute’s list of the Greatest Movie Musicals of all time—with live orchestra accompaniment (5/8 & 5/9).

TICKET AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

Tickets for the 2015 Boston Pops season at Symphony Hall, priced from $24-125, are on sale now at www.bostonpops.org or 617-266-1200. All performances start at 8 p.m., except for the By Popular Demand “Kids Choice” concert on May 16, “Singin’ In the Rain” concert on May 9, and Cirque de la Symphonie performance on June 13; these three Matinee Family Concerts start at 3 p.m. and tickets for children ages 12 and younger are 50% off. For the first time in many years, subscriptions will be available for the 2015 Boston Pops season—including packages for family and kids concerts.

In general, 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 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 12 noon to 6 p.m. (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 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday. On concert days during the Pops Season, the box office remains open until 8:30 p.m. 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

SPONSORSHIP

Opening Night at Pops and the entire 2015 Boston Pops season are sponsored by Fidelity Investments®. The Pops Plays The Beatles series (May 13, 14) is sponsored by Arbella Insurance Foundation. The May 20 concert is sponsored by The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 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 “BY POPULAR DEMAND” CONCERT LISTING**

**Thursday, May 7 8 p.m.**  
*By Popular Demand*  
Keith Lockhart, conductor

**Saturday, May 16, 3 p.m.**  
*By Popular Demand: Kids’ Choice*  
Keith Lockhart, conductor

**Tuesday, May 26, 8 p.m.**  
*By Popular Demand*  
*Arthur Fiedler Concert*  
Keith Lockhart, conductor

**Friday, May 29 8 p.m.**  
*By Popular Demand*  
Keith Lockhart, conductor

**Friday, June 5 8 p.m.**  
*By Popular Demand*  
Keith Lockhart, conductor