For Immediate Release:
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2015 BOSTON POPS SEASON CELEBRATES KEITH LOCKHART’S 20TH ANNIVERSARY AS CONDUCTOR

BOSTON POPS PRESENTS ANNUAL GOSPEL NIGHT CONCERT FEATURING DEBUT PERFORMANCE BY THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA UNDER CONDUCTOR CHARLES FLOYD (JUNE 6)

IN CONJUNCTION WITH GOSPEL NIGHT, BOSTON POPS PARTNERING WITH DISCOVER ROXBURY—A ROXBURY-BASED CIVIC AND ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT ORGANIZATION—TO PRESENT “INSPIRED!” ARTS WEEKEND AT SYMPHONY HALL (JUNE 6 AND 7), FEATURING THE ARTWORK OF 30 ROXBURY COMMUNITY ARTISTS

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

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

BOSTON POPS 2015 SEASON AND OPENING NIGHT SPONSORED BY FIDELITY INVESTMENTS®

The Boston Pops will present the twenty third annual Gospel Night concert featuring the Pops debut performance of the legendary Blind Boys of Alabama and the all-volunteer Boston Pops Gospel Choir led by conductor Charles Floyd, Saturday, June 6, at 8 p.m. at Symphony Hall. Tickets for the June 6
Gospel Night concert, which includes a pre-concert reception at 7 p.m., are priced $20 to $60 and are available by calling 888-266-1200 or by visiting www.bostonpops.org/artrox.

In conjunction with Gospel Night, the Boston Pops has partnered with Discover Roxbury—a Roxbury-based civic and economic engagement organization—to present “Inspired!,” an exhibition featuring the artwork of thirty Roxbury community artists to be displayed throughout Symphony Hall on Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors to this special exhibition, available free to the public, will also be offered behind-the-scene tours of historic Symphony Hall, scheduled throughout the day.

The partnership between the Boston Pops and Discover Roxbury takes cues from overarching policy goals initiated by Mayor Martin Walsh and the city’s Chief of Arts and Culture Julie Burros to nurture Boston’s arts offering through a community of collaboration. "This newly-formed partnership is an exciting collaboration and a powerful manifestation of the arts in the City of Boston," said Mayor Walsh. "I want to commend the Boston Pops and Discover Roxbury for supporting each other's missions, and showcasing the deep creativity of our local artists."

MORE ABOUT DISCOVER ROXBURY
Discover Roxbury is an artist-run, community-based organization that promotes civic engagement and economic development in Roxbury by leveraging the neighborhood’s artistic, cultural, and historic assets to create unique tours and cultural events. The group’s goals include positioning Discover Roxbury as the hub for building the quality of life for Roxbury residents, increasing Roxbury’s value as part of the Greater Boston community, and delivering high-impact programming to Roxbury residents, visitors, and schoolchildren. Discover Roxbury’s arts programming exists under the ArtROX! brand, which encompasses art tours and events for the public, and networking and workshops for artists and arts administrators. ArtROX! programming is built upon and reflects the talents of artists and residents from Roxbury, as well as collaborations with ArtsEmerson, Berklee School of Music, Grub Street, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Mass College of Art, Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists, and many other neighborhood and citywide organizations.

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. Founded in 1885, the Boston Pops performs at world-famous Symphony Hall, 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.

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).

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. 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 this year by conductor Richard Kaufman (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. 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.

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 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 Concert Listing

Saturday, June 6, 8 p.m.
Gospel Night
Charles Floyd, conductor
The Blind Boys of Alabama, special guests