FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DATE: November 26, 2015

THE BSO’S PREMIER HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER,
32ND ANNUAL “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” TO FEATURE
PERFORMANCE BY CELEBRATED COUNTRY SINGER-SONGWRITER

SARA EVANS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

JACK CONNORS, OF CONNORS FAMILY OFFICE, AND CEO KAREN KAPLAN, OF HILL
HOLIDAY ADVERTISING, ARE CO-CHAIRS OF THIS YEAR’S
“A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” WHICH HAS RAISED $1.2 MILLION FOR THE
BOSTON SYMPHONY AND BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRA

CONCERT-ONLY TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW: CORPORATE TICKET PACKAGES AVAILABLE BY
CALLING 617-638-9278; LIMITED NUMBER OF CONCERT ONLY TICKETS, PRICED $30-$98, ARE
NOW AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AT WWW.BOSTONPOPS.ORG OR 888-266-1200

“A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” IS PART OF THE 2015 HOLIDAY POPS SEASON, DECEMBER
2-24, WITH 39 CONCERTS FEATURING THE BOSTON POPS AND THE TANGLEWOOD FESTIVAL
chorus, under the direction of Keith Lockhart at World-Famous Symphony Hall;
CLICK HERE FOR PRESS RELEASE ABOUT 2015 HOLIDAY POPS SEASON OR VISIT
WWW.BOSTONPOPS.ORG FOR SEASON DETAILS

On Wednesday, December 9, at 8 p.m. Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart will lead the
32nd annual “A Company Christmas at Pops,” with special guest vocalist Sara Evans performing some of
the best-loved songs of the holiday season. Country star Sara Evans will perform tunes from her 2014
Holiday CD “At Christmas” during the annual “A Company Christmas at Pops” corporate fundraiser
(additional program details included below). “A Company Christmas at Pops” is part of the Holiday Pops
Season, which takes place December 2-24, at Symphony Hall, specially decorated to evoke all the magic
and charm of the season. A press release about the 2015 Holiday Pops season is available here; complete details also available at www.bostonpops.org.

This year’s “A Company Christmas at Pops”—the BSO’s premier holiday fundraiser—has raised $1.2 million to date, representing support from more than 100 companies and the leadership of event co-chairs Jack Connors and Karen Kaplan; a full listing of committee members appears below. “A Company Christmas at Pops” and sister event “Presidents at Pops,” which takes place during the Boston Pops spring season, May and June, have collectively raised $52 million dollars 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, or by calling Symphony Charge at 888-266-1200.

Sara Evans will also join the Boston Pops on Thursday, December 10 for a recording of the orchestra’s first PBS special since 2006; both the 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. performances on December 10 will be filmed for a one-hour broadcast in December 2016. The program will be produced by Susie Dangel and directed by David Stern.

**PROGRAM DETAILS FOR “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9**

The 2015 “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 the new choral piece, “Sing Noel,” which segues into “Christmas Canticles,” a medley of Christmas carols and melodies. After this the Pops and Tanglewood Festival Chorus will perform the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s *Messiah*. Keith and the Pops will also perform a new arrangement of Louis Armstrong’s “Cool Yule” with vocals from baritone Justin Hopkins.

The program will also feature a performance of “‘Twas the Night Before Christmas,” with a special guest narrator, and of course, 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 Sara Evans to the Pops stage for renditions of some of the best songs of this special season and tunes from her 2014 Christmas CD including “I’ll be Home For Christmas,” “Silent Night,” “Run Run Rudolph,” and “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.”

After a visit from the one-and-only Santa Claus, the entire Holiday Pops audience will be welcome to join in *A Merry Little Sing-Along* including “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,” “Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!” and “Winter Wonderland.” Programming details about the December 10 PBS special will be released at a later date.

**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 $52 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 31-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.

HOLIDAY POPS SEASON OVERVIEW
One of New England’s favorite Christmastime traditions, the 2015 Holiday Pops season, December 2-24, at festively decorated Symphony Hall will feature the Boston Pops and Tanglewood Festival Chorus, under the direction of Keith Lockhart, performing beloved classics of the season, alongside four new arrangements, including “The Christmas Story,” arranged by Tony Award-winning, Boston-based orchestrator Bill Elliott in collaboration with Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart. This new work will accompany a film montage of images drawn from famed children’s book author and illustrator Tomie dePaola, who celebrates his 50th anniversary in publishing in 2015. Also among the new arrangements is “Wonderful!” inspired by the holiday classic, “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year,” and arranged by David Chase, who created the Boston Pops’ wildly popular arrangement of The Twelve Days of Christmas. For additional details about this year’s Holiday Pops programs, which feature a visit from Santa Claus at every performance and seven special Kids Matinees, please see the detailed description below or visit www.bostonpops.org. Tickets for the 2015 Holiday Pops season, $31-$140, are on sale now and are available by visiting www.bostonpops.org or calling 888-266-1200.

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO LISTEN TO THE MUSIC OF THE BOSTON POPS THIS SEASON
Continuing a long-standing tradition to share the magic of the holiday season with cities throughout New England, conductor Keith Lockhart will take the Holiday Pops concerts on the road, touring to Hanover Theater in Worcester, MA (12/4); Jorgensen Center for the Arts in Storrs, CT (12/5), Providence Performing Arts Center in Providence, RI (12/6); Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester, NH (12/12); and Lowell Memorial Auditorium in Lowell, MA (12/13). Keith Lockhart and Boston Pops musicians also bring Christmas music to the young patients at Boston Children’s Hospital and to adults and children at Spaulding Rehabilitation Center on December 22. Boston Pops holiday tunes will stream on the web at www.bostonpops.org, as well as under the Symphony Hall marquee in Boston, from the last week of November through the end of December, making the special seasonal tunes of the Pops available to all free of charge. Additionally, Boston residents and seasonal tourists can hear the celebrated music of the Boston Pops for free as part of Blink! A Light and Sound Extravaganza. Finally, the Boston Pops Swing
Orchestra will be joined by Boston's legendary bandleader extraordinaire Bo Winiker, in a gala concert to ring in 2016 at Symphony Hall on Wednesday, December 31, at 10 p.m.

**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.

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**PRESS CONTACT:**
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