FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 14, 2018

KEITH LOCKHART AND THE BOSTON POPS ON TOUR IN APRIL

BOSTON POPS AND CONDUCTOR KEITH LOCKHART EMBARK ON A
SEVEN-CITY WEST COAST TOUR FEATURING THE MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS,
APRIL 13-21, 2018

“LIGHTS, CAMERA...MUSIC! SIX DECADES OF JOHN WILLIAMS” PROGRAM TO
FEATURE THEMES FROM SUCH BELOVED JOHN WILLIAMS’ FILM SCORES AS JAWS,
E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL, HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER’S STONE,
STAR WARS, RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK, SCHINDLER’S LIST, MEMOIRS OF A
GEISHA, FAR AND AWAY, JFK, HEIDI, THE PATRIOT, THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK,
AND THE TOWERING INFERNO, AS WELL AS MUSIC FROM MR. WILLIAMS’ NEW
SCORE TO THE LATEST STAR WARS FILM STAR WARS: THE LAST JEDI

Boston Pops on Tour to perform “Lights, Camera...Music! Six Decades of John Williams” at Civic Arts Plaza in Thousand Oaks, CA (4/13); McCallum Theater in Palm Desert, CA (4/14); Segerstrom Center in Costa Mesa, CA (4/16); Ikeda Theatre at the Mesa Arts Center in Mesa, AZ (4/17); Jackson Hall at Mondavi Center for the Arts in Davis, CA (4/19); Bing Concert Hall in Stanford, CA (4/20); and Hearst Greek Theater in Berkeley, CA (4/21)

WEST COAST TOUR TO BE PRECEDED BY FOUR “BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS”
CONCERTS IN THREE CITIES INCLUDING HARTFORD, CT, MORRISTOWN, NJ, AND
NORTH BETHESDA, MD, APRIL 4-8, 2018, FEATURING FAVORITE SELECTIONS
FROM THE POPS REPERTOIRE INCLUDING MUSIC BY LEONARD BERNSTEIN,
AARON COPLAND, RICHARD RODGERS, GEORGE GERSHWIN, DUKE ELLINGTON,
ARGENTINE TANGO COMPOSER ASTOR PIAZZOLLA, LEGENDARY ROCK BAND QUEEN, POP SENSATION ABBA, AND A CINEMATIC SING-ALONG

Boston Pops on Tour to perform “The Best of the Boston Pops” at Bushnell Performing Arts Center in Hartford, CT (4/4); Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown, NJ (4/7); and Strathmore Performing Arts Center In North Bethesda, MD (4/8)

For downloadable photos and bios, please click here; for press tickets, email tlott@bso.org or call 617-638-9283

The Boston Pops and conductor Keith Lockhart will showcase the extraordinary range of “America’s Orchestra” in seven West Coast cities from April 13-21 with “Lights, Camera...Music! Six Decades of John Williams.” Based on the Pops’ 2017 recording of the same name, this program focuses on music from the beloved film scores of composer and Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams. Audiences will have the opportunity to enjoy excerpts from such classic films scores as Raiders of the Lost Ark, Harry Potter, and the Star Wars series, as well as less familiar music by Mr. Williams, including themes from such classic scores as The Witches of Eastwick, The Towering Inferno, and Heidi. These performances will also feature the music from Mr. Williams’ new score to the latest Star Wars movie, Star Wars: The Last Jedi.

Prior to their West Coast engagements, the Boston Pops and conductor Keith Lockhart will embark on a three-city mid-Atlantic tour from April 4-8 performing “The Best of the Boston Pops.” Drawing from the Boston Pops’ unmatched library of 3,400 orchestral arrangements, conductor Keith Lockhart leads the Boston Pops in favorites from musical theater, jazz, the movies, and more. The first half of the concert features a variety of favorite compositions including pieces from Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, and Richard Rodgers. Long-time Boston Pops collaborator, pianist Michael Chertock, also joins the orchestra for Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue. Following a brief intermission, Maestro Lockhart and the Pops dive into the worlds of Duke Ellington, Astor Piazzolla, John Williams, and popular rock music legends Queen and ABBA, and invite the audience to participate in a cinematic sing-along arranged by Don Sebesky.

MORE ON “LIGHTS, CAMERA...MUSIC! SIX DECADES OF JOHN WILLIAMS” PROGRAM, APRIL 13-21

Winner of an astonishing five Oscars and 24 Grammy awards, John Williams may well be the greatest film composer of all time. His scores for Star Wars, Schindler’s List, Harry Potter, E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, Jurassic Park, and the Indiana Jones films have made him a household name. Under the baton of Keith Lockhart, the Boston Pops celebrates a nearly forty-year association with John Williams and his incredible music, in an evening featuring excerpts from the composer’s best-loved scores, as well as some more seldom-performed works.

The first half of the concert includes an exploration into the international flavor of Williams’ work in Memoirs of a Geisha and Far and Away as well as a journey into the magical worlds of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone and E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial.

After a brief intermission, Maestro Lockhart and the Pops dive into history through the perspective of Williams’ themes from JFK, Schindler’s List, The Patriot, and the Devil’s Dance from The Witches of
Eastwick. The program concludes with Williams’ classic compositions for Star Wars: The Last Jedi, Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back, and the original Star Wars.

“Lights, Camera...Music! Six Decades of John Williams” will be performed in cities throughout the West Coast, including Thousand Oaks, CA (4/13); Palm Desert, CA (4/14); Costa Mesa, CA (4/16); Mesa, AZ (4/17); Davis, CA (4/19); Stanford, CA (4/20); and Berkeley, CA (4/21).

**QUOTE FROM JOHN WILLIAMS, BOSTON POPS CONDUCTOR LAUREATE**

“I first conducted the Boston Pops Orchestra in 1978, and my respect and admiration for the orchestra and its members has only increased in the many years since. I’m especially honored by Keith Lockhart’s and the orchestra’s wish to dedicate their west coast tour this April to my music. I feel greatly privileged that the orchestra continues to share so much of my music with its audiences each year.”

**MORE ON “THE BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS” PROGRAM, APRIL 4-8**

Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops on Tour present “The Best of the Boston Pops,” in three cities along the East Coast this April, drawing on the Boston Pops’ impressive library of over 3,400 orchestral arrangements. Audiences will be treated to crowd favorites of the Pops’ dynamic repertoire including Ellington’s *It Don’t Mean a Thing (If It Ain’t Got That Swing)*, a cinematic sing-along, legendary rock band Queen’s “Bohemian Rhapsody,” and pop group ABBA’s “Dancing Queen.” These performances will also feature pieces from familiar film scores of composer and Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams including “Cantina Band” from Star Wars, “Theme from Schindler’s List,” and “Swing, Swing, Swing” from 1941. Pianist Michael Chertock joins the Pops for these concerts to perform Gershwin’s *Rhapsody in Blue*.

As part of the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s year-long celebration of famed composer-conductor Leonard Bernstein’s centennial, the Pops will also pay tribute to Bernstein’s legacy as a consummate artistic figure of the 20th century, performing the “Overture” to Candide and “Times Square: 1944” from On The Town.

“The Best of the Boston Pops” program will be performed in Hartford, CT (4/4); Morristown, NJ (4/7); and North Bethesda, MD (4/8).

**KEITH LOCKHART BIOGRAPHY**

Having celebrated his twentieth anniversary as Boston Pops Conductor in 2015, Keith Lockhart is the second longest-tenured conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra since its founding in 1885. He took over as conductor in 1995, following John Williams’s thirteen-year tenure from 1980 to 1993; Mr. Williams succeeded the legendary Arthur Fiedler, who was at the helm of the orchestra for nearly fifty years. Keith Lockhart has conducted more than 1,900 Boston Pops concerts, most of which have taken place during the orchestra’s spring and holiday seasons in Boston’s historic Symphony Hall. He has also led annual Boston Pops appearances at Tanglewood, 42 national tours to 146 cities in 37 states, and four international tours to Japan and Korea. The annual July 4 Boston Pops concert draws an audience of over half a million people to the Charles River Esplanade for the live performance, and millions more who view it on television or live webcast. In 2017 the Pops organization presented its first self-produced Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular. The list of more than 250 guest artists with whom Mr. Lockhart has collaborated is a virtual “who’s who” of performers and pop culture icons. He has led eight albums on the
RCA Victor/BMG Classics label, including two—The Celtic Album and The Latin Album—that earned Grammy nominations. Recent releases on Boston Pops Recordings include A Boston Pops Christmas—Live from Symphony Hall and The Dream Lives On: A Portrait of the Kennedy Brothers. Released at the beginning of the 2017 Pops season, Lights, Camera...Music! Six Decades of John Williams features Keith Lockhart leading the Boston Pops in a collection of Williams’s compositions from the 1960s onward, some of which can be considered rarities. Keith Lockhart’s increased focus on musical theater has attracted leading Broadway artists to the Pops stage. He has worked closely with hundreds of talented young musicians, including Fellows of the Tanglewood Music Center, college students from the Boston Conservatory and Berklee College of Music, and area high school students. He introduced the PopSearch talent competition and the innovative JazzFest and EdgeFest series, featuring prominent jazz and indie artists performing with the Pops. In addition to occupying the Julian and Eunice Cohen Boston Pops Conductor chair, Keith Lockhart currently serves as principal conductor of the BBC Concert Orchestra in London, which he led in the June 2012 Diamond Jubilee Concert for Queen Elizabeth II, and as artistic director of the Brevard Music Center summer institute and festival in North Carolina. Prior to his BBC appointment, he spent eleven years as music director of the Utah Symphony, which he led at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City. He has appeared as a guest conductor with virtually every major symphonic ensemble in North America, as well as several in Asia and Europe. Prior to coming to Boston, he was the associate conductor of both the Cincinnati Symphony and Cincinnati Pops orchestras, as well as music director of the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra. Born in Poughkeepsie, NY, Keith Lockhart began his musical studies with piano lessons at the age of seven. He holds degrees from Furman University and Carnegie Mellon University, and honorary doctorates from several American universities. Visit keithlockhart.com for further information.

ABOUT THE BOSTON POPS
In 2018 the Boston Pops enters its 133rd season of entertaining audiences in Boston and beyond. Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart marks his 24th year at the helm of the orchestra. In 1881 Civil War veteran Henry Lee Higginson founded the Boston Symphony Orchestra, calling its establishment “the dream of my life.” From the start he intended to present, in the warmer months, concerts of light classics and the popular music of the day. From a practical perspective, Higginson realized that these “lighter” performances would provide year-round employment for his musicians. In May 1885—a little more than a month before the inaugural “Promenade Concert”—German-born conductor Adolf Neuendorff, under the aegis of the BSO, conducted a series of “Popular Concerts” in the Boston Music Hall, where the audience sat in typical concert seating and no refreshments were served. On July 11, 1885, Neuendorff—who became the first conductor of the Pops, before that name was officially adopted—led the first official “Promenade Concert,” distinguished from “Popular Concerts” by virtue of seating (tables and chairs instead of auditorium-style rows), program format (three parts divided by two intermissions, during which patrons could promenade around the concert hall), and the availability of food and beverages. For the rest of the 19th century, although formally called “Promenade Concerts,” they continued to be referred to informally as “Popular,” which eventually became shortened to “Pops,” the name officially adopted in 1900. The following year the orchestra performed for the first time in its new home, Symphony Hall. There were seventeen Pops conductors—beginning with the aforementioned Adolf Neuendorff—who preceded the legendary Arthur Fiedler (1930-1979). The first American-born musician to lead the orchestra, he
established the Boston Pops as a national icon. When John Williams (1980-1993) succeeded Fiedler in 1980, he was the most highly acclaimed composer in Hollywood, and today, with 51 Academy Award nominations, he is the most-nominated living person in Academy history. With the Pops, Mr. Williams made a series of best-selling recordings, broadened and updated the Pops repertoire, and entertained audiences with live orchestral accompaniment to film clips of memorable movie scenes, many of which featured iconic music from his own scores. Keith Lockhart (1995-present) has led concerts spotlighting artists from virtually every corner of the entertainment world, all the while maintaining the Pops’ appeal to its core audience. He has made 79 television shows, led 42 national and four overseas tours, led the Pops at several high-profile sports events, and recorded fourteen albums. Mr. Lockhart’s tenure has been marked by a dramatic increase in touring, the orchestra’s first Grammy nominations, the first major network national broadcast of the July Fourth concert on the Charles River Esplanade, and the release of the Boston Pops’ first self-produced and self-distributed recordings. In 2017 the July Fourth concert opened a new page in its history, as the Pops organization presented its first self-produced Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular.

“THE BEST OF THE BOSTON POPS”

BOSTON POPS ON TOUR ITINERARY, APRIL 4-8

Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m.
Hartford, CT
The Bushnell Performing Arts Center
Tickets: [https://bushnell.org/events/keithlockhartbostonpops](https://bushnell.org/events/keithlockhartbostonpops)
Price: $19.50 - $225

Saturday, April 7, 7:30 p.m.
Morristown, NJ
Mayo Performing Arts Center
Tickets: [https://www.mayoarts.org/event/boston-pops](https://www.mayoarts.org/event/boston-pops)
Price: $69 - $159

Sunday, April 8, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
North Bethesda, MD
The Music Center at Strathmore
Tickets: [https://www.strathmore.org/events-and-tickets/boston-pops-esplanade-orchestra](https://www.strathmore.org/events-and-tickets/boston-pops-esplanade-orchestra)
Price: $55 - $125

“LIGHTS, CAMERA ... MUSIC! SIX DECADES OF JOHN WILLIAMS”

BOSTON POPS ON TOUR ITINERARY, APRIL 13-21

Friday, April 13, 8 p.m.
 Thousand Oaks, CA
Fred Kavli Theatre for the Performing Arts at Civic Arts Plaza
Price: $81 - $156
Saturday, April 14, 8 p.m.
Palm Desert, CA
McCallum Theatre
Price: $77 - $137

Monday, April 16, 8 p.m.
Costa Mesa, CA
Segerstrom Center for the Arts
Tickets: https://www.scfta.org/events/detail.aspx?id=15956
Price: $48 - $268

Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.
Mesa, AZ
Ikeda Theater at Mesa Arts Center
Tickets: https://www.mesaartscenter.com/index.php/shows/performing-live/boston-pops-esplanade-orchestra
Price: $50 - $140

Thursday, April 19, 8 p.m.
Davis, CA
Mondavi Center for the Arts
Tickets: https://www.mondaviarts.org/event/2017-18/boston-pops-esplanade-orchestra
Price: $30 - $150

Friday, April 20, 8 p.m.
Stanford, CA
Bing Concert Hall at Stanford University
Price: $60 - $180

Saturday, April 21, 8 p.m.
Berkeley, CA
William Randolph Hearst Greek Theatre at University of California, Berkeley
Tickets: https://calperformances.org/performances/2017-18/special-events/boston-pops-at-the-greek.php
Price: $40 - $150

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