KEITH LOCKHART LEADS THE BOSTON POPS IN THE 35th ANNUAL “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

THE BSO’S PREMIER HOLIDAY CORPORATE GALA FEATURES BROADWAY ACTRESS LAURA OSNES SINGING HOLIDAY CLASSICS

THIS YEAR’S “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS” HAS RAISED $978,000 TO DATE FOR THE BOSTON SYMPHONY AND BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRAS

CORPORATE TICKET PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE BY CALLING 617-638-9272; A LIMITED NUMBER OF CONCERT-ONLY TICKETS, PRICED $33-$106, ARE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AT WWW.BOSTONPOPS.ORG OR 888-266-1200

“A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS” IS PART OF THE 2018 HOLIDAY POPS SEASON, DECEMBER 5-31, WITH 40 CONCERTS FEATURING THE BOSTON POPS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF KEITH LOCKHART AT WORLD-FAMOUS SYMPHONY HALL; CLICK HERE FOR PRESS RELEASE ABOUT 2018 HOLIDAY POPS SEASON OR VISIT WWW.BOSTONPOPS.ORG FOR SEASON DETAILS

In a highlight of the Holiday Pops season at Symphony Hall, December 5-31, Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart will lead the 35th annual fundraiser A Company Christmas at Pops, Wednesday, December 5, at 8 p.m., featuring Broadway star Laura Osnes as the special guest, performing some of the best-loved songs of the holiday season. This year’s “A Company Christmas at Pops” has raised more than $978,000 to date, representing support from more than 90 companies, under the leadership of event co-chairs Regina M. Pisa and John F. Power (a full listing of committee members appears below).
The Boston Pops' annual holiday corporate fundraising event since 1984, *A Company Christmas at Pops*, along with *Presidents at Pops*, the annual spring season fund raising event since 1982, have collectively raised nearly $58 million. The revenue raised through these events helps support the BSO’s Education and Community Engagement, among other initiatives.

Ticket packages—including cocktails, dinner, concert tickets, and recognition in the evening’s program book—are available by calling 617-638-9272. The doors open at 6 p.m. for a festive pre-concert reception, followed by a gourmet boxed dinner and the concert in Symphony Hall. A limited number of concert-only tickets, priced $33-106, are available now 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 5-31 at festively decorated Symphony Hall. A press release about the 2018 Holiday Pops season is available [here](http://www.bostonpops.org); complete details are also available at [www.bostonpops.org](http://www.bostonpops.org).

ADDITIONAL 2018 “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS” COMMITTEE MEMBERS
In addition to Ms. Pisa and Mr. Power serving as co-chairs of the 2018 “A Company Christmas at Pops,” the gala fundraising committee includes George T. Albrecht, Sr., Albrecht Auto Group; Bob Atchinson, Adage Capital Management; Karen S. Bressler, Amuleto Mexican Table; Steven C. Browne, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP; Joseph P. Campanelli, Needham Bank; Miceal Chamberlain, Bank of America; Charles I. Clough, Jr., Clough Capital Partners, LP; Richard F. Connolly, Jr., Morgan Stanley; Andrew Dreyfus, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts; Darryl J. Fess, Brookline Bank; Anne M. Finucane, Bank of America; James D. Gallagher, John Hancock; Stephen T. Gannon, Citizens Financial Group, Inc.; Patrick Good, EY; Robert E. Griffin, Jr., Newmark Knight Frank; Wayne J. Griffin, Wayne J. Griffin Electric, Inc.; James J. Judge, Eversource Energy; Kevin H. Kelley, Liberty Mutual Group; Philipp C. Knuepfer, Mandarin Oriental, Boston; Jeffrey Leiden, Vertex Pharmaceuticals; David H. Long, Liberty Mutual Insurance; Sean McGrath, Stonegate Group LLC/Highland Street Foundation; Brian McKenzie, CBRE/New England; Joseph C. McNay, Essex Investment Management Company and The New England Foundation; Michael A. McShane, Willis Towers Watson; Carol Meyrowitz, The TJX Companies, Inc.; Pete S. Michaels, Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.; Chris O’Connell, Waters Corporation; Peter Palandjian, Intercontinental Real Estate Corporation; Joseph F. Patton, Jr., J.P. Marvel Wealth Management, Inc.; Robert L. Reynolds, Putnam Investments and Great-West Financial; Robert F. Rivers, Eastern Bank; and Jane C. Steinmetz, EY.

PROGRAM DETAILS FOR “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS,” WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5
Featuring conductor Keith Lockhart, the *Boston Pops*, and the *Tanglewood Festival Chorus* prepared by James Burton, the BSO’s new Choral Director and Conductor of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, the 2018 “A Company Christmas at Pops” concert presents some of the most beloved music of the holiday season, including selections from the 2013 popular recording *A Boston Pops Christmas – Live From Symphony Hall*. The program kicks off at 8p.m. with “Joy!” arranged by Don Sebesky, followed by selections from “Songs of Freedom: A Celebration of Chanukah,” a new musical work arranged by Judith Clurman, Larry Hochman, and Brian Stokes Mitchell. The orchestra then performs its arrangement of “The Christmas Story,” prepared by composer Philip Lane and Tony Award-winning, Boston-based orchestrator Bill Elliott.
in collaboration with Keith Lockhart. This arrangement—featuring vocalist and narrator Philip Lima—tells the Christmas story by way of beloved Christmas songs inspired by the words of Isaiah quoted in the New Testament Gospels. “The Christmas Story” will accompany a film montage of images from previously published books by famed children’s author and illustrator Tomie dePaola. The first half of the program closes with a performance of “A Visit from St. Nicholas (’Twas the Night Before Christmas),” with a surprise guest narrator.

David Chase’s wildly popular arrangement of “The Twelve Days of Christmas,” featuring the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, opens the second half of the program. Broadway star Laura Osnes then takes the stage, singing holiday favorites, including “O Come All Ye Faithful,” “We Need a Little Christmas,” and “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.” Laura Osnes, who appeared in the Boston Pops’ critically acclaimed production of On the Town at Symphony Hall and Tanglewood last spring, most recently starred in the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical Bandstand, and has also appeared as Cinderella in Rodgers + Hammerstein’s Cinderella, Bonnie Parker in Bonnie and Clyde, Hope Harcourt in the Tony Award-winning revival of Anything Goes, Nellie Forbush in Lincoln Center Theater’s production of South Pacific, and Sandy in the most recent revival of Grease.

After a visit from the one-and-only Santa Claus, the audience will be invited to join A Merry Little Sing-Along that includes such familiar tunes as “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,” “Jingle Bells,” and “Winter Wonderland.”

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 springtime event, “Presidents at Pops,” which began in 1982, have raised nearly $58 million combined. The revenue raised through these events helps support the BSO’s Education and Community Engagement programs, among other initiatives.

TRADITION OF INVITING YOUNG PEOPLE TO “A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS” CONTINUES
Building on a 35-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 starts at Fairmont Copley Plaza, where children will enjoy dinner, musical entertainment, and a visit and a variety of gifts from Santa. Silver Fox Motor coaches will provide buses to transport the children from Fairmont Copley Plaza to Symphony Hall, where the children will 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 most popular Christmastime traditions, the 2018 Holiday Pops season, December 5-31, will feature the Boston Pops, under the direction of Keith Lockhart, in 40 concerts featuring beloved classics of the season, including “Sleigh Ride,” “The Twelve Days of Christmas,” and the orchestra’s popular holiday sing-along at festively decorated Symphony Hall. As part of this year’s holiday program,
Keith Lockhart will lead the Boston Pops in the orchestra’s version of “The Christmas Story”—with vocalists and narrators Renese King, David McFerrin, and Philip Lima performing throughout the season—features the artwork of New York Times best-selling children’s book author Tomie dePaola projected onto a screen over the orchestra. The Pops will also perform Parade of the Wooden Soldiers from Jessel’s Chauve Souris, featuring a brand new animated short film created exclusively for the Boston Pops by the Boston-based animation studio FableVision. New this season, the Boston Symphony Children’s Choir will join the Pops during the holidays for the first time, performing during eight kids’ matinee programs throughout December. The Tanglewood Festival Chorus will perform with the Pops during the regular Holiday Pops concerts.

The Boston Pops will also present the 35th annual A Company Christmas at Pops, the orchestra’s major holiday fundraiser, on Wednesday, December 5, this year featuring Broadway star Laura Osnes. In three post-Christmas concerts, December 29 and 30, Maestro Lockhart and the Pops are joined by members of the Wellesley High School chorus to bring “Home Alone in Concert” to Symphony Hall, performing the John Williams score alongside a screening of the movie. Closing out the holiday season, on December 31, Seth MacFarlane rings in the New Year with the orchestra, performing a special one-night-only performance in Symphony Hall. For additional details about this year’s Holiday Pops programs, which feature a visit from Santa Claus at every performance and eight special Kids’ Matinees, please see the detailed description below or visit www.bostonpops.org.

Tickets for the 2018 Holiday Pops season, $33-$160, are on sale now and are available by visiting www.bostonpops.org or calling 888-266-1200.

TICKET INFORMATION FOR A COMPANY CHRISTMAS AT POPS
Ticket packages—including cocktails, dinner, concert tickets, and recognition in the evening’s program book—are available starting at $5,500 by calling 617-638-9272. The doors open at 6 p.m. for a festive pre-concert reception, followed by a gourmet boxed dinner and the concert in Symphony Hall. 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.

A limited number of concert-only tickets, priced $33-106, are available now for public sale through the BSO box office, online at www.bostonpops.org, or by calling Symphony Charge at 888-266-1200. Please note that these tickets do not include the gala event prior to the concert, and doors will open at 7:30 p.m. for concert-only ticketholders.

#  #  #

PRESS CONTACT:
Bernadette Horgan, Director of Public Relations (bhorgan@bso.org) 617-638-9285
Taryn Lott, Assistant Director of Public Relations (tlott@bso.org) 617-638-9283