DETAILS ANNOUNCED FOR 2020 BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR BROADCAST: A BOSTON POPS SALUTE TO OUR HEROES, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF KEITH LOCKHART, TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE FRONTLINE AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS AND THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES DURING THE COVID-19 HEALTH CRISIS

BLOOMBERG TO BROADCAST A BOSTON POPS SALUTE TO OUR HEROES ON BLOOMBERG TELEVISION (AVAILABLE ON CABLE/SATELLITE AND STREAMING SERVICES) AND ON BLOOMBERG RADIO ON SATURDAY, JULY 4, 8-11 P.M., EDT; SHOW TO BE SIMULCAST ON JULY 4 ON BOSTON’S WHDH-TV

A BOSTON POPS SALUTE TO OUR HEROES TO FEATURE NEW CONTENT, INCLUDING A SPECIAL VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE BY RENELSE KINGS WITH KEITH LOCKHART AT THE PIANO AND THE BOSTON POPS RECENT VIRAL HIT OF SUMMON THE HEROES WITH A SPECIAL MUSICAL AND SPOKEN INTRODUCTION BY JOHN WILLIAMS

2020 JULY 4 PROGRAM TO SPOTLIGHT SOME ALL-TIME FAVORITE MOMENTS FROM RECENT BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR BROADCASTS, INCLUDING PERFORMANCES BY MELISSA ETHERIDGE, ANDY GRAMMER, RHIANNON GIDDENS, ARLO GUTHRIE, QUEEN LATIFAH, LESLIE ODOM, JR., RITA MORENO AND BRIAN STOKES MITCHELL, AS WELL AS AN APPEARANCE BY AMANDA GORMAN, THE FIRST YOUTH POET LAUREATE OF THE UNITED STATES

KEITH LOCKHART TO PUT A SPECIAL FOCUS ON INTRINSIC MESSAGES OF THE INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY AND FUNDAMENTAL THEMES OF OUR TIMES AROUND ACHIEVING A JUST AND EQUAL SOCIETY FOR EVERYONE

FAVORITE BOSTON POPS JULY 4 TRADITIONS—A PATRIOTIC SING-ALONG, THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER, AN APPEARANCE BY THE U.S. ARMY FIELD BAND AND SOLDIERS CHORUS, AND THE 1812 OVERTURE—TO FILL OUT THE PROGRAM, WITH A RETROSPECTIVE FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA BRINGING THE BROADCAST TO A CLOSE
THE BOSTON POPS INVITES VIEWERS TO JOIN IN THE GREAT AMERICAN PICNIC SWEEPSTAKES; PARTICIPANTS CAN SNAP A PHOTO OR VIDEO OF THEIR JULY 4 CELEBRATIONS AND POST THEM ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, AND TWITTER AND TAG #GREATAMERICANPICNIC @THE BOSTON POPS TO BE ENTERED INTO A SWEEPSTAKES TO WIN GREAT PRIZES—CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS

IN THESE CHALLENGING TIMES OF CONCERT CANCELLATIONS DUE TO COVID-19, BOSTON POPS FANS CAN NOW MAKE A DONATION TO THE ORCHESTRA IN JUST 10 SECONDS AT WWW.BOSTONPOPS.ORG/DONATETODAY

EATON VANCE HAS BEEN PRESENTING SPONSOR OF THE BOSTON POPS FOURTH OF JULY CONCERTS SINCE 2017

BLOOMBERG TELEVISION AND BLOOMBERG RADIO HAVE BEEN MAJOR SPONSORS AND MEDIA PARTNERS OF THE BOSTON POPS FOURTH OF JULY CONCERTS SINCE 2017

FOR PHOTOS,VIDEOS & BIOS OF KEITH LOCKHART AND GUEST ARTISTS, CLICK HERE

THIS YEAR’S BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR—A BOSTON POPS SALUTE TO OUR HEROES—WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLY ON TELEVISION, RADIO, AND DIGITAL MEDIA; A LIVE PERFORMANCE, INCLUDING FIREWORKS, ON THE CHARLES RIVER ESPLANADE WILL NOT TAKE PLACE, DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS RELATED TO THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

The 2020 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular broadcast, under the direction Keith Lockhart, will present A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, featuring both new content and retrospective highlights from many of the most beloved performers from the past three years. With America’s Orchestra taking center stage, the program will include the Boston Pops’ newly released video production and viral hit of John Williams’ Summon the Heroes, paying tribute to the healthcare workers, first responders, and other essential service providers who are the heroes of the COVID-19 pandemic, and honoring the memories of those who have lost their lives during this crisis. Opening with Brian Stokes Mitchell singing “America the Beautiful” and closing with the ever-popular fireworks extravaganza, the wide-ranging broadcast will also honor the great traditions of Boston’s Independence Day celebration with performances of Tchaikovsky’s "1812" Overture, "The Stars and Stripes Forever," and the annual Patriotic Sing-Along, taken from broadcasts in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart teams up with Bloomberg's Kim Carrigan, Joe Shortsleeve, and Janet Wu to host the show.
Bloomberg will broadcast *A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes* on Bloomberg Television (available on cable/satellite and streaming services) and on Bloomberg Radio on Saturday, July 4, 8-11 p.m., EDT, with repeat broadcasts taking place at 11 p.m. (7/4) and 2 a.m. (7/5). The show will be simulcast locally on Boston’s WHDH-TV on July 4, 8-11 p.m.

**BELOVED PERFORMERS FROM PREVIOUS BOSTON POPS FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR PROGRAMS (in order of appearance):**

*Broadway legend Brian Stokes Mitchell sings “America the Beautiful” and “Wheels of a Dream”*

*Amanda Mena, America’s Got Talent* semi-finalist from Lynn, MA, sings Pink’s *What About US* and the national anthem with the U.S. Navy Sea Chanters

*American folk-rock singer-songwriter Melissa Etheridge performs her mega-hit “I Wanna Come Over”*

*Amanda Gorman, first-ever Youth Poet Laureate of the United States, performs a new take on the “Battle Hymn of the Republic” entitled “Believer’s Hymn for the Republic”*

*Broadway star Leslie Odom, Jr, sings “Sarah” from The Civil War, and “Without You” from Rent*

*Grammy Award-winning artist Rhiannon Giddens, lead singer, violinist, banjo player, and a founding member of the acclaimed country, blues, and old-time music band the Carolina Chocolate Drops, performs her hits “Pretty Little Girl” and “She’s Got You”*

*Rita Moreno, iconic singer/actor/dancer and winner of the Academy Award for best supporting actress for the 1961 film version of West Side Story, narrates excerpts from Ellis Island: The Dream of America*

*Great American folk singer-songwriter, Arlo Guthrie and The Texas Tenors sing “This Land Is Your Land”*

*The incomparable Queen Latifah, American rapper, singer, songwriter, actress, and producer sings “Mercy, Mercy, Mercy”*

*Multi-platinum Singer/Songwriter Andy Grammer performs his hit “Give Love”*

*The U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers’ Chorus join the Pops for “The Stars and Stripes Forever”*

**NEWLY CREATED CONTENT FOR A BOSTON POPS SALUTE TO OUR HEROES (in order of appearance):**

*Boston Pops Viola Section in a virtual performance of an all-time favorite, “Over the Rainbow”*

*Boston Pops in a viral hit performance of Summon the Heroes with a special introduction by composer and Pops Conductor Laureate John Williams*

*BSO Trumpet Section in a virtual performance of Leroy Anderson’s Bugler’s Holiday*

*Renese King (voice) and Keith Lockhart (piano) in a virtual performance of two songs—“Lift Every Voice and Sing” and “God Bless America”*

*A special video message from General James C. McConville, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army and Quincy, MA native*

**#GREATAMERICANPICNIC SWEEPSTAKES**

The Boston Pops invites fans to participate in the Great American Picnic Sweepstakes. Between now and July 6, the Boston Pops wants to spotlight the many ways people around the country plan for and celebrate the Fourth. Contest participants can snap a photo or film a video of their celebration and post them on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter. By tagging #GreatAmericanPicnic @thebostonpops participants will be automatically entered into a sweepstakes for a chance to win great prizes, including:

*Prime seating for 2021 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular in Boston, including airfare and hotel for four guests*

**“Be a Star!”**: Play the kitchen spoons, shake maracas, snap fingers, or play air guitar and we’ll edit it together with footage of the Pops to create a video keepsake [up to ten winners]*
*Coca-Cola branded Yeti cooler and a variety of products
The Great American Picnic Sweepstakes is presented in partnership with Coca-Cola.

For complete details and sweepstakes rules, click here.

BOSTON POPS HOPES ITS FANS WILL CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION
As these challenging times of COVID-19 force the cancellation of live performances by the Boston Pops (its 2020 spring season) and Boston Symphony Orchestra (part of its 2020-21 Symphony Hall season and the entire live performance season at Tanglewood), the Boston Pops hopes that its fans will consider making a donation to the orchestra at www.bostonpops.org/donatetoday - powered by a partnership with innovative fundraising platform, Donate2, this page is a 1-click donation tool that makes it easy to make a gift in less than 10 seconds. Designed for mobile use first, digital wallet compatible and no complicated checkout process or account needed, Boston Pops fans can easily make a donation to the orchestra by visiting bostonpops.org/donatetoday.

STATEMENT FROM KEITH LOCKHART, JULIAN AND EUNICE COHEN BOSTON POPS CONDUCTOR
“All of us at the Boston Pops are pleased to have this opportunity to present A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, a special broadcast that will pay tribute to the many frontline workers who continue to do so much to keep our communities safe and running during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"One of the positive things we have learned during the last few months is that even in the middle of a health crisis so many Americans are strong, resilient, helpful, and hopeful. It has been absolutely inspiring to see our frontline workers show such extraordinary dedication to the well-being of others, with their amazing acts of sacrifice, generosity, support, and kindness, as well as the incredible skill and know-how they bring to every situation.

“We also think it is essential to address one of the most crucial/fundamental themes of our times—the truth that we must do better as a people to confront racism and achieve a just and equal society for everyone throughout our country.

“These messages of honor, unity, diversity, equality, and fellowship will resound throughout the 2020 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular broadcast by way of inspiring retrospective performances by our most popular artists of the last few years, side by side with brand new content developed over the last two months.

"We hope everyone throughout the country will gather around their televisions or radios, or watch the show on their phones or tablets, and join us as we show our appreciation for the heroes of our times and celebrate the intrinsic messages of Independence Day that unite us all in this great and beautifully diverse country.”

STATEMENT FROM THOMAS E. FAUST JR., CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, EATON VANCE
“Eaton Vance is proud to present A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, continuing our sponsorship of the Boston Pops’ annual Fourth of July celebration. In these challenging days, I can think of no better way to commemorate our nation’s founding values of liberty and justice for all and pay tribute to the heroes of the COVID-19 pandemic than through the wonderful music of the Boston Pops.”

STATEMENT FROM AL MAYER, GLOBAL HEAD OF BLOOMBERG TELEVISION AND RADIO
"We are honored to be a part of this year’s redesigned broadcast, A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, which is especially meaningful, and will pay tribute to the front-line workers and those we’ve lost during the pandemic. We hope people will find special meaning watching from home, surrounded by family and friends,
and taking time to celebrate our great nation, through the sound of beautiful music, talented artists, and the timeless magic of spectacular fireworks."

**BLOOMBERG TO BROADCAST A BOSTON POPS SALUTE TO OUR HEROES ON BLOOMBERG TELEVISION (AVAILABLE ON CABLE/SATELLITE AND STREAMING SERVICES) AND BLOOMBERG RADIO ON JULY 4, STARTING AT 8 P.M.; SHOW TO BE SIMULCAST ON BOSTON'S WHDH-TV**

A *Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes* airs on Bloomberg Television, with a simulcast on WHDH-TV, on July 4 starting at 8 p.m. EDT, and will be available for streaming on Bloomberg.com. The digital stream will be available for 24 days after the July 4 performance broadcast. The stream, along with the live broadcast on Bloomberg Television and Bloomberg Radio, and a variety of additional radio listening options (see "Tune In" information below), will help ensure easy access for the event’s loyal traditional television watchers and radio listeners, as well as fans wanting to view the show online or on their mobile device, here in Boston, throughout the country, and around the world. Visit [bostonpopsjuly4th.org](http://bostonpopsjuly4th.org) for further details about the wide variety of options for viewing or listening to the show.

**Where to Tune in for Bloomberg's Television Broadcast in the Greater Boston Area**

Pay TV customers in the greater Boston area can view *A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes* on DISH: Channel 203; DirectTV: Channel 353; FiOS: Channel 605; and RCN: Channels 325/672. For Comcast subscribers within the greater Boston area, Bloomberg Television can be found on channels 45, 757, or 844, depending on the location in the market. Viewers beyond the greater Boston area should check their local pay TV provider listings for information on where to tune in to see Bloomberg Television's *A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes* in their local areas. For a TV Tune-In Chart on where to view the *Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes* on Bloomberg Television in the greater Boston area, visit [bostonpopsjuly4th.org](http://bostonpopsjuly4th.org).

**Bloomberg Radio**

Radio listeners in the greater Boston area can hear the broadcast through Bloomberg's flagship stations in Boston and Newburyport on 106.1 FM / 1330 AM / 1450 AM/ 92.9-HD2, and via expanded coverage this year on 99.1 WPLM-FM (Plymouth, MA) covering Boston's South Shore, southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and portions of Rhode Island. Nationally the concert can be found on SiriusXM channel 119, online at bloombergradio.com, and via mobile on the Bloomberg and iHeartRadio apps.

**PRODUCTION TEAM FOR A BOSTON POPS SALUTE TO OUR HEROES**

Pamela Picard, Executive Producer and Event Director of the *Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular* and BSO Broadcast and Media Director, and Dennis Alves, Boston Pops Director of Artistic Planning, are serving as executive producers of this year’s broadcast of *A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes*. The production team also includes Christopher W. Ruigomez, Director of Boston Pops and Concert Operations and Assistant Director of Tanglewood.

**BRIEF BACKGROUND ON THE BOSTON POPS FOURTH OF JULY CONCERTS**

Although Pops concerts on the Charles River Esplanade have been a Boston Fourth of July tradition since beloved conductor Arthur Fiedler inaugurated them in 1929, it was the introduction on July 4, 1974, of fireworks and a performance of Tchaikovsky's "1812" Overture that elevated the event to iconic status. David Mugar, working closely with Mr. Fiedler, revitalized the tradition with fireworks and cannons, and a flyover added in 1995, all of which added to the celebratory spirit.
Over the next 46 years, the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular attracted multitudes of fans annually on July 4, with a few exceptions. In 1986, the Boston Pops and John Williams were invited to New York to perform at the centennial rededication ceremony of the Statue of Liberty, thus delaying the Boston event for a day; "Go Fourth on the Fifth" became the slogan for the July 5 concert. In 1992, with guest John Mauceri conducting, the July 4 concert went on, but bad weather forced the postponement of the fireworks until July 5. Exactly twenty years later, severe weather struck again. The audience at the 2012 concert under Keith Lockhart had to be evacuated prior to the “1812” Overture because of thunderstorms; however, the fireworks were set off as scheduled, following the evacuation. In 2014, the predicted arrival of Hurricane Arthur caused the event to be moved to July 3, and the musical performance was truncated in order to accommodate the fireworks before the onset of the storm.

Boston’s Independence Day event was managed and produced from 1974 to 2016 by Mr. Mugar, who has continued in an advisory role since 2017, when the Boston Pops took over the management and production roles. For a brief history of the Boston Pops July 4 celebration, click here. (For a brief history of the Boston Pops, click here.)

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Eaton Vance provides advanced investment strategies and wealth management solutions to forward-thinking investors around the world. Through principal investment affiliates Eaton Vance Management, Parametric, Atlanta Capital, Calvert and Hexavest, the Company offers a diversity of investment approaches, encompassing bottom-up and top-down fundamental active management, responsible investing, systematic investing and customized implementation of client-specified portfolio exposures. Exemplary service, timely innovation and attractive returns across market cycles have been hallmarks of Eaton Vance since 1924. For more information, visit eatonvance.com.

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