

BOSTON POPS

SPRING SEASON · MAY 19–JUNE 11

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Updates are in yellow highlight

BOSTON POPS AND KEITH LOCKHART ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF 2022 SPRING SEASON AT SYMPHONY HALL, MAY 19–JUNE 11

From film nights celebrating Boston Pops Conductor Laureate John Williams' 90th birthday year to star-studded tributes to Broadway, jazz, and gospel, the dynamic 2022 Boston Pops spring season offers audiences the very best across a variety of genres

TICKETS, STARTING AT \$33, ARE AVAILABLE AT [BOSTONPOPS.ORG](https://www.bostonpops.org) OR
888-266-1200

[CLICK HERE FOR A 2022 SPRING POPS CONCERT LISTING](#)



Highlights of the 2022 Boston Pops Spring Season Include:

- The Boston Pops season-opener, ***The Magical Music of Alan Menken*** (5/19 & 21), under the direction of **Keith Lockhart**, and featuring Broadway stars **Susan Egan** (*Beauty and the Beast*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Cabaret*), **Telly Leung** (*Glee*, *Aladdin*, *Rent*), and **Alton Fitzgerald White** (*The Lion King*, *The Color Purple*, *Ragtime*) performing favorite songs by the legendary composer of *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*, and much more



Telly Leung, Susan Egan, Alton Fitzgerald White

- In honor of **Boston Pops Conductor Laureate John Williams' 90th birthday year**, Lockhart-led **film night** screenings of the enchanting ***Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*** (5/26 & 28) and 1980 classic ***Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*** (6/2–4), accompanied by the Pops performing Williams' blockbuster scores
- Tony nominee **Christopher Jackson**, who originated the role of George Washington in *Hamilton*, joining the Pops and Keith Lockhart for an evening of his favorite songs from pop, Broadway, and more (6/7 & 8)—as well as sharing the stage with winners of the **Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition** (6/7)
- Pianist **Lara Downes** and singer and actor **Brian Stokes Mitchell** performing in ***Duke Ellington Reimagined***, an exploration of the unforgettable mark Duke Ellington and jazz pianist/composer Billy Strayhorn left on American music (6/9 & 10), under the direction of Keith Lockhart



John Williams, Christopher Jackson, Lara Downes, Brian Stokes Mitchell

- For the 28th annual **Gospel Night** (6/11), **Boston Pops**, the **Boston Pops Gospel Choir**, and conductor **Charles Floyd** collaborating with Grammy winner and gospel superstar **Smokie Norful**



Charles Floyd, Smokie Norful, Boston Pops Gospel Choir

THE BOSTON POPS WILL ANNOUNCE DETAILS ABOUT HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES CLOSER TO THE START OF THE 2022 SPRING SEASON

THE BOSTON POPS WILL CONTINUE TO EVALUATE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, THE CITY OF BOSTON, AND THE ORCHESTRA'S OWN TEAM OF ADVISORS AND MEDICAL EXPERTS, INCLUDING 9 FOUNDATIONS, WHEN DETERMINING ITS PROTOCOLS FOR SYMPHONY HALL

To view an online press kit with B roll and photos, [click here](#)

To request interviews or press tickets, contact Grace Munns at gmunns@bso.org or call 617-638-9286

Keith Lockhart and the **Boston Pops Orchestra** are thrilled to announce their 2022 Spring Pops season, May 19–June 11. Spring Pops 2022 features a celebratory spectrum of music, with favorite musical offerings such as **film nights** (*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*) in honor of the Boston Pops Conductor Laureate John Williams' 90th birthday year, the welcome returns of popular artists **Brian Stokes Mitchell** and **Alton Fitzgerald White**, conductor **Charles Floyd**, and pianist **Lara Downes**, as well as exciting Pops debuts by Broadway's **Christopher Jackson**, **Susan Egan**, and **Telly Leung**, and Grammy-winning gospel superstar **Smokie Norful**. Keith and the Pops will present their first in-person Boston Pops spring season at Symphony Hall since 2019; they welcomed back audiences for the first time during the 2021 Holiday Pops season.

Tickets to the 2022 Boston Pops season, starting at \$33, are available by calling 888-266-1200 or by visiting www.bostonpops.org. Performances start at 8 p.m., except for the 7 p.m. film night performances of May 26 and 28 and June 2 and 3, as well as 1 p.m. matinee performances of *The Magical Music of Alan Menken* on Saturday, May 21 and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* on Saturday, June 4.

Quote from Keith Lockhart, Julian and Eunice Cohen Boston Pops Conductor



"The musicians of the Boston Pops Orchestra join me in expressing our sheer joy in presenting the upcoming Spring Pops season and welcoming back a live audience at Symphony Hall in 2022!

"While re-opening Symphony Hall last fall and with Holiday Pops, so many of us have felt the power and meaning of the live concert experience more than ever before. We bring the music of this spring season to our audiences, but it's our audiences—by their participation, enthusiasm, and expressions of gratitude—who bring all of us a sense of purpose and inspire a deep appreciation of community that enriches all our lives."

FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE 2022 SPRING POPS SEASON

Film nights: John Williams' Music from *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*

During Keith Lockhart's tenure, the Boston Pops has been at the forefront of the popular practice of presenting Hollywood classics accompanied by the film scores performed live, including recent performances of *Star Wars: A New Hope*, *Jaws*, *Back to the Future*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Singin' in the Rain*. This year, the Pops presents not just one but two films in tribute to **Pops Conductor Laureate John Williams'** 90th birthday year and all that Williams has contributed to the Pops and to the world of music. The Pops performs Williams' cherished scores to *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* on May 26 and 28 and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* on June 2-4, live and in sync with the films.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone in Concert is part of the Harry Potter Film Concert Series presented by CineConcerts.

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[Click here](#) to view the Pops performing the Imperial March from John Williams' score for Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back

Broadway at Pops: *The Magical Music of Alan Menken and An Evening with Christopher Jackson*

Opening the Boston Pops' 2022 season on May 19 and 21 is *The Magical Music of Alan Menken*, a wide-ranging tour through many of the composer's Broadway and film scores, including *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Newsies*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Hercules*, and *Tangled*, among others. Lockhart is joined on the stage by Broadway stars **Susan Egan** (*Beauty and the Beast*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Cabaret*, *State Fair*) and **Telly Leung** (*Glee*, *Aladdin*, *Rent*), both making their Pops debuts. Also featured is **Alton Fitzgerald White** (*The Lion King*, *The Color Purple*, *Ragtime*, and *Miss Saigon*) who last performed with the Pops in 2014 in *Disney's Broadway Hits*. As part of this program, Keith Lockhart will also lead the Pops in an instrumental version of the breakthrough hit song "We Don't Talk About Bruno" by Lin-Manuel Miranda, featured in the 2021 Disney film *Encanto*.

Making his Pops debut, Tony nominee **Christopher Jackson**—best known for originating the role of George Washington in *Hamilton* and starring in the CBS drama *Bull*—joins with the Pops on June 6 and 7 in music drawing from Jackson's favorite songs in pop, R&B, and Broadway, including hits by Donny Hathaway and Frank Wildhorn, as well as his own Emmy Award-winning songs. His performance on June 6 features winners of the **Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition**: Andrew Kim (cello; Weston High School), Fei Yang-Sady (violin; Concord-Carlisle High School), Leah Steinman (vocalist; Natick High School), and Adalia Wen (guzheng; The Rivers School of Weston). These talented young musicians, chosen from entrants across Massachusetts, will receive mentoring from Lockhart and Jackson, culminating in their first performances at Symphony Hall.

A Joyful Noise: *Duke Ellington Reimagined and Gospel Night*

On June 9 and 10, two-time Tony Award winner **Brian Stokes Mitchell** (*Kiss Me, Kate*, *Ragtime*, *Shuffle Along*, *Man of La Mancha*) and trailblazing American pianist **Lara Downes** explore with the Pops the extraordinary musical legacies of Duke Ellington and pianist/composer Billy Strayhorn, whose nearly 30 years of creative collaboration helped to shape the sound and spirit of American music as we know it. Lara

Downes, who made her Pops debut in 2019 with the program "Rediscovering the Incredible Black Composer," will perform the world premiere of *A Lovesome Thing: Billy Strayhorn Suite*, based on three of Strayhorn's most expressive songs—"A Flower Is a Lovesome Thing," "Strange Feeling," and "Something to Live For"—arranged by composer Chris Walden. (*A Lovesome Thing: Billy Strayhorn Suite* is a Boston Pops co-commission with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Brevard Music Center, and South Carolina Philharmonic.)

To close the season on June 11, returning conductor **Charles Floyd** leads the 28th annual Gospel Night performance, featuring the **Boston Pops Gospel Choir** and special guest **Smokie Norful**. Best known for his 2002 album *I Need You Now* and the 2004 release *Nothing Without You* for which he won a Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Soul Gospel Album, Norful has released five #1 Billboard Albums and been named Billboard's "Gospel Artist of the Year" several times. He is the founding senior pastor of Victory Cathedral Worship Center in Illinois.



[Click here](#) to view an excerpt of pianist Lara Downes' performance with the Pops in the 2019 program "Rediscovering the Incredible Black Composer"

Boston Pops Spring 2022 Ticket Purchasing

Tickets for the Boston Pops season at Symphony Hall, starting at \$33, are available at bostonpops.org or 617-266-1200. Performances start at 8 p.m., except for the 7 p.m. film night performances of May 26 and 28 and June 2 and 3, as well as 1 p.m. matinee performances of *The Magical Music of Alan Menken* on Saturday, May 21 and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* on Saturday, June 4. The May 21 and June 4 matinee concerts include a 50% ticket discount for children ages 17 and younger. Groups of 20 persons or more may receive up to 10% off regular ticket prices and waived handling fees. Please call the Group Sales Office at 800-933-4255 for more details.

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.

BSO NOW Pops Concert Streams Available at [bso.org/now](https://www.bso.org/now)



During the course of the Pops season, two archival Pops concerts will be available to viewers: the Boston Pops with conductor **Arthur Fiedler** and pianist **Eubie Blake**, filmed May 27, 1973 and the Boston Pops with conductor **John Williams** and entertainer **Gregory Hines**, filmed May 5, 1983. [Click here](#) for further details about the 2021–22 *BSO NOW* online performance series and season pass information.

New this year: The Spring Pops program book will be offered in a digital format available through [bostonpops.org](https://www.bostonpops.org). In addition, patrons sitting on the floor of the hall will be able to order food through their mobile phones by using a QR code visibly displayed on each table throughout the hall. A paper menu will be available for those who need it.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BOSTON POPS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF KEITH LOCKHART

For 137 years, the Boston Pops has entertained audiences in Boston and beyond, with Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart at the helm of the orchestra since 1995. He has led the orchestra in more than 2,000 concerts, 81 television shows, 45 national and four overseas tours, and several high-profile sports events, including with the Red Sox and New England Patriots. Together Lockhart and the Pops have collaborated with nearly 300 guest artists from the worlds of classical and popular music, rock, jazz, sports, politics, Broadway, and Hollywood.

The Boston Pops and Keith Lockhart have brought the orchestra's music and spirit into the Boston community with special appearances at the holiday tree lighting in Boston's Public Garden, Children's Hospital and Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital for annual holiday performances, and the Boston Common and Franklin Park, where they have played free concerts for the public. Mr. Lockhart and the Pops have also provided music for such significant civic events as gubernatorial and mayoral inauguration ceremonies, as well as the memorial service for victims of the Boston Marathon bombing. Under Mr. Lockhart's direction, the Boston Pops received its first Grammy nominations, presented its first major national network broadcast of the July 4 *Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular*, performed its first live concert stream for *BSO NOW* ([bso.org/now](https://www.bso.org/now)), and released its first self-produced and self-distributed recordings. For more information about the Boston Pops, [click here](#).

Now celebrating his 28th year with the Boston Pops, Keith Lockhart is the Julian and Eunice Cohen Boston Pops Conductor.

Artist Websites for Further Information:

[Keith Lockhart](#), [Brian Stokes Mitchell](#), [Alton Fitzgerald White](#), [Charles Floyd](#), [Lara Downes](#), [Susan Egan](#), [Telly Leung](#), [Smokie Norful](#)

Spring Pops 2022 Sponsorship

The 2022 Spring Pops Season is sponsored by **Fidelity Investments**. For over 50 years, Fidelity Investments and the Boston Pops have proudly worked together to bring wonderful performances to local audiences. As our partnership grows, so does our investment in the community we both share. In 2009, the Young Artists Competition was created for high school students to compete for the opportunity to perform live at a Boston Pops concert during a regular spring concert. This season the winners of the **Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition** will be featured on the *Evening with Christopher Jackson* performance on June 7.

The **Arbella Insurance Foundation** is the Music for All Sponsor, supporting the Spring Pops season and Kids' Matinee performances. **Takeda Pharmaceuticals, Ltd.** continues its support of the Boston Pops as supporting sponsor of the Spring Pops season.

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