



For immediate release

Tuesday, October 7 at 12 p.m.

GRAMMY AND ACADEMY AWARD-NOMINATED
VOCALIST, ACTOR, AND DIRECTOR **SETH MacFARLANE**
JOINS THE **BOSTON POPS** FOR A SPECIAL **NEW**
YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION AT SYMPHONY HALL

**The five-time Emmy Award winner returns after acclaimed
2016 and 2018 Pops performances**

**MacFarlane to sing big band standards and favorite
selections from the Great American Songbook**

**Emmy winner and Grammy-nominated composer Joel
McNeely to conduct**

Tickets go on sale on October 9 at 10 a.m.

[Click here](#) for a press kit, including photos and full bio



Following up on memorable 2016 and 2018 performances with the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall and Tanglewood, writer, director, and Grammy and Oscar-nominated vocalist **Seth MacFarlane** returns to Boston to close out 2025 with a special New Year's Eve celebration at Symphony Hall on Wednesday, December 31, beginning at 8 p.m. The conductor for the evening is Emmy winner and Grammy-nominated composer, and longtime MacFarlane collaborator **Joel McNeely** who will be making his Pops debut.

Perhaps best known as the creator of *Family Guy*, *Ted*, and *American Dad!*, MacFarlane will join the Pops with his rich baritone voice for a selection of big

band standards and favorites from the Great American Songbook. In June, MacFarlane released his ninth studio album, *Lush Life: The Lost Sinatra Arrangements*, which includes 12 never-before-heard arrangements originally created for Frank Sinatra by collaborators Nelson Riddle, Billy May, and Don Costa. The album reached No. 1 on iTunes' Jazz chart, top 3 on the Traditional Jazz Albums chart, top 5 on Jazz Albums, and top 20 on the Top Album Sales chart.

It succeeds MacFarlane's other critically-acclaimed albums, *Music is Better Than Words*, *Holiday for Swing*, *No One Ever Tells You*, *In Full Swing*, *Once In A While*, *Great Songs From Stage & Screen*, *Blue Skies*, and *We Wish You The Merriest*, have garnered him five Grammy Award nominations, and several No. 1 debuts on the iTunes Jazz and New Release Jazz pages. With a profound appreciation for standards and the Great American Songbook, MacFarlane acquired the entire Sinatra music archive in 2018 and has performed with legendary composer and Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams at the Hollywood Bowl, duetted with Barbra Streisand, and joined numerous renowned symphony orchestras including those in San Francisco, Atlanta, Chicago, Baltimore, and the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C.

A native of Kent, Connecticut, MacFarlane is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design. At 24, MacFarlane became the youngest showrunner in television history when his animated series "Family Guy" aired on Fox. The program, which just celebrated its 25th Anniversary, has earned him five Emmys and makes him the tied record-holder for most voice-over Emmy wins of all time.

In addition to this special one-night only performance with the Pops, this festive evening includes a cash bar and several dining options. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the concert begins at 8 p.m.

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How to Purchase Tickets

Tickets to the Seth MacFarlane program as well as [Holiday Pops](#) and [other Pops and BSO concerts](#) throughout the 2025–26 season are available to purchase by calling 888-266-1200 or visiting [bso.org](#). Tickets for Seth MacFarlane go on sale to the general public on Oct. 9 at 10 a.m.

About The Boston Pops

For more than 135 years, the Boston Pops has entertained audiences in Boston and beyond, with Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart leading the orchestra since 1995. It all began in 1885, thanks to the vision of Civil War veteran Henry

Lee Higginson. Four years earlier, in 1881, he 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. The "Promenade Concerts," as they were originally called, were soon informally known as "Popular Concerts," 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.

In 1930, Arthur Fiedler became the first American-born musician to lead the orchestra. In Fiedler's nearly 50-year tenure as Pops Conductor (1930-1979), he established the Boston Pops as a national icon and began the tradition of offering free Fourth of July concerts on the Esplanade. When John Williams (1980-1993) succeeded Arthur Fiedler, he was the most highly acclaimed composer in Hollywood, and today, with 54 Academy Award nominations he is the most-nominated living person in Academy history.

Keith Lockhart was named conductor in 1995 and has since led over 2,250 concerts with the Pops. He has created programs that reach out to a broader and younger audience by presenting artists—both established performers and rising stars—from virtually every corner of the entertainment world, all the while maintaining the Pops' core appeal. He has made 81 television shows, led the Pops at several high-profile sports events, recorded twelve albums. He has led 45 national and five overseas tours with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, most recently bringing the orchestra to Japan in October 2023. 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 4 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular from the Esplanade, and the release of the Boston Pops' first self-produced and self-distributed recordings. Each December, he conducts the very popular Holiday Pops programs at Symphony Hall and in other cities in New England.

Sponsorships

The Boston Pops is proud to welcome back **Fidelity Investments** as Lead Season Sponsor for the 2025-26 Pops season. 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 **Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition** was created for high school students to audition for the opportunity to perform live with the Boston Pops at a regular spring concert.

The Boston Pops is delighted to have **Fairmont Copley Plaza** continue its longstanding support as the Official Hotel of the Boston Pops.

Titles for BSO Artistic and Executive Leadership

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Tanglewood | 297 West Street | Lenox, MA 01240 | [Box Office Hours](#)

Symphony Hall | 301 Massachusetts Avenue | Boston, MA 02115 | [Box Office Hours](#)

Ticketing & Customer Service | 617.266.1200 (M-F: 10-4pm & Sat: 12:30pm-4:30pm) Service & Tickets | Subscriptions 888.266.7575

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