

THE NEW YORK POPS

SKITCH HENDERSON FOUNDER AND MUSIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 30, 2005

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EDWIN OUTWATER TO CONDUCT NEW YORK POPS HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Ring in the holidays at Carnegie Hall December 16 and 17 with The New York Pops and the Fort Worth-TCU Symphonic Choir. Conductor Edwin Outwater will lead 250 performers and one ten-year-old Young Virtuoso from Brooklyn.

NEW YORK – Edwin Outwater will take the Carnegie Hall podium on December 16 and 17 at 8:00PM to conduct The New York Pops in the orchestra's annual Holiday Celebration concerts. He will lead more than 250 performers, including the orchestra, the 180-



Conductor Edwin Outwater

voice Fort Worth-TCU Symphonic Choir under the direction of Ronald

Shirey, and one ten-year-old Little Drummer Boy, Ledread Gathers, a percussionist from The New York Pops Young Virtuoso program. They will perform holiday classics old and new, including "Sleigh Ride," "Christmas Time is Here," "Sweet Little Jesus Boy," "The Holly and the Ivy," and, with young Mr. Gathers leading the way, "Little Drummer Boy."

Mr. Outwater made his Carnegie Hall debut in April 2004 as part of the Carnegie Hall

Perspectives series with Michael Tilson Thomas. He has guest conducted numerous orchestras across the country, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Seattle Symphony and the Indianapolis Symphony. Mr. Outwater is currently Resident Conductor of the San Francisco Symphony where he works closely with Michael Tilson Thomas accompanying the orchestra on tours and conducting numerous concerts each season. A native of Santa Monica, California, Mr. Outwater attended Harvard University, graduating cum laude in 1993. He is currently conducting Andrea Bocelli's "Royal Christmas Tour" and will debut with the New York Philharmonic in February 2006.



Fort Worth-TCU Symphonic Choir



*New York Pops Young Virtuoso
Ledread Gathers*

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The Fort Worth-TCU Symphonic Choir, under the direction of Ronald Shirey, makes its fifth appearance with The New York Pops for these concerts. The 180-voice choir is an amalgam of the Chancel Choir from the University Christian Church and Choral Union, Concert Chorale, and the Chapel Choir from Texas Christian University. New York Pops Founder Skitch Henderson, who arranged for the choir's performance and programmed the concert before his death on November 1, was especially devoted to the choir and its director. "If I may speak a word of respect and quality in choral direction, Ron Shirey would be my sergeant-at-arms," Skitch wrote in notes on the concert a few days before he died. "Ron's exceptional skill with the blend-factor of the ladies and gentlemen that trek from Texas to the island of Manhattan for us is really my happiest holiday sound."

The New York Pops will have an extra special soloist playing the snare drum on "Little Drummer Boy." Ten-year-old New York Pops Young Virtuoso Ledread Gathers caught the eye and ear of Skitch Henderson two years ago when Skitch accompanied New York Pops Education Director Sherrie Maricle to a career day in a Brooklyn public school. After watching this talented young percussionist perform, Skitch and Sherrie offered Ledread the opportunity to study in the orchestra's Young Virtuoso Program. At Skitch Henderson's invitation, Ledread was invited this fall to perform with the orchestra on the holiday concerts. "The young man we're saluting tonight, Ledread Gathers, is a special holiday wreath from our Young Virtuoso program," Skitch wrote in his program notes. "There's a spark in his eye that devours you immediately. That's why we're all here. If we can't get to the kids, the music platform will drift over the falls in the river of oblivion."

The New York Pops' holiday concerts have been a fixture at Carnegie Hall for 17 years. The program will be performed exactly as Skitch Henderson intended, as will the remainder of the concerts in the orchestra's Carnegie Hall series. The program is printed below:

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Friday, December 16, 2005, 8:00PM, Carnegie Hall

Saturday, December 17, 2005, 8:00PM, Carnegie Hall

The New York Pops

Skitch Henderson, *Founder and Music Director*

Edwin Outwater, *Conductor*

Fort Worth-TCU Symphonic Choir, Ronald Shirey, *Director*

Ledread Gathers, *Snare Drum*

A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

A Musical Snuff Box, Op. 32	Anatole Liadov
Einsamkeit (Loneliness)	Skitch Henderson
Sweet Little Jesus Boy	Robert MacGimsey arr. Janet Pummill
Leah Edmondson, <i>Soprano</i>	
<i>Wand of Youth</i> Suite No. 2, Op. 1b March The Little Bells	Edward Elgar
Christmas Time is Here	Vince Guaraldi/Lee Mendelson arr. Curt Wilson
<i>The Snow Maiden</i> Suite Introduction Cortege	Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Christmas Triptych Once in Royal David's City In the Bleak Mid-Winter The Holly and the Ivy	arr. Curt Wilson Henry John Gauntlett/Cecil F. Alexander Gustav Holst/Christina Rosetti Traditional (English)

INTERMISSION

Nänie, Op. 82	Johannes Brahms
Ronald Shirey, <i>Conductor</i>	
Come and See	Stan Applebaum/Lee Davis Knight arr. Janet Pummill
Song of Galilee (El Yivneh Hagalil)	Julius Chajes
Prelude from <i>Irmelin</i>	Frederick Delius
Teddy Bears Picnic	John W. Bratton
Little Drummer Boy (Carol of the Drum)	Katherine K. Davis/ Henry Onorati/Harry Simeone
Ledread Gathers, <i>Snare Drum</i>	
Sleigh Ride	Leroy Anderson

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Tickets, priced at \$24, \$28, \$38, \$65, \$85, and \$95, are available at the Carnegie Hall Box Office, 154 West 57th Street. Tickets may also be charged to major credit cards by calling CarnegieCharge at 212-247-7800 or on line by visiting www.carnegiehall.org.

The New York Pops <www.newyorkpops.org> was founded by former NBC Music Director Skitch Henderson in 1983 to give New York a permanent professional symphonic pops orchestra that would create greater public awareness and appreciation of America's rich and diverse musical heritage. The orchestra is now the largest independent symphonic pops orchestra in the United States.

Delta Air Lines is the official airline of The New York Pops. The New York Pops is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely through the generosity of individual donations, institutional grants, and concert income.

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