



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NEVADA POPS PREMIERES AT HAM HALL; COLLECTS INSTRUMENTS
FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT**

LAS VEGAS, August 11, 2008 — Nevada Pops, under the direction of Dr. Richard McGee, will present its debut concert "A Night with the Pops" at 7:30 p.m. on August 30, 2008, at Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall at UNLV.

Mayor Oscar Goodman will be a featured guest, along with the Walt Boenig Big Band, and the Desert Chorale, under the direction of Nancy Helm.

The concert will feature music from Broadway hits "West Side Story" and "The Music Man," film scores from "The Incredibles" and "Beetlejuice," the theme from the James Bond films, and classic standards "When the Saints Go Marchin' In" and "Sing, Sing, Sing."

"For our premier, we wanted to give our audience a sampling of the kind of concerts they can expect from us," says McGee. "Sometimes we'll do all movie music, sometimes it will be all big band, a concert of marches or holiday music—our goal is to offer something for everyone."

Mayor Goodman will narrate an encore performance of "Las Vegas Rhapsody," a piece written by McGee in 2005 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the city of Las Vegas.

Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" will also be played in honor of the Labor Day holiday.

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"Labor Day is a special holiday that is underrepresented musically," says McGee. "In America we have holidays for our presidents, our servicemen and our religions, but on this day we celebrate the engine of our country—the men and women who go to work each day. They are heroes of this country, and this concert is for them."

Nevada Pops partners with the Clark County School District for this concert to help get more instruments into the city's music classrooms. Each person who brings a musical instrument with them to donate to CCSD will receive free admission.

"Children should have access to instruments if they want to learn to play, and we want to help make that possible," says McGee. "Education is a top priority for Nevada Pops. We want to introduce kids to the great music that is out there—we want to show them how music can affect their lives and show them that they can have careers in this industry if they choose."

For a video introduction to "A Night With the Pops" by McGee and preview of the program notes, visit www.nevadapops.org.

General admission tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students, seniors and military, and children under five are free. Tickets can be purchased by calling the UNLV Performing Arts Center Box Office at 702.895.2787 or by visiting www.nevadapops.org.

Nevada Pops is a non-profit arts organization that seeks to bring affordable, family-friendly symphonic concerts to the communities of Southern Nevada. The Pops comprises a core of up to 50 musicians, allowing the group more flexibility than traditional bands and orchestras to perform programs scored for smaller ensembles and play in more intimate venues. The organization strives to appeal to those unfamiliar with traditional orchestral literature by performing Broadway classics, film favorites and jazz standards—pieces audiences know and love—while introducing the cornerstone works that preceded these genres.

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