

BRINGING TOGETHER THE PAST AND PRESENT



A Gala to Celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the
ATLANTA POPS ORCHESTRA

and the 100th Anniversary of
OGLETHORPE UNIVERSITY on Peachtree St.

October 2 & 3, 2015 – 8:00PM at

Oglethorpe University's Conant Performing Arts Center

"Presented by Arts, Education and Ideas at Oglethorpe University"

Atlanta Pops Orchestra is a premier provider of live pops music for the state of Georgia, the Southeast, the U.S. and abroad. A versatile ensemble that produces concerts that enrich communities, the Atlanta Pops Orchestra focuses on popular pops programming while developing innovative ways to present current artists and their music to audiences of all ages.

Predominantly a touring orchestra, The Atlanta Pops Orchestra is returning to its roots with a 70th anniversary two-night gala performance at Oglethorpe University's Conant Performing Arts Center. The gala is also in celebration of Oglethorpe University's 100th anniversary on Peachtree St.

The eventual outcome of the gala is for the **Atlanta Pops Orchestra** to continue to bring exciting, innovative pops programming to the city of Atlanta and metro-Atlanta with a three-concert fall/winter series at The Conant Center for the Performing Arts as well as a six-concert summer series at The Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre in Mableton, GA.

In addition, the **Atlanta Pops Orchestra** is creating a yearly scholarship for a deserving music student attending Oglethorpe University.

History of the Atlanta Pops Orchestra

In 1944 French immigrant Albert Coleman accepted the position of Musical Director for WSB Radio in Atlanta, Georgia and set about forming an orchestra that would include Atlanta's best musicians and would be available for radio dates, public concerts and free performances for the benefit of young people and aspiring musicians. Albert established his first Atlanta Pops Orchestra in 1945 and led the ensemble for 55 years. Albert Coleman's performances with the Orchestra included many contemporary guest artists of the day.

In his long career Mr. Coleman also served as Music Director for Chet Atkins and Boots Randolph and performed with many of the major symphony orchestras throughout the United States and Europe. The concert for the local audiences drew thousands of attendees. During his tenure, Albert was responsible for discovering and contributing to the careers of many young artists. His contributions won him the honor of membership in the Georgia Music Hall of Fame.

In 2002 former Atlanta Symphony Principal Trumpeter John Head became the Conductor and principal arranger for the Atlanta Pops Orchestra, succeeding Albert Coleman. He conducted the orchestra in their 2004 tour of Taiwan, as well as concert performances throughout the Southeast. In 2010 Maestro Head was succeeded by current Conductor and Musical Director Dr. Jason D. Altieri, an accomplished conductor of symphony, opera and pops programs.

Performances *

The performance will combine the Atlanta Pops Orchestra and guest artists in two evenings of varied programs, emceed by popular Atlanta personalities.

The guest artists will be featured between the two evenings.

***Dates subject to change.** Due to active touring for some of our guest artists dates are subject to change. You will be notified prior to the performance if your guest artist changes and you will be given the opportunity to choose another guest artist or make a program sponsor donation.

Ticketing

The Conant Performing Arts Center seats 510. Tickets will be priced at **\$35.00** per night or **\$50.00** for a two-night package. The two-night package benefits the concertgoers by giving them the opportunity to experience different styles of music and a one-of-a-kind musical experience.

Evening Events

The evening will also consist of an exhibit of photos of the Atlanta Pops Orchestra's 70-year history in the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia as well as an exhibit of photos of Oglethorpe University's 100-year history on Peachtree St.

Also included in both evening performances is an artist 'meet and greet' where patrons can meet the artists, take photos and purchase CD's. CD's will also be available for purchase at intermission and following each performance.

Guest Artists

Joe Gransden: Swing/Jazz trumpeter, vocalist and leader of Joe Gransden & His Big Band with a current CD *Songs of Sinatra & Friends*.

Performance Date: October 3rd

Levi Lowrey: Americana singer/songwriter and co-writer of Zac Brown Band's #1 hit song *Colder Weather* with a current solo CD *My Crazy Head*. Levi was recently nominated for the 2015 GA Music Awards Country Male Artist of the Year.

Performance Date: October 3rd

Michelle Malone: Contemporary Blues, Americana & Southern rock singer & guitarist with new album *Stronger Thank You Think*.

Performance Date: October 2nd

Montana Skies: Classic/Fusion Cello-Guitar duo (instrumental only) extensively touring the U.S. and abroad with current CD, *Montana Skies* and an upcoming CD composed and recorded for the PBS documentary *Jay: A Rockefeller's Story*.

Performance Date: October 3rd

Scott Porter: Former member of *Riverdance* and past producer of *Celtic Woman*. Now owns the *Kelly Porter Dance Academy* and the *Lisa Kelly Voice Academy* in Peachtree City with his wife Lisa Kelly, former member of *Celtic Woman*.

Performance Date: October 2 & 3

Brent Runnels – Pianist Brent Runnels has won critical acclaim for his performances in the US, Europe, Australia and Russia as an orchestral and recital soloist, chamber musician, and jazz pianist.

Performance Date: October 2

Ruby Reds Band - The Ruby Reds will appear in the lobby prior to the performance. Ruby Reds Band is a New Orleans Jazz band originating in Atlanta, GA in 1966 with a current CD *Live @ WaterShed*.

Lobby Performance Date: October 2 & 3

***Speech** - Speech started the music group, *Arrested Development*. The group is based in Georgia, from humble and rural beginnings; they became a pioneering force in the music world. Arrested Development received two Grammy Awards (Best new artists & Best rap single 1993) for the album, "*3 years, 5 months and 2 days in the life of...*"

Performance Date: October 2

Cecil Welch – Performed with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and toured for 18 years as Henry Mancini's principal trumpet. Also performed with the Atlanta Pops Orchestra and toured with Chet Atkins and Johnny Mathis.

October 3

Chris Wright - As a member of Actor's Equity, Chris has enjoyed performing across the country in roles such as Sancho (*Man of LaMancha*), Nicely Nicely (*Guys and Dolls*), and in his signature role Peter Pan (*Peter Pan*.) He currently tours and performs regularly with his wife Katie Deal.

October 3

**Subject to change due to touring.*

GUEST ARTIST SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

Atlanta Pops Orchestra is presenting two nights of entertaining music with guest artists from the state of Georgia. To help offset the costs of our talented guest artists we are requesting a sponsorship of \$500 - \$1000 for a guest artist of your choosing.

For an Individual sponsoring a guest artist you will receive:

\$1000 Four, 2-night preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by the artist during the performance, private on-stage ‘meet & greet’ with the sponsored artist prior to the start of the gala, priority access pre-ticket sales to the Atlanta Pops Orchestra **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **two preferred seating** tickets to the Series.

\$800 Four, 2-night preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by the artist during the performance, private on-stage ‘meet and greet’ with the sponsored artist prior to the start of the gala, priority access pre-ticket sales to the Atlanta Pops Orchestra **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **two tickets** to the Series.

\$600 Four, 2-night preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by the artist during the performance, private on-stage ‘meet and greet’ with the sponsored artist prior to the start of the gala, **priority access** pre-ticket sales to the Atlanta Pops Orchestra **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series**.

\$500 Four, 2-night preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by the artist during the performance, private on-stage ‘meet and greet’ prior to the start of the gala.

For a Corporate/Company sponsor of a guest artist you will receive:

\$1000 Four, 2-night preferred seating tickets to the gala, logo on inside front program cover, ad in the program, name recognition by the artist during the performance, private on-stage ‘meet & greet’ with the sponsored artist prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for the Atlanta Pops Orchestra **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **two preferred** seating tickets to the Series.

\$800 Four, 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, logo on inside front program cover, ad in program, name recognition by the artist during the program, private on-stage ‘meet & greet’ with the sponsored artist prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for the Atlanta Pops Orchestra **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **two** tickets to the Series.

\$600 Four, 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by the artist during the program, private on-stage ‘meet & greet’ with the sponsored artist prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, **priority access** to pre-ticket sales for the Atlanta Pops Orchestra **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series**.

\$500 Four, 2-night preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by the artist during the performance, private on-stage ‘meet & greet’ with the sponsored artist prior to the start of the gala.



GUEST ARTIST SPONSOR FORM

If you are interested in sponsoring a guest artist please choose which artist and the amount of sponsorship. The artist's sponsorship will also include the musical arranger for that artist.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Joe Gransden	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
Levi Lowrey	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
Michelle Malone	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
Montana Skies	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
Scott Porter	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
Brent Runnels	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
Speech	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
Cecil Welch	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
Chris Wright	- \$500 - \$1000	_____
<u>Lobby Entertainment</u>		
Ruby Reds Band	- \$500 - \$1000	_____

Sponsor Address/Phone Number/Email _____

Payments

Atlanta Pops Orchestra is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. All donations are tax deductible.

Please make checks payable to: Atlanta Pops Concerts, Inc.

Address: PO Box 49493, Atlanta, GA 30359

Email: leonard.altieri@atlantapops.com

Phone: 404-636-0020

PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

For an Individual sponsor of the program you will receive:

\$5000 + Conductor's Circle- Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **four VIP** seating tickets to the Series.

\$2,500 + Concertmaster - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, name in the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **four preferred** seating tickets to the Series.

\$2,000 + Manager's Circle - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable-Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **two preferred** seating tickets to the Series.

\$1,500 + Principal Chair - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **four tickets** to the Series.

\$1,000 + Musicians Chair - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **two tickets** to the Series.

\$ 500 + Patron - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, **priority access** to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series**.

\$ Under 500 – Friend of the Pops – Two, 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala.

For a Corporate/Company sponsor of the program you will receive:

\$5000 + Conductor's Circle- Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, logo on inside front program cover, ad in program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **four VIP** seating tickets to the Series.

\$2,500 + Concertmaster - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, logo on inside front program cover, ad in program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **four preferred** seating tickets to the Series.

\$2,000 + Manager's Circle - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, logo on inside front program cover, ad in program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **two preferred** seating tickets to the Series.

\$1,500 + Principal Chair - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, logo on inside front program cover, ad in program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, priority access to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series** and **two tickets** to the Series.

\$1,000 + Musicians Chair - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, logo on inside front program cover, ad in program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, **priority access** to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series**.

\$ 500 + - Patron - Four 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in the program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, **priority access** to pre-ticket sales for additional Atlanta Pops Orchestra events including the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre Summer Series**.

\$ Under 500 – Friend of the Pops – Two, 2-night, preferred seating tickets to the gala, name in program, name recognition by an emcee during the program, name recognition in all promotional outlets for the gala, private sponsor reception prior to the start of the gala.



Program Sponsor Form

If you are interested in sponsoring a portion of the production of the program please choose a level of sponsorship.

<u>PROGRAM SPONSOR</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
\$5,000 + Conductor's Circle	_____	_____
\$2,500 + Concertmaster	_____	_____
\$2,000 + Manager's Circle	_____	_____
\$1,500 + PrincipalChair	_____	_____
\$1,000 + Musicians Chair	_____	_____
\$ 500 + Patron	_____	_____
\$ 500 & under Friend of the Pops	_____	_____

Oglethorpe Music Scholarship _____

Sponsor Address/Phone Number/Email _____

Atlanta Pops Orchestra is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. All donations are tax deductible.

Please make checks payable to: Atlanta Pops Concerts, Inc.

Address: PO Box 49493, Atlanta, GA 30359

Email: leonard.altieri@atlantapops.com

Phone: 404-636-0020

Guest Artist Bios

Joe Gransden – Renowned first for the hard bop of his trumpet, Gransden’s singing voice has been compared to that of Chet Baker and Frank Sinatra. Joe has been on the road as a sideman with the big bands of Tommy Dorsey and Glenn Miller. In addition to touring the country with his Big Band, Joe also will be making his 3rd appearance at the famous Blue Note in NYC on July 27, 2015. He also regularly plays events at the Tehema Golf Club in Carmel, CA for Clint Eastwood. In town you can catch Joe & His Big Band every 1st and 3rd Monday at Café 290.

Joe’s CD’s include *Close to My Heart* produced by Joe and Kenny G and his new CD *Songs of Sinatra & friends* featuring Joe singing and playing with his 16 piece Big Band. *Songs of Sinatra & friends* is getting significant airplay across the country and great reviews.

“Joe has an innate ability to connect with an audience. His singing and trumpet playing are world class. Throw in his 16 piece band and you have something very special.” -Smokey Robinson

www.joegransden.com

Levi Lowrey - Levi Lowrey reached the top of Country Music’s charts by penning the Zac Brown Band #1 hit “Colder Weather”. He graced the stages of the Ryman Auditorium, Red Rocks, and Madison Square Garden, toured internationally with Country music’s premier acts, and released 2 stellar albums. In late 2014, he took several month leave from the spotlight to tend to family, build some callouses back driving nails, and concentrate on his craft and approach to the music industry, in general.

Much like his previous albums, *I Confess I was A Fool* (2011) and *Levi Lowrey* (2014), his new album, *My Crazy Head* (2015) is a piece of art that is felt as much as it is heard. Lowrey’s writing is both ahead of and behind the current state of country music. With the deepest respect to the roots of this genre, his lyrics stream the simplistically complicated storytelling of Samuel Clemens and the blue collar, everyman’s poetry of Kris Kristofferson. Not a line wasted, not a detail overlooked. Levi has recently been nominated for the 2015 GA Music Awards for Country Male Artist.

“My Crazy Head is a slice of Americana that provides food for the musical heart and soul.” - The Daily Country

www.levilowrey.com

Michelle Malone - Her mastery of guitar, along with her trademark voice and songwriting skills have earned her 3X Best Female vocalist, Best Acoustic Guitarist, Album of the year, and 2 Grammy ballot appearances. Her songs have appeared in film and TV, and have been recorded by Indigo Girls, Antigone Rising and Vistos Bosses. Malone has performed in 7 countries and this year has recorded a new album, *Stronger Than You Think*. She is touring the U.S., as well as performing in a new band led by Sugarland's Kristian Bush. *Day 2*, produced by fellow Atlanta and Grammy nominee Shawn Mullins spent 10 weeks on the Americana radio charts and received critical success. Malone performs solo, duo and with a 4 piece band.

Malone appeared on the Grateful Dead tribute album *Deadicated* (Arista Records, 1991), and was featured in a Georgia tourism TV commercial with Elton John.

"raucous and jubilant alternating between soulful ballads and rowdy, riffy blasters." -*Rolling Stone*

www.michellemalone.com

Montana Skies - A duo with the full spectrum of an orchestra and the energy of a rock band. Combining elements of classical technique, jazz improve and the power and energy of a rock n' roll, his guitar wizardry and her blazing acoustic and electric cello create a sound that is truly remarkable. Called everything from chamber rock to psychedelic strings, Montana Skies' music defies simple categorization. It is a fusion in the truest sense of the word.

A metaphor for musical freedom, Montana Skies continues to follow their creative instincts far beyond traditional boundaries. In concert, these award winning musicians delve into music from Pink Floyd and Rush to Vivaldi, House of the Rising Sun, and their own originals that have been featured everywhere from NPR to the Travel Channel. Montana Skies seemingly non-stop tour schedule has taken them all across the US as well as to Canada, Asia, and Russia and their dedication to their musical vision has helped them build an enthusiastic grassroots fan base along the way. They recently composed and recorded the score for the PBS documentary, *Jay: A Rockefeller's Journey*.

"...hypnotic...imaginative...played with deep passion." -*Acoustic Guitar Magazine*

www.montanaskiesmusic.com

Scott Porter – Scott was the past producer and CEO of *Celtic Woman Ltd. & Touring, Inc.* Today, Scott is the founder, owner, producer and manager of *Kelly Porter Productions* with his wife Lisa Kelly, previous and original member of *Celtic Woman*. Their studios, *Kelly Porter Dance Academy* and *Lisa Kelly Voice Academy* are located in Peachtree City. Scott currently produces Lisa Kelly's new shows, *Lisa Kelly: The Voice of Ireland* and *Lisa Kelly's Celtic Christmas*.

In addition to producing, Scott was also a seven-year member as dancer, dance captain and understudy to the male lead in the popular, worldwide touring show, *Riverdance*. You can still find Scott dancing in the two new shows he produces with Lisa and you can also find him at his Dance Academy teaching and coaching Irish dance.

www.facebook.com/KellyPorterDanceAcademy

Ruby Reds Band - Ruby Reds Band may be the oldest, continuously operating jazz band in Georgia. The band was formed in early 1966 to perform nightly at a banjo sing-along parlor called *Ruby Reds Warehouse*, at 58 Ellis Street in downtown Atlanta, GA, and has been playing throughout the Southeast ever since.

For over 48+ years Ruby Reds Band have played for nearly every major corporate entity in the state. Along with thousands of private parties, land auctions, professional sports events, conventions of every kind, store openings, concerts, ribbon-cuttings, ice-cream socials, weddings, divorces, jazz funerals, country clubs, wake-up breakfasts, all night street dances and they can't even count the parades...

They also perform with up to a 10-piece band. Ruby Reds Band currently plays weekly at *Watershed* on Peachtree's Sunday Cajun brunch where they recorded their newly released CD, *Ruby Reds Band Live @ Watershed*.

“The most funny, rollicking, entertaining, get-down New Orleans jazz band in the Southeast.” – Leonard Altieri – President, Altieri & Associate Entertainment, Inc.

www.rubyredsband.com

Brent Runnels – Brent Runnels won first prize in the *New Orleans International Piano Competition* and second prize in the *Jacksonville Classical Piano Competition*. He has appeared as a soloist with the Atlanta Symphony, Prague Radio Symphony, Milwaukee Symphony, Kosice State Philharmonic, Ural Academic Philharmonic, Slovak Sinfonietta of Zilina, Florida Orchestra, Florida Symphony, Dubuque Symphony, Orlando Philharmonic, Mansfield Symphony, Brevard Symphony and the Gwinnett Philharmonic. He has given recitals in London, Prague, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Sydney and Atlanta.

Chamber music is a significant part of his performance career. He founded and performed with *The Inman Piano Trio* from 1998-2009. A CD with the late violinist Beth Newdome of the *Herbert Howells Violin Sonatas* has been released on Mark Records. He has performed extensively as a jazz pianist and has appeared with such jazz artists as Jon Faddis, Clark Terry, Gene Bertoncini, Lou Soloff, Laurie Holloway, Francine Reed, Ted Howe and Joe Gransden.

He also serves as Executive and Artistic Director of *Jazz Orchestra Atlanta*. Dr. Runnels is currently on the faculty at *Oglethorpe University* in Atlanta.

Speech - Speech started the music group, *Arrested Development*. The group is based in Georgia, from humble and rural beginnings; they became a pioneering force in the music world. *Arrested Development* received two Grammy Awards (Best new artists & Best rap single 1993) for the album, “*3 years, 5 months and 2 days in the life of...*” Their second album “*Zingalamaduni*” was met with critical acclaim and nominated for a Grammy. After a much needed break and time to re group, Speech re emerged onto the scene and signed a solo record deal with EMI. He spent days and nights in the studio, experimenting with new sounds and styles. Several months later he released his first single “*Like Marvin Gaye Said*” The track went to #1 on the Japanese Tokio 100 charts for 7 weeks straight.

In 2000, Speech and Arrested Development began performing together again delighting audiences all over the world with their positive and up lifting brand of hip hop. Speech maintains an incredibly busy lifestyle, which includes, performing with Arrested Development, solo performances, special collaborations; a weekly radio broadcast called “*Musical Safari*” and writing and producing several music projects per year. He hosts a bi- weekly industry event in Atlanta called the *Mixtape Mixer* and organizes a yearly convention called the *A&E convention*. They continue to release new music and find new success in different corners of the globe. Their shows are a celebration of life.

“Experiencing an Arrested Development concert is an uplifting and spiritual event wrapped into one big party.” – MTVArtistsBeta

www.speech.com, www.arresteddevelopment.com

Cecil Welch - In his long and distinguished career Cecil Welch has traveled the globe giving concerts in thousands of venues from the small towns of mid-America to the greatest concert halls the world has to offer. From the studio to the stage he has created a unique style of performance and an ambience with his audiences that has made him a favorite wherever he plays.

As a member of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra during the tenure of Maestro Robert Shaw, Henry Mancini, the Academy Award winning film composer, heard Cecil perform and offered him a position as his principal trumpeter and soloist. This association allowed Cecil to perform with most of the major symphonies all across America, Canada and abroad, including the London Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony and the Tokyo Philharmonic.

As a recording artist, Cecil has produced four solo trumpet CDs, including a tribute to the music of Henry Mancini, *Too Little Time*, and a salute to the big band trumpeters of the past, *Moonlight Blues*. These recordings are under his own recording label, Brass Menagerie Recording Company.

In 2005 he performed for President Jimmy Carter's 80th birthday celebration at the Carter Center in Atlanta. Recently he appeared as a guest performer on the Jeff Foxworthy comedy TV show *Blue Collar Comedy*.

www.cecilwelch.com

Chris Wright - Chris Wright, a native of Columbus, GA, is making his debut with the Atlanta Pops Orchestra. As a member of Actor's Equity, Chris has enjoyed performing across the country in roles such as Sancho (*Man of LaMancha*), Nicely Nicely (*Guys and Dolls*), and in his signature role Peter Pan (*Peter Pan*.) He currently tours and performs regularly with his wife Katie Deal in her show *Today, Tomorrow & Forever: A Tribute to Patsy Cline*. Chris will be premiering an orchestral arrangement of Governor Nathan Deal's song and thanks him for this opportunity.

Atlanta Pops Orchestra will begin its first season of performances with exciting guest artists at the **Mable House Barnes Amphitheatre**, Mableton, GA in August of 2015. Please look for upcoming information for two evenings, August 1st and September 20th.

We are also accepting sponsorships for the summer series. If you are interested please see the Program Sponsor category and designate – **SUMMER SERIES** on the form.

Please see our website for information on the Past and Present Atlanta Pops Orchestra at www.atlantapops.com.

Presented by Arts, Education and Ideas at Oglethorpe University
<http://www.oglethorpe.edu>

Thank you for your generous contribution in continuing to advance the live performing arts in the City of Atlanta and the state of Georgia and in helping to bring together the past and present Atlanta Pops Orchestra and for recognizing the excellence of Oglethorpe University.

Sincerely,
Atlanta Pops Orchestra
www.atlantapops.com

