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**Pasadena Symphony Association**  
**Pasadena Symphony & POPS**  
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For artist images, click [HERE](#).

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**STRAIGHT FROM BROADWAY - THE MIDTOWN MEN BRING MUSIC FROM  
JERSEY BOYS AND BEYOND TO THE ARBORETUM**

*Pasadena, CA* - **The Pasadena POPS** continue their popular outdoor summer concert series with **The Midtown Men** singing **Music from Jersey Boys and Beyond** on **Saturday, July 15** at the **LA County Arboretum**. They took Broadway by storm in one of the biggest hits of all time. Now, The Midtown Men bring their Broadway talent, top-shelf choreography and unique onstage chemistry to the Arboretum to deliver a blast from the past celebrating the music that defined the '60s, led by Resident Pops Conductor Larry Blank. With hits from not only the Four Seasons, but the Beatles, Motown and more, they'll belt out old favorites like "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You," "Get Ready," "Can't Buy Me Love" and more, in electrifying and soulful, one-of-a-kind concert experience.

This sensational production reunites Four Stars from the original cast of Broadway's Jersey Boys. Tony Award winner Christian Hoff, Michael Longoria, Daniel Reichard and Tony Award nominee J. Robert Spencer shared the Broadway stage for over 1,000 performances of the mega-hit production. Now as The Midtown Men, they have thrilled crowds on concert stages and symphony halls across the continent, and have delighted television audiences with performances on "Good Morning America," "The Late Show with David Letterman" and "Access Hollywood" to name a few. The Men collaborated with rock and roll icon Stevie Van Zandt on their first radio single, "All Alone On Christmas," featuring Van Zandt and members of Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band, and their self-titled debut album "The Midtown Men: Sixties Hits" was met with critical acclaim.

"...as good as popping Meet the Beatles on my turntable for the first time!"  
- Time Magazine editor

"The seats were filled with shouting, singing, dancing in the aisle fans!"  
- Times Square Chronicles

All Pasadena POPS concerts are held at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden. Grounds open for picnicking and dining at 5:30pm and performances begin at 7:30pm Don't miss the best outdoor dinner party in town with spacious circular table seating with fine linens, or lawn seating for those who want to bring a blanket – each option carries on the tradition of picnic-dining with your

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family and friends with Pasadena's premier orchestra! Among many venue amenities, concertgoers can enjoy pre-ordered gourmet dining packages for on-site pickup just steps from their table from Julienne, Marston's and Claud & Co. The food court hosts mouth-watering food trucks plus specialty ice creams by Choctál, and the venue now offers the convenience of two full beverage centers serving fine wines, beer, coffee and soft drinks.

Audiences get the ultimate outdoor concert experience with large LED video screens to see The Midtown Men and the orchestra up close, superior sound and the high-quality production value that is a signature of the Pasadena POPS. Patrons may also visit the Pasadena Humane Society's Mobile Adoption Unit, which will be on-site prior to each concert with deserving animals in need of a forever home as part of the Pups for POPS program. For those who want to make a night of it, exclusive hotel packages are available for POPS patrons at Pasadena's landmark Hotel Constance.

The Arboretum is located at 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA. Subscribers may pre-purchase parking on-site at the Arboretum, and all concertgoers enjoy free parking at the adjacent Westfield Santa Anita shopping center with complimentary non-stop shuttle service to the Arboretum's main entrance.

Single tickets start at \$25 and are available by calling the box office at (626)-793-7172, online at PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org, or at the Arboretum on the day of the concert.

#### **IF YOU GO:**

- **What:** The Pasadena POPS presents Music from Jersey Boys and Beyond  
**The Midtown Men:** Four Stars from the Original Cast of Broadway's Jersey Boys  
**Larry Blank**, Resident Pops Conductor  
*Tom & Erika Girardi Chair*
- **When:** July 15, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** The LA County Arboretum | 301 N Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007
- **Cost:** Tickets start at \$25.00
- **Dining:** Gates open at 5:30pm for picnicking. Guests are welcome to bring their own food and drink or visit one of the many onsite gourmet food vendors.
- **Parking:** Subscribers have the opportunity to purchase onsite Arboretum parking. Single ticket holders may park for free at the Westfield Santa Anita shopping center with free non-stop shuttles to the main gate.

#### **ABOUT THE PASADENA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION**

Recent Acclaim for the Pasadena Symphony and POPS

*"The Pasadena Symphony signals a new direction...teeming with vitality...dripping with opulent, sexy*

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*emotion.” Los Angeles Times.*

*“...full of pulsating energy from first note to last... the strings were lushly resonant, the wind principals were at the top of their games, and the brass rang out with gleaming vigor.” – Pasadena Star News.*

Formed in 1928, the Pasadena Symphony and POPS is an ensemble of Hollywood’s most talented, sought after musicians. With extensive credits in the film, television, recording and orchestral industry, the artists of Pasadena Symphony and POPS are the most heard in the world.

The Pasadena Symphony and POPS performs in two of the most extraordinary venues in the United States: Ambassador Auditorium, known as the *Carnegie Hall of the West*, and the luxuriant Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Garden. Internationally recognized, Grammy-nominated conductor, David Lockington, serves as the Pasadena Symphony Association’s Music Director, with performance-practice specialist Nicholas McGegan serving as Principal Guest Conductor. The multi-platinum-selling, two-time Emmy and five-time Grammy Award-nominated entertainer dubbed “The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook,” Michael Feinstein, is the Principal Pops Conductor, who succeeded Marvin Hamlisch.

A hallmark of its robust education programs, the Pasadena Symphony Association has served the youth of the region for over five decades through the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestras (PYSO) comprised of five performing ensembles, with over 250 gifted 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students from more than 50 schools all over the Southern California region. The PYSO Symphony often performs on the popular television show *GLEE*.

The PSA provides people from all walks of life with powerful access points to the world of symphonic music.

## **ARTIST BIOS**

### **THE MIDTOWN MEN**

As original cast members of Broadway’s Jersey Boys, they took the world by storm. From the development of Jersey Boys, through their historic Three season run on Broadway, THE MIDTOWN MEN are together again, doing what they do best: "Sixties Hits With A Modern Twist." Tony Award winner Christian Hoff, Michael Longoria, Daniel Reichard and Tony Award nominee J. Robert Spencer are taking their sensational sound on the road, bringing to life their favorite “Sixties Hits” from The Beatles, The Beach Boys, Motown, The Four Seasons and more.

THE MIDTOWN MEN are lifting audiences to their feet in venues across the continent, realizing the dream they brought to life as the iconic Four Seasons. THE MIDTOWN MEN is the next chapter for these accomplished entertainers, making them the first vocal group ever formed by the principal cast of a high-profile Broadway show.

Not only have they continued to win over audiences of all ages in nearly 2,000 live shows, their self-titled debut album, THE MIDTOWN MEN: Sixties Hits was met with critical acclaim and garnered 5 star album reviews across iTunes. The album was recorded in New York City and features the group performing such iconic ‘60s hits as, “Can’t Buy Me Love,” “Up On The Roof,” “Time Of The Season,”

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“Candy Girl” and more. They also recorded their first radio single "All Alone On Christmas" with producer Steven Van Zandt and members of Springsteen's E Street Band with appearances on Good Morning America, Katie, The Chew and Access Hollywood Live.

## **CHRISTIAN HOFF**

Christian Hoff is thrilled to reunite with The Midtown Men. He won a Tony Award for his performance as Tommy DeVito in “Jersey Boys”, as well as Drama Desk Award, Drama League Award and Outer Critics Circle Award nominations. He was named “The Master of Mimicry” by Entertainment Weekly when his voicing of over 200 characters surpassed the audio book world record and was named Audio Book of The Year. His voice-over career was launched as the voice of Richie Rich in the Hanna-Barbera cartoon series.

Favorite stage roles include King Herod in the national revival tour of “Jesus Christ Superstar,” Governor Hugh Dorsey in the Los Angeles revival of “Parade,” the Original LA cast of "Evita," George M. Cohan in “George M!,” Will Rogers in “The Will Rogers Follies,” Huck in “Big River,” and his Broadway debut in the Tony Award winning “The Who’s Tommy.” He recorded Grammy winning cast albums for both “Jersey Boys” and “The Who’s Tommy” with famed Beatles producer George Martin.

Christian has appeared on NBC’s “Law & Order: SVU,” portrayed D.A. Richard Blackman on ABC’s “Ugly Betty,” federal prosecutor Thomas Grady on NBC’s “Law and Order: Criminal Intent” and the recurring role of Marty on ABC's “All My Children.” Other credits: “Encino Man,” “Star Trek IV,” “Honor Thy Mother,” “In Love and War,” “From The Dead of Night,” “Rockadoodle,” “21 Jump Street,” “ER,” “JAG,” “Party of Five,” “Millennium,” “The Commish,” “Beverly Hills 90210,” and celebrity guest appearances on "The Tonight Show," "The Today Show," "Regis," "The Late Show," "Dick Clark's Rockin' New Years Eve" and "Jeopardy."

In the acclaimed festival film "Bad Dog and Superhero," Christian sings and performs the entire original film score. He has enjoyed solo performances in New York City’s Cutting Room, Joe’s Pub, Metropolitan Room, BB Kings, Town Hall as well as two appearances at Carnegie Hall. Christian is a proud husband and father of five.

## **MICHAEL LONGORIA**

Michael Longoria is proud to be joining his fellow Broadway colleagues as The Midtown Men. Michael is best known for his celebrated turn on Broadway as Frankie Valli in the Tony Award Winning musical “Jersey Boys.” Hollywood born and Broadway bound, Longoria trained at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, then headed east to attend NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts, where he earned himself a BFA in Drama. Michael made his Broadway debut in the smash hit musical “Hairspray” (2003 Tony award for Best Musical), later creating the role of Joey in the original Broadway cast of “Jersey Boys” (2006 Tony award for Best Musical) before taking over the role of Frankie Valli and taking his career to new heights beginning with performing solo for hundreds of thousands of fans in Times Square for Broadway On Broadway.

He went on to numerous performances on television, including “Broadway Under The Stars: A Tribute To Harold Prince”, The US Open and the “America’s Got Talent”, season nine finale with Susan Boyle and Shakira. His journey recently led him back to Atlantic City with feature performance in “That’s

Life! with Joe Piscopo” at Caesar’s. Other theatrical credits include Peter Pan in “Peter Pan & Wendy” at the Prince Music Theater, for which he earned a Barrymore Award nomination for Best Actor in a musical; Chino in “West Side Story” at the Walnut Street Theatre; Mark in “A Chorus Line” at Helen Hayes Performing Arts Center; and Chuck in “Avenue X” at the Abe Burrows Theater.

In Europe, he performed the role of Paul in the German Tour of “A Chorus Line”, and Baby John in “West Side Story” at the famed Teatro alla Scala-Milan. As a singer-songwriter, Longoria has shared his one of a kind talent at such venues as New York City’s CB’s Gallery, Cutting Room, Joe’s Pub, The Knitting Factory, and Caroline’s on Broadway.

## **ABOUT DANIEL REICHARD**

Daniel Reichard is honored to join musical forces once again with The Midtown Men. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Daniel is best known for his portrayal of chief songwriter and original Four Seasons member Bob Gaudio in the box-office smash “Jersey Boys”, a role he originated both on Broadway and in the La Jolla Playhouse premiere along with colleagues Christian Hoff and J. Robert Spencer.

He followed the success of “Jersey Boys” with a critically acclaimed performance as Candide in Leonard Bernstein’s “Candide” at the New York City Opera. After graduating with a BFA from the University of Michigan, Daniel made his New York City debut with the original cast of the world-famous “Forbidden Broadway: 20th Anniversary Celebration”.

His signature style and talent paved the way to starring roles in New York City and across the country, including his triumphant portrayal of artist and social activist Keith Haring in “Radiant Baby” at Joe Papp’s Public Theater; Man in “The Thing About Men,” whose original cast album he also appears on; and Emmet in the world premiere of the musical version of Jim Henson’s “Emmet Otter’s Jugband Christmas” at the Goodspeed Opera House. A gifted pianist and concert singer, Daniel has had sold-out engagements at New York City’s Joe’s Pub, Metropolitan Room, Ars Nova and repeat appearances at 54 Below. Other concert appearances include Symphony Space, The Alvin Ailey Citigroup Theater, BB Kings, Town Hall, Triad Theater, Firebird and the Cutting Room, as well as guest appearances with the Arkansas and Grand Rapids Symphonies. He can be seen as Frankie in the 20th anniversary film version of the international hit musical-comedy “Forever Plaid.”

## **J. ROBERT SPENCER**

J. Robert Spencer is excited to return to making music with The Midtown Men. A Tony Award Nominated Actor, Independent Film Director, Producer, and Writer, he originated the role of Nick Massi in the Tony and Grammy Award winning “Jersey Boys”. He also originated the role of Dan Goodman in the Pulitzer Prize winning Broadway musical “Next To Normal,” for which he received nominations for both the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Lead Actor, and Tony Award for Best Performance by a Leading Actor in a Musical.

He has voiced two animated features: “Nightmare Campus” and the critically acclaimed, award winning “Grave of the Fireflies.” His portrayal as a psychopathic killer named Bob in the independent feature film “Night of the Dog” earned him a Best Supporting Actor Nomination at the SMMASH Film Festival. The film won Audience Awards for best feature film at Palm Beach, Santa Barbara, SMMASH and PBIFF. J. Robert's independent film company 7 Spencer Productions, with which he produced,

wrote, starred and directed the comedy "Farm Girl In New York". The film was featured on The Today Show with Ann Currey and Al Roker, and was the official selection of the Sacramento International Film Festival (Nominated for Best Comedy and Best Actress,) as well as Big Apple, Atlanta, Buffalo Niagara, and Seattle True Independent Film Festivals, distributed by Maverick Entertainment.

He recently produced and starred in his second independent feature titled "Heterosexuals." With Wood Media Films, he executive produced an environmental documentary titled "On Coal River," an official selection of Silverdocs, Camden, Hamptons, Chesapeake and New Orleans Film Festivals. Through Sony Masterworks, he appeared with Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops in PBS's "Handel's Messiah Rocks," for which he was Nominated for a Midwest Emmy Award for Best On Camera Performance by a Leading Actor. J. Robert is the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Shenandoah University.

## **LARRY BLANK**

### **Resident Pops Conductor**

Resident Pops Conductor Larry Blank has worked extensively as a conductor, composer and orchestrator/arranger in theatre, films, television and concerts.

Larry has received Tony and Drama Desk nominations for his orchestrations of *Catch Me If You Can*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *White Christmas*. Larry also received Drama Desk nominations for *A Christmas Story* and *Honeymoon in Vegas*.

Other Broadway orchestrations can be heard in the Lincoln Centre production of *The Nance* as well as *Fame Becomes Me*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *The Producers*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Tommy Tune: White Tie and Tails*.

Larry is currently orchestrating *Roman Holiday* (Golden Gate Theatre, San Francisco).

Recent projects include *Holiday Inn* (Universal/Roundabout Theater); *Guys and Dolls* (Chichester Festival Theatre, West End and Tour); *Mrs Henderson Presents* (Theatre Royal Bath, West End & Toronto); *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Vaudeville) and *Mack & Mabel* (Chichester Festival Theatre and UK Tour).

In the West End, Larry orchestrated *City of Angels* (Donmar Warehouse); *White Christmas* (Dominion); *Singin' in the Rain* (Palace Theatre, UK tour, Japan, International tour, Russia and Australia); *Carousel*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Producers*, *The Beautiful and Damned* and *Mack & Mabel*.

Larry's film orchestrations can be heard in *The Producers* and *Chicago*. Larry was the conductor/arranger/orchestrator for Jerry Herman's title song for the film *Barney's Great Adventure*, sung by Bernadette Peters, as well as orchestrating/arranging two songs for *South Park* for Marc Shaiman; music supervisor/orchestrator for Jerry Herman's *Mrs Santa Claus* with Angela Lansbury; arranger/orchestrator for the films *What's the Worst That Could Happen?*, *The Kid*, *Kiss the Girls*, *The American President*, *Forget Paris*, *City Slickers II: the Legend of Curly's Gold*, *The Net*, *That's Entertainment! III*, *All Dogs Go to Heaven 2*, *Bogus*, *North*, *Speechless*, *I'd Do Anything*, *Stuart Saves His Family*, *Aladdin and the King of Thieves*, *The Jungle Book 2* and *Cats Don't Dance*; composer for two episodes of the television series *In the Heat of the Night*, as well as music for *Sweating Bullets* and the Grammys.

Larry has arranged and/or conducted for Barbra Streisand, Michael Feinstein (including two tours of Australia and New Zealand), Marilyn Horne, Michael Crawford, Christine Andreas, Joe Williams, Yanni, Marvin Hamlisch, Bernadette Peters, Steve Lawrence, Vikki Carr, Pete Fountain, Elaine Stritch, Lorna Luft, Elaine Paige, Jason Alexander, Martin Short, Georgia Brown and many others.

Larry has orchestrated and arranged for four Academy Awards shows including parts of the (Marc Shaiman-arranged) Billy Crystal medleys.

Larry regularly conducts for BBC Radio 2 *Friday Night is Music Night*. Larry orchestrates the *Olivier Awards* for the Society of London Theatre. Larry conducted the *Olivier Awards* at the Royal Opera House in 2015 and 2016.

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