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The logo for Palm Beach Pops, featuring the text "Palm Beach Pops" in a white serif font on a black rectangular background.

Press Release

Who: Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops

What: Palm Beach PopStar Contest

When: Contest Dates are September 10-October 21, 2007

Contact: Christine Stickney, Director of Marketing and Public Relations
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Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops Announce Search for First Ever Palm Beach PopStar

(September 6, 2007, West Palm Beach, FL) Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops invite talented individual singers to compete for the first ever Palm Beach PopStar. On September 10, 2007, in cooperation with WPBF Channel 25, the Palm Beach Pops will begin a contest designed to find one amateur vocalist to appear live in concert with Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops as they kick-off their 2007-08 season with their "Contemporary Composers" show in West Palm Beach.

"Palm Beach PopStar is about discovering a truly gifted singer and giving them the chance of a lifetime to perform classics from the American Songbook along with the Pops orchestra," explains Jill Kaplan, vice president and general manager of The Palm Beach Pops about why the Pops is producing this competition.

Singers may audition for Palm Beach PopStar, to take place from September 10 -- October 1, 2007, in one of three ways: by emailing an MP3 (less than 10mb) to audition@palmbeachpops.org; by sending or dropping off an audition video (CD, DVD or VHS tape) to Palm Beach PopStar, 500 Australian Ave. South, Suite 100, West Palm Beach, FL 33401. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm. All entrants must be 18 years or older, must sing unaccompanied, and reside within the WPBF Channel 25 viewing area (Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River or Okeechobee County). The deadline for submitting an audition is October 1 by 5:00 p.m. For complete contest rules and entry forms, visit www.palmbeachpops.org and click on the Palm Beach PopStar event logo.

On October 5, 25 semi-finalists will be chosen by a panel and invited to the WPBF Channel 25 studios to record a live audition. Singers will perform a song from the Pops' "Contemporary

Composers” show such as *Uptown Girl* by Billy Joel, *Mandy* by Barry Manilow or *Yesterday* by McCartney/Lennon. A panel of judges, including Jill Switzer, author of *The Diva Next Door*, will choose five finalists to compete in the on-line voting.

Music lovers can log onto www.wpbf.com to view clips from the five finalists and vote for their favorite Palm Beach PopStar singer starting October 9 through October 21, 2007. On-line votes will determine the Palm Beach PopStar winner, who will be announced live on WPBF News 25 as well as to the press and online.

The Palm Beach PopStar winner will be rehearsed by Maestro Lappin and perform live with the Palm Beach Pops orchestra at the “Contemporary Composers” concert in November. This show features popular works written by musical legends Barry Manilow, John Lennon, Paul McCartney, John Williams, Billy Joel, and Michel LeGrande. This concert will also feature nationally known Broadway singer Gary Mauer. Performance dates for this series are November 8 and 9 at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach and November 10, 12 & 13 at the FAU Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium at FAU in Boca Raton. For ticket information, call 561.832.7677 or visit www.palmbeachpops.org.

For more information about the Palm Beach PopStar competition or tickets for Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops, call 561.832.7677 or visit www.palmbeachpops.org.

Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to preserving the American Songbook and making the arts a part of basic education for children.

For information about the Palm Beach Pops In-School Youth Education Program, tickets for children and families, volunteer opportunities and tax-deductible donations, call 561-832-POPS.

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