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Bob Lappin & The Palm Beach Pops

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Press Release

Who: Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops
What: Palm Beach PopStar Winner Announced
Where: Contemporary Composers Concerts
Kravis Center for the Performing Arts and
Carole & Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium at FAU
When: November 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13, 2007
Time: 8:00 p.m.

Cory Marin of Tequesta Named as the First-Ever Palm Beach PopStar

October 24, 2007 – West Palm Beach, FL. Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops have named Cory Marin of Tequesta the first-ever Palm Beach PopStar.

Cory will be performing with Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops at their opening concert series “Contemporary Composers” on November 8 and 9 at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach and on November 10, 12 and 13 at the Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Center for the Arts at FAU in Boca, along with a cash prize of \$500. The “Contemporary Composers” concerts feature popular works written by musical legends John Lennon, Paul McCartney, John Williams, Billy Joel, and Michel LeGrande. This concert will also feature a tribute to Barry Manilow including *Mandy*, *Can’t Smile Without You*, *Copacabana* and *I Write The Songs* performed by nationally acclaimed Broadway singer and *Phantom of the Opera* star, Gary Mauer. For ticket information, call 561.832.7677 or visit www.palmbeachpops.org.

Cory Marin, a 43 year old financial advisor, entered the PopStar competition at the urging of some friends. Knowing that his first love is music, Cory’s friends suggested that this would be the perfect way for him to demonstrate his vocal talents. Originally from Connecticut, his “singing career” began at the age of 6 upon entering a local talent show. Cory’s musical inspirations include Elvis Presley, Tom Jones, Jim Morrison and Tony Bennett.

Cory impressed the judges with his rendition of *Just the Way You Are* by Billy Joel and *New York, New York* by Leonard Bernstein, made famous by Frank Sinatra. Live auditions were held on Friday, October 19 where 14 finalists auditioned before a panel of judges, including Maestro Bob Lappin, Palm Beach Pops vice president Jill Kaplan and director of marketing Christine Stickney, performer Marilyn Maingart, and singer Jill Switzer.

Dreams do come true... when Cory received the call proclaiming him as the Palm Beach PopStar winner, the first thing that went through his mind was, “I can’t believe I’m going to get to sing with the Palm Beach Pops on stage at the Kravis and FAU!” Cory thought he might have a good chance, but knew he was up against some steep competition.

Maestro Bob Lappin explains that, "Palm Beach PopStar is about discovering a truly talented singer and giving them the chance of a lifetime -- to perform with the Palm Beach Pops orchestra before thousands of people. To win a contest like this, competitors needed strong musical talents as well as charisma in order to 'wow' audiences here in south Florida."

Cory Marin is available for interviews. For more information, contact Christine Stickney at (o) 561.832.7677 or (c) 561.707.6983.

Keeping with its theme, "Real music for real people," the Palm Beach Pops selected such diverse contestants as Ron Rabia, a 27-year old hotel supervisor from West Palm Beach; Barbara Pasternack, a 52-year old single mother in Boca Raton and Bernie Levinson of Boynton Beach, a 76-year old retiree. Singers specialized in all styles from opera to showtunes. The PopStar finalists were selected from a pool of applicants who submitted a video or audio audition by mail or email.

Palm Beach PopStar Finalists

1. Chris Derario, Palm Beach Gardens
2. Annette LaFond, Stuart
3. Bernie Levinson, Boynton Beach
4. Cory Marin, Tequesta
5. John R. Myers, Jupiter
6. Barbara Pasternack, Boca Raton
7. Ron Rabia, West Palm Beach
8. John Sapio, Boca Raton
9. Diana Sedito, Jupiter
10. Leigh Michele Trimaldi, Glen Ridge
11. Ray Chang, North Palm Beach
12. John Iaci, Port St. Lucie
13. Channing Kent, Palm Beach Gardens
14. Diane Tyminski, Boynton Beach

Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to preserving the Great American Songbook and making the arts a part of basic education for children in our community. For information about the Palm Beach Pops In-School Youth Music Education Program, Tickets for Children & Families program, volunteer opportunities and tax-deductible donations, call 561-832-POPS or go to www.palmbeachpops.org.

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