

ACAAI NEWS

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Lighting Our Path to the Future: ACAAI Annual Meeting in Boston

The 62nd ACAAI Annual Meeting, *Lighting Our Path to the Future*, is scheduled Nov. 12-17, 2004, at the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center in Boston.



Dr. Zitt

"This year's annual meeting will be innovative, provocative and informative – and truly light our path to the future,"

ACAAI President-Elect and Program Chair Dr. Myron J. Zitt said.

"Back by popular request, the Immunotherapy Collegium will precede the Annual Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 11, followed by the annual Literature Review on Friday. Drs. Ira Finegold and Mark O'Hollaren are planning these two outstanding programs," he said.

Plenary and Symposia

"The 'Great Asthma Raft Debate' is a novel event. Experts will argue which cell is most important in causing the airway inflammation seen with asthma that is responsible for airway hyperreactivity and remodeling – resulting in rising morbidity and a mortality rate that remains over 5,000 per year in the United States. Obviously, the last cell remaining in the raft is the winner," Dr. Zitt said.

"Sessions on immunomodulation, anaphylaxis, alternative medicine, food allergy and indoor environmental allergies should be extremely interesting," he said. "A most provocative plenary session will be entitled 'Redefining Allergy: Can Non-Allergic Disease be IgE Mediated?' Perhaps we'll finally understand how

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The Boston Pops with Conductor Keith Lockhart headlines the Fundraising Gala at Symphony Hall



The College is pleased to present a world class concert by The Boston Pops – featuring Keith Lockhart – at its annual Fundraising Gala event in Symphony Hall during the 2004 ACAAI Annual Meeting on Sunday, Nov. 14.

Net proceeds from the event will be donated to the ACAAI Foundation to support asthma camps for inner-city children, fellow-in-training research

grants and clinical fellowship stipends in allergy and immunology.

The Boston Pops provides music lovers the chance to hear great music in all its varied flavors. With its concerts in Symphony Hall and its presence in millions of homes through its Emmy Award-winning "Evening at Pops," the Boston Pops is truly America's orchestra.

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Allergists mobilize to reach thousands with ACAAI Nationwide Asthma Screening Program

Hundreds of ACAAI members have signed up to bring the Nationwide Asthma Screening Program to their community and help find adults and children who may be at risk for asthma.

2004 is the eighth year of the program, funded by an unrestricted grant from **AstraZeneca**. There were 371 local screening programs last year. Over the course of the past eight years, more than 73,500 individuals have been screened.

Each year the College program seeks new ways to extend the reach of the public service campaign. This year the focus is on increasing asthma awareness among legislators with screenings at state capitals. The program is based on three pilot screenings in 2003 with state legislators in Albany, N.Y., Baton Rouge, La., and Salem, Ore.

In addition to new and innovative locations, publicity plays a critical role in drawing attention and attendance to the



Dr. James Wedner (second from right) and his asthma screening staff assemble for a group photograph at the St. Louis Science Center. He will be coordinating an asthma screening at the same location in this year's Nationwide Asthma Screening Program.

screenings. Local coordinators conduct their own publicity with instructions and materials included in the screening program support kit. At the same time, a national media campaign coordinated by the ACAAI directs the public to the College's Web site at www.allergy.mcg.edu

to find out where local asthma screenings are held, or to take the *LQ Test* or *Kids' Asthma Check* if they are unable to attend a screening.

Although screenings can take place at any time of the year, national publicity is concentrated in May during Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month. Articles are scheduled to appear in consumer magazines such as *USA Weekend*, *Parents*, *Prevention* and *Baby Talk*.

Registration for the 2004 Nationwide Asthma Screening Program concluded on March 15. Local coordinators have until April 30 to provide screening dates and location information. They are then sent a support kit to help plan and

conduct a local program. Included are public education materials such as brochures, posters and a comprehensive *Coordinator's Manual*. Coordinators also have access to a screening program telephone Help Line to receive assistance in planning and publicizing their screening.

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In February 1995, Keith Lockhart was named 20th conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra since its founding in 1885. With his appointment to the position, Mr. Lockhart succeeded John Williams, who conducted the orchestra from 1980 to 1993. Mr. Lockhart is only the third conductor to lead the orchestra since 1930, when Arthur Fiedler began his unprecedented 50 years as conductor of the orchestra.

Now in his ninth season, Mr. Lockhart has conducted more than 500 concerts and made 49 television shows. Under his direction, the orchestra has broadened its touring activities, performing to enthusiastic audiences in concert halls and sports arenas across the country.

Mr. Lockhart's albums with the Boston Pops Orchestra on RCA Victor include *Runnin' Wild: The Boston Pops Play Glenn Miller* (1996), *American Visions* (1997), *The Celtic Album* (February 1998), *Holiday Pops* (September 1998), *A Splash of Pops* (1999), *The Latin Album* (2000), a compilation album entitled *Encore!* (2001), and *My Favorite Things - A Richard Rodgers Celebration* (2002), recorded in conjunction with the worldwide celebration of the centennial of that great American composer's birth.

Born in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., in November 1959, Keith Lockhart began his musical studies with piano lessons at the age of 7. He holds degrees from Furman University in Greenville, S.C., and Carnegie-Mellon

University in Pittsburgh. Mr. Lockhart came to the Boston Pops from Cincinnati, where he served as associate conductor of both the Cincinnati Symphony and Cincinnati Pops orchestras.

Since 1998, Mr. Lockhart has also been music director of the Utah Symphony, leading the orchestra in part of the Opening Exercises of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City. As a guest artist, Mr. Lockhart has conducted the major symphony orchestras of Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Los Angeles, Montreal, Minnesota, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Singapore, Toronto, and Vancouver.