## From the Music Director

As we celebrate the final months of our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, we can look back on all that we have experienced through these years and look forward to many more years of wonderful music making with our amazing choristers. Thousands of children have participated in our mission "to provide a musical experience that is challenging, rewarding and enjoyable." It is our hope that through our music we have touched not only our choristers, but also many thousands more, from the chorister's families to our audience members.

Just some of the highlights include performing at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Madison Square Garden, West Point, the Preservation Hall in New Orleans, Canterbury Cathedral in England, and various locations in Vienna, Prague, Salzburg and Ireland. Some of the great artists we have worked with include Renee Fleming, Christopher Plummer, Charles Strouse, Stephen Schwartz, Sam Waterston, Augusta Read Thomas, Sara Watkins, and Aoife O'Donovan, among so many others. One of the biggest highlights was our part in a television commercial in the form of a 'flash mob' for Smilow Cancer Hospital in New Haven. While these represent some of the grandest experiences, I also find so many of the small moments to be equally rewarding. For example, when I asked one of our 4<sup>th</sup> graders who had just celebrated her ninth birthday this past December how she liked the Winter Concert, her sincere and heartfelt response was "I just love to sing." Mission accomplished!