

# THE NEW YORK POPS

A DIFFERENT KIND OF ORCHESTRA

## Notes on the Program

by Steven Reineke, Music Director

Friday and Saturday, December 10 and 11, 2010, 8:00PM, Carnegie Hall

It is with great pleasure that I present my first holiday concerts here at Carnegie Hall with The New York Pops. I have now lived in New York City for a year and a half, and am thrilled to call this incredible metropolis my home. Sharing time with friends and family truly makes the holidays special, and we consider each of you a part of the extended New York Pops family.

I continue to be a kid at heart and the holiday season always brings back a special feeling for me. The hustle and bustle of the streets, exchanging gifts with loved ones, and the random acts of kindness that warm our hearts all fill me with such joy.

One of my greatest pleasures is hearing the wonderful music that fills this time of year, reminding us of the holiday spirit we showed as children. Tonight we celebrate the inner child within each of us by performing some of our favorite songs of the season. Joined by one of Broadway's leading baritones and a dear friend, Brian Stokes Mitchell, along with Essential Voices USA and the kids of the Camp Broadway Chorus, we hope you enjoy the variety of selections we've put together for you. In the spirit of togetherness, tonight we present the world premieres of two new extraordinary selections. One is an uplifting and rousing Kwanzaa song called *Habari Gani (What's the News?)*, written by great friends of The New York Pops, the Emmy Award-nominated songwriting duo Wesley Whatley and William Schermerhorn. The other is a stunning piece entitled *Songs of Freedom: A Celebration of Chanukah*, arranged by Judith Clurman, Larry Hochman and Brian Stokes Mitchell.

I hope you enjoy the collection of holiday cheer found on tonight's concert. From all of us at The New York Pops, we wish you and yours a most magical holiday season and a New Year filled with peace, joy, prosperity, and most of all... Love!



- Steven Reineke