

## Message from the Interim President

*As we struggle with shopping lists...compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation, and people to whom we are worth the same.* – American author Donald E. Westlake

As someone who is not overly fond of shopping, I had to chuckle when I happened upon this quote on *Forbes.com*. The holiday season is upon us once again. Between wrapping up year-end projects at work and wrapping up presents at home, you're probably busier than you would like to be. But I hope you set aside some time – as I plan to do -- to enjoy the season at holiday events with family and friends.

One of the most beloved traditions for the WCU community is the School of Music's Holiday Concert, now in its 95<sup>th</sup> year. This year's program will feature traditional and contemporary music by our Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, Cantari Donne, Symphony Orchestra, Concert Choir, Mastersingers, and the Criterions Jazz Ensemble. The concert is Sat. Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. To purchase tickets, go to <http://wcupatix.com/school-of-music-schedule>.

The evening before, on Dec. 2, the Incomparable Golden Rams Marching Band will march into town and join the fun at the West Chester Christmas Parade. The School of Music also is presenting its first-ever live streamed performance from two different locations. "A Tale of Two Christmases" will be performed jointly by WCU and the University College of the Cayman Islands on Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. If you can't make it to the Caymans to listen to the Caribbean tunes in person, head over to Ware Family Recital Hall here on campus.

Last but not least, please consider joining Sue ('86) and me for carols around the tree at WCU's annual Tree Lighting at Tanglewood on Dec. 12 at 5 p.m. And please introduce yourself. I always enjoy connecting with WCU alumni and learning what's going on in their lives.

If I don't get a chance to see you personally at one of these holiday events, let me take this opportunity to thank you for all that you do to support West Chester University. During these last eight months that I have served as interim president, I have met so many dedicated and loyal alumni who are helping to advance this University to even greater heights.

Best wishes for a joyful holiday season!

Chris Fiorentino

Interim President

*To learn more about these and other holiday events at WCU and in the Borough of West Chester, check out the events calendar at <http://www.wcupa.edu/> or go to <http://www.downtownwestchester.com/>.*