

Matt Ripa (he/him) is a director, producer, and teacher. He is the Founding Artistic Director of the DC Queer Theatre Festival. He received his Master of Fine Arts in Directing from The Catholic University of America. He teaches Theatre Production and Management, Acting, Directing, and Theatre Education courses at Catholic University.

He most recently directed Helen Hayes Recommended THE WAR BOYS at Ally Theatre Company where he served as Board President and Artistic Ally. At Catholic U, he directed THE LARAMIE PROJECT and OUR TOWN which received MD Theatre Guide's Audience Choice Award for Best Educational Theatre Production. Other directing credits include the Helen Hayes Recommended MACK, BETH at Keegan Theatre Company in Washington, DC. With Doorway Arts Ensemble, where he was the Producing Artistic Director, he directed there world premiere productions. At Forum Theatre, he directed WE TIRESIAS, which won DC City Paper's choice for Best New Play in 2013 and TheatreMania's audience award for Best Drama at the 2012 Capital Fringe Festival.

He has directed at companies throughout the Washington region, including Imagination Stage, Forum Theatre, Pinky Swear Productions, Rorschach Theatre Company, Doorway Arts Ensemble, Landless Theatre Company and Traveling Players Ensemble. As an educator, he has over 15 years experience teaching students grades K through adult with a focus on teaching theatre to students with language based learning differences.