

MATT FALDUTO was born and raised in the Chicago suburbs but fell in love with Iowa City upon his arrival in 1992. After graduating from the University of Iowa with a degree in English, he decided to fulfill his dream of starting a theatre company. Dreamwell Theatre of Iowa City produced over 70 shows from 1997-2018, when Matt retired from the company. Along the way, Matt found himself at Iowa State University, where he earned a Master's in Education.

Matt has been teaching theatre in various venues for over 20 years. Most recently, he taught theatre classes for Young Footlitters. His philosophy of teaching theatre is providing a safe and welcoming space where the actors' creativity flourishes, their confidence grows, and their emotions are exercised.

Matt wrote and produced his first play as an undergraduate at the University of Iowa and hasn't looked back. A number of his plays have been performed in the Iowa City area, including *Ozma of Oz*, an adaptation of two of the Oz books, *Guinevere and Arthur*, a new take on the Arthurian legend, *Pop Tart Hero*, a one act play, and *Kazoo*, which premiered in 2018 at the Coralville Center for the Performing Arts to much acclaim. During the pandemic, he wrote and directed two plays over zoom for Young Footlitters, making it clear to the young actors that you can make theatre exist anywhere if you're creative and committed.

Matt's acting credits include "Biff" in *Death of a Salesman*, "Paul" in *Barefoot in the Park*, "George" in *Of Mice and Men*, "Edward" in *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, "King Philip" in *The Lion in Winter*, "Andrew" in *Love Letters*, and "Philip" in *Corpus Christi*. Directing credits include *Charlotte's Web*, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *The Hobbit*, *Wait Until Dark*, *How To Sell a Chair*, *Fictional Murders* and *That Day in September*, which he adapted for eight actors. In 2009 and 2010, he won Best Play in the All in a Day Play Festival, a co-production between Dreamwell and City Circle.

Matt and his wife, Sharon, have three daughters, Rachel, Samantha, and Piper. Outside of theatre, he enjoys hiking and road trips with his family.