

RAINA AMES

Associate Professor



Raina Ames is the Director of Theatre Education for the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of New Hampshire. She also currently serves as Co-Vice Chair of Region I Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, a Master of Science in Education, gifted education emphasis, and a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Pedagogy. She taught high school theatre, speech and English for 8 years; prior to starting at UNH, Ames served as Director of Education at TheatreVirginia, a LORT-C theatre in Richmond. Raina is also an actor who has appeared in a variety of venues. She played Katy Maguire in the U.S. Premiere of *GOODBYE TO THE HILL* at Indianapolis Theatre On The Square. She also performed in the professional Theatre IV/Barksdale production of *The Laramie Project*. Some favorite directing projects include *THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK*, *MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING*, *WAIT UNTIL DARK*, *WORKING* and *MY FAIR LADY*. Regionally, Raina directed a cast aged 6-18 in *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* for The Palace Youth Theatre in Manchester. On campus directing credits include: the 2005 ArtsReach touring production of *AND THEN THEY CAME FOR ME: REMEMBERING THE WORLD OF ANNE FRANK*, The Anna Zornio Playwriting Competition winning production of *THE NASTIEST DRINK IN THE THE WORLD*, *THE X FACTOR*, a night of one-acts by female playwrights of the twentieth century, and *MIDWIVES* by Dana Yeaton, a play receiving the Social Impact Award from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region I. One of her recent productions was *THE BOY WHO STOOD STILL*, an original musical co-written with Charles Pelletier. Ames also directed the NH premiere of *VOICES OF TEREZIN*, a play that highlights the cultural activities in the Terezin Ghetto in Czechoslovakia. In addition to acting and directing, Ames is also an author. Her first book, *A High School Theatre Teacher's Survival Guide*, is available through Routledge Publishing. (revised 10/06/11)