

RON HOWARD (Director/Producer) is an Academy Award-winning filmmaker and one of today's most esteemed directors, who has helmed some of the most popular films of the past four decades. From the critically acclaimed dramas "A Beautiful Mind" and "Apollo 13" to the hit comedies "Parenthood" and "Splash," he has created some of Hollywood's most memorable films.

Howard won an Oscar for Best Director for his work on "A Beautiful Mind," starring Russell Crowe, which also won Oscars for Best Picture, Best Screenplay and Best Supporting Actress (Jennifer Connelly). The film also garnered four Golden Globes, including the award for Best Motion Picture Drama. Additionally, Howard won Best Director of the Year from the Directors Guild of America (DGA). Howard and producer Brian Grazer received the first annual Awareness Award from the National Mental Health Awareness Campaign for their work on the film.

Howard's skill as a director has long been recognized. In 1995, he received his first Best Director Award from the DGA for "Apollo 13," starring Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon, Ed Harris, Bill Paxton, Gary Sinise and Kathleen Quinlan. The true-life drama also garnered nine Academy Award nominations, winning Oscars for Best Film Editing and Best Sound. It also received Best Ensemble Cast and Best Supporting Actor Awards from the Screen Actors Guild.

Howard also produced and directed the film adaptation of Peter Morgan's critically acclaimed play "Frost/Nixon." The 2009 film was nominated for five Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and was also nominated for The Darryl F. Zanuck Producer of the Year Award in Theatrical Motion Pictures by the PGA. Many of Howard's past films have received nods from the Academy, including the hits "Backdraft," starring Robert De Niro and Kurt Russell; "Parenthood," starring Steve Martin; and "Cocoon," which won two Oscars, including one for Best Supporting Actor for Don Ameche.

Howard was honored by the Museum of Moving Images in December 2005 and by the American Cinema Editors in February 2006. Howard and his creative partner Brian Grazer were honored by the Producers Guild of America with the Milestone Award in January 2009; NYU's Tisch School of Cinematic Arts with the Big Apple Award in November 2009; and by the Simon Wiesenthal Center with their Humanitarian Award in May 2010. In June 2010, Howard was honored by the Chicago Film Festival with their Gold Hugo - Career Achievement Award. In March 2013, Howard was inducted into the Television Hall of Fame.

Howard's more recent films include the critically acclaimed drama "Rush," starring Chris Hemsworth and Daniel Brühl, written by Peter Morgan; and "Made In America," a music documentary he directed for Showtime, starring Jay Z. He most recently directed the dramatic adventure "In the Heart of the Sea," starring Hemsworth, based on the book about the true story of the Essex disaster that inspired Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick*. He also completed filming on the upcoming "Inferno," his third film based on Dan Brown's best-selling novels, with Tom Hanks reprising the role of Robert Langdon.

Howard had previously directed Hanks in the adaptations of Dan Brown's "Angels & Demons" and "The Da Vinci Code." His long and diverse list of film credits also includes the comedy "The Dilemma," starring Vince Vaughn and Kevin James; "Cinderella Man," starring Russell Crowe; the suspenseful Western "The Missing," starring Cate Blanchett and Tommy Lee Jones; the blockbuster holiday favorite "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas," starring Jim Carrey; the suspense thriller "Ransom," starring Mel Gibson, Rene Russo, Gary Sinise and Delroy Lindo; the historical epic "Far and Away," starring Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman; the fantasy "Willow"; the mega-hit romantic comedy "Splash," starring Hanks and Daryl Hannah; and "Night Shift," starring Henry Winkler, Michael Keaton and Shelley Long, which marked Howard's film directorial debut.

Howard has also served as an executive producer on a number of award-winning films and television shows, including the HBO miniseries "From the Earth to the Moon"; FOX's Emmy Award winner for Best Comedy Series, "Arrested Development," which he also narrated; NBC's "Parenthood"; and "Felicity," among others.

Howard began his career as an actor. He first appeared in "The Journey" and "The Music Man," then as Opie on the long-running television series "The Andy Griffith Show." Howard later drew favorable reviews for his performances in the feature films "American Graffiti" and "The Shootist," and starred in the popular series "Happy Days."

Howard and long-time producing partner Brian Grazer first collaborated on the hit comedies "Night Shift" and "Splash." The pair co-founded Imagine Entertainment in 1986 to create independently produced feature films.