

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe and Kevin Murphy

Based on the film written by Daniel Waters

HEATHERS

THE MUSICAL



HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL

Heathers: The Musical was originally directed Off-Broadway by Andy Fickman and choreographed by Marguerite Derricks.

HEATHERS THE MUSICAL is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

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Heathers is a darkly comedic adaptation of the 1989 film of the same name. It contains depictions of suicide, self-harm, intimate partner violence, and bullying: including hate speech. It also contains representations of sexual activity and employs coarse language about sex. This production will also involve theatrical fog and haze as well as gunshot effects and is recommended for audiences 13 and above.

Please note that there will be one 15-minute intermission. Patrons may use the restrooms in the Kamerick Art Building in addition to the restrooms in the Strayer-Wood building.

SETTING

Sherwood, A small suburban town in Ohio

Time: 1989

ACT ONE

Scene 1

01. "Beautiful (Part One)" Veronica, Martha, Ram, Kurt,
Faculty, Students
- 01a. "Beautiful (Part Two)"..... Veronica, Chandler, McNamara, Duke,
Faculty, Students

Scene 2

- 01b. "It's Been Three Weeks" Orchestra
02. "Candy Store" Chandler, McNamara, Duke, Veronica,
Martha, Offstage Girls
03. "Fight For Me" Veronica, Students, Faculty

Scene 3

- 03a. "Transition To Croquet" Orchestra
- 03b. "Candy Store Playoff" Chandler, McNamara, Duke, Offstage Girls

Scene 4

04. "Freeze Your Brain" J.D., Veronica
- 04a. "Transition To Party" J.D., Orchestra

Scene 5

05. "Big Fun" Ram, Kurt, Chandler, McNamara, Duke,
Veronica, Martha, Teen Party Guests
- 05a. "Piñata Of Doom" Orchestra
- 05b. "Where's The Goddamn Keg" Orchestra

ACT ONE

Scene 6

06. "Dead Girl Walking" Veronica, J.D.
06a. "Veronica's Chandler Nightmare" Chandler, Veronica, Spooky Teens
06aa. "Bedtime For Chandler" Orchestra
06b. "Death At Dawn" Orchestra

Scene 7

- 06c. "Pain In My Path" J.D., Veronica
07. "The Me Inside Of Me" Veronica, J.D., Chandler, Milner,
McCord, Fleming, Students, Faculty
07a. "The Me Inside Of Me Playoff" Orchestra

Scene 8

- 07b. "Transition To Lehmann's Farm" Orchestra

Scene 9

08. "You're Welcome" Ram, Kurt, Veronica, McNamara, Offstage Dudes

Scene 10

- 08a. "Ghost Heather" Orchestra
09. "Never Shut Up Again" Ram, Kurt, Duke, Veronica, Students
09a. "J.D. Gets Beat" J.D., Ram, Kurt, Students, Faculty
10. "Our Love Is God" J.D., Veronica, Ram, Kurt, Ensemble

ACT TWO

Scene 1

- 10b. "Prom Or Hell?" Veronica
11. "My Dead Gay Son" Ram's Dad, Kurt's Dad, Mourners
11a. "My Dead Gay Son Playoff" Orchestra

Scene 2

12. "Seventeen" Veronica, J.D.

ACT TWO

Scene 3

- 12a. "Happily Ever After" Orchestra
12b. "Places For Assembly" Orchestra
13. "Shine A Light" Fleming, Students (except Martha), Faculty
13a. "Shine A Light Playoff" Orchestra
14. "Lifeboat" McNamara
14a. "Shine A Light (Reprise)" Duke, McNamara, Students, Faculty
14b. "You're Welcome, McNamara" Orchestra

Scene 4

15. "I Say No" Veronica, J.D.

Scene 5

- 15a. "Hey Yo Westerberg" McNamara, Students
16. "Kindergarten Boyfriend" Martha
16a. "Transition To Petition" Orchestra

Scene 6

17. "Yo Girl/Meant To Be Yours" J.D., Veronica, Dead Teens
18. "Dead Girl Walking (Reprise)" Veronica, J.D., Students, Fleming

Scene 7

- 18a. "We're All Worth Saving" Orchestra

Scene 8

19. "Finale (Seventeen Reprise)" Veronica, Martha,
McNamara, Duke, Students, Faculty
20. "Bows" All

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

William Hickman.....Head
Faculty & Staff.....Susan Connor, Katy Hahn, Neal Perry Jacobs, Kendra Kahl,
Ron Koinzan, Tange Kole, Katy McLaughlin, Mark A. Parrott,
Amy S. RohrBerg, Katrina Sandvik, Matthew J. Weedman
Office Assistant.....Gwen Gehrke
Communications and Marketing Assistant.....Maddie Hamilton
Recruitment Assistants.....Braden Hoyer, Otter Kroll, Eric Schutt
Production Manager Assistant.....Otter Kroll, Lauren Steelman*

ARTISTIC TEAM

Director.....Matthew J. Weedman
Music Director.....Seth Butler+
Choreographer.....Meghan McEleney+
Scenic Designer.....Mark A. Parrott
Lighting Designer.....Ron Koinzan
Costume Designer.....Katrina Sandvik*
Rehearsal Pianist.....Tommy Truelsen+
Sound Designer.....Jonathan Allender-Zivic+
Stage Manager.....Lindy Rublaitus*
Intimacy Choreographer.....Katy Hahn
Fight Choreographer.....Matthew J. Weedman
Assistant Costume Designer.....Peyton Robbins
Assistant Choreographers.....Maddie Hamilton, Charleston Steinke
Assistant to the Lighting Designer.....Otter Kroll

CAST

Veronica.....	Lauren Steelman*
J.D.	Isaac Ripley
Heather Chandler.....	Kira Manuel
Heather MacNamara.....	Beauna Thammathai
Heather Duke.....	Braelyn Ensor
Martha.....	Katie Scott
Ram.....	Aidan Smith
Kurt.....	Wyatt Heideman
Ram's Dad.....	Holden McGraw*
Mrs. Fleming.....	Aria Jensen
Kurt's Dad/Veronica's Dad.....	Eric Schutt*
Beleaguered Geek/Ensemble.....	Ryder Wickett
Preppy Stud.....	Logan Roach
New Waver/Ensemble.....	Charleston Steinke
Stoner/Ensemble.....	Robin Lindley
Young Republican/Ensemble.....	Monica Ripley
Big Bud Dean/Coach Ripper.....	Andrew Breitsprecher*
Veronica's Mom/Ensemble.....	Maddie Hamilton
Over Confident Band Kid/Ensemble.....	Hannah Tschetter
Principal Gowan/Ensemble.....	Griffin Berndt

THE ORCHESTRA

Seth Butler+, keyboard & bandleader

Julia Andreini+, violin

Trent Washburn, reeds

Sean Kiefer+, trumpet

Jake Giddens+, guitar

Megan Drinovsky+, drums

PRODUCTION TEAM

Dean, College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences.....	Jennifer Cooley, Interim
Head, Dept. of Theatre/Theatre UNI Artistic Director.....	William Hickman
Production Manager.....	Katy McGlaughlin*
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Eric Chen, Rylee McNeal
Dance Captain.....	Charleston Steinke
Fight Captain.....	Logan Roach
A/V Supervisor.....	Jonathan Allender-Zivic+
Scenery Studio Technical Director.....	Jess Mohn
Scenery Studio Technical Director Mentor.....	Ron Koinzan
Scenery Studio Supervisor.....	David Harnois*
Paint Charge.....	Mark A. Parrott
Paint Crew.....	Kaleb Dufel, Richard Nissen, Hannah Pratt, Trent Washburn
Scenery Construction Crew.....	Kaitlyn Baker, Tommy Bates*, Griffin Berndt, Eric Chen, Natalie Clark, Kai Cowell, Jonathan Danker+, Gabby DePrizio*, Salvador Diego, Erin Epperson, Korvetta Gasper, Evan Glockl, Dominic Hammel, Corley Jewell, Angel Maynard, Tara McCaslen, Megan McGuire, Rylee McNeal, Brady Okic, Mac Oleson, Peyton Robbins, Charleston Steinke, Beauna Thammathai, Paige Winkelman
Properties Head.....	Mark A. Parrott
Properties TA.....	Jude Beekman
Properties Crew.....	Me'Lisa Dudley, Briley Larson, Angel Maynard
Deck Crew.....	Madisen Maxa, Skylar Zimmerman
Head Electrician.....	Huck Brace
Assistant Head Electrician.....	Hailey Smith
Head Electrician Mentor.....	Aharon Moody
Light Board Operator.....	Finn Coons

PRODUCTION TEAM

Electrics CrewHayley Damitz, Braden Hoyer*,
Isaac Ripley, Trent Washburn, Otter Kroll

Follow Spot Operators.....Wrigley Brody, Hayley Damitz,
Jacob Maurer, Hailey Smith

Lighting TA.....Otter Kroll

Costume Studio Technical Director.....Amy RohrBerg

Costume Construction Crew.....Brandy Burge, Kai Cowell,
Isaiah Dale, Ayla Dawson, Gabby DePrizio*, Elivia DiTomaso, Jed Ford,
Dominic Hammel, Megan Hedtke, Erik Heeren, Lillian Hernandez,
Ethan Hussel, Otter Kroll, Lucia Kuehn, Julie Matta*, Hannah O'Connell,
Ella Olander, Mac Oleson, Hannah Pratt, Kat Smith, Lauren Steelman*,
Claire Thoma, Hannah Tibbs, Ryder Wickett

Sound Board Operator/Audio Mixer.....Jonathan Allender-Zivic+, Jed Ford

Audio 2.....Ethan Hussel

Wardrobe Supervisor.....Emily Ganfield+

Wardrobe Crew Head.....Haleigh Morgan

Assistant Wardrobe Crew Head.....Lucia Kuehn

Wardrobe CrewCorley Jewell, Kallie Northland

Hair & Makeup Crew Head.....Caroline Henry

Assistant Hair & Makeup Crew Head.....Megan Schwartz*

Hair & Makeup Crew.....Kenadi Fay, Korvette Glasper, Shayan Shahzad

Marketing Manager.....William Hickman

House Manager.....Braden Hoyer*

Assistant House Manager.....Kat Smith

SPECIAL THANKS

Brian Adams, Adams Production Service
Ben Schmidt

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Thank you for coming to this production, and thank you for supporting the arts. There is something magical about live performances. This performance will be different from any other night. Only at this time are all of these people gathered in this same place. This community is here to share this story. Thank you for being an integral part of this show.

I am honored to be a part of this theatre company and theatre department at UNI. Professor Eric Lange led this production company for many years and found great success. The team he and the rest of the faculty here at UNI have built are skilled, driven, and kind. That is a rare set of skills in my experience. The students who attend UNI have proven to have all of those same qualities.

This season offers comedy, horror, family entertainment, and killer music. The season was chosen in a process that involves our full theatre faculty, staff, and students. We follow a structure that suggests genres to assure our students have an opportunity to work on a diverse group of plays from different genres, styles, time periods, and writers. After a group of 12-16 plays are chosen, we open it up to the students to voice their opinions and suggest other titles and help narrow the choice. We believe in student participation in the artistic process. These choices are made in the fall, rights procured, and then pre-production begins in spring.

I hope you will join us to see the result of a process begun over a year ago and see all four shows this year. Thank you for your patronage, your participation, and your support. Next year's production season will be another wonderful year, and I look forward to sharing it with you all soon. I will leave you with this: "Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises, Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not."

William Hickman
Artistic Director

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I am old enough to remember walking into the Blockbuster Video (RIP) in my hometown of Johnson City, Tennessee, and renting a VHS copy of the 1989 film Heathers. I remember thinking about how clever the script was, how beautiful Winona Ryder was and how cool Christian Slater was. But I also remember how the film spoke to the alienation and disgust I felt at my own experience in high school. How it highlighted the unspoken rules that everyone had to follow and the real consequences for those who broke them. The film showed the ways that some people seemed untouchable and some of us seemed battered and broken.

All these years later it's my great privilege to direct this production of the musical adaptation. I quickly realized that this script contains all of the same sharp observations about how students often feel like they are navigating dangerous waters with little to guide them and how much the adults in their lives can seem powerless to help or even notice them. That those points are made along with some incredibly catchy songs and deeply thought provoking lyrics is one of the reasons this show immediately entered the pantheon of modern musical theatre.

I am so grateful for my artistic collaborators in this process; especially the extraordinary talent that is Seth Butler, our musical director; Meghan McEleney who, along with her assistants Charleston and Maddie, created much of the lovely choreography, and my amazing stage management team of Lindy, Rylee and Eric.

I am especially honored to work with the students in this production who devoted so much of their time, attention, and breathtaking talent to this work. The people they portray might be confused and violent but these students are artists who are trying to make something special happen in this place.

We are done with acting evil. We will lay our weapons down.

Matthew J. Weedman
Director

FRIENDS OF THEATREUNI SUPPORTERS

The great Sir Peter Brook once wrote, "A man walks across this empty space whilst someone else is watching him. And this is all that is needed for an act of theatre to be engaged." Luckily most theatre is not that simple and is more exciting than that! But he makes a point that the audience is equally important as the performer in the theatre event. The magic of theatre can only come alive with an audience. Theatre is a conversation between the artists and audience that can be anything from serious, playful, honest, epic, parodic and funny to painful and cathartic, but it always speaks to the human experience.

TheatreUNI is training the next generation of theatre artists to join this conversation and eventually guide it. As an alum and current faculty member, I can attest to the wonderful well-rounded education I received at UNI and bear witness to the faculty's tireless endeavor to keep the quality of this program as high as possible. The proof of this work we do comes out in the shows we present with student talent in every aspect of theatre. Our students act, dance, sing, design, build and paint sets and props, alter and sew costumes, hang and focus lights, stage and house manage in addition to their regular class load as college students. They learn it all.

Theatre is a tool to educate, communicate, and entertain, but we can't do it alone. Every theatre needs supporters and patrons and that audience that we partner with to make the magic happen. Friends of TheatreUNI is a group of theatre enthusiasts who support our students and faculty by providing scholarship funding and attending shows and special events. FOTUNI members also get advance access to ticketing and discounts depending on their level of membership. Supporting theatre here at UNI, in the Cedar Valley, and in the state of Iowa is important to the quality of life in our community and makes a difference in each of our student's journeys to discover their path. Please join me in becoming a member of Friends of TheatreUNI today.

Friends of TheatreUNI is a non-profit organization of volunteers, faculty, and alumni who raise funds for the University of Northern Iowa Department of Theatre and its students. Friends support the university's theatre productions through scholarships, departmental purchases, and meals. In fact, 90% of all Friends donations go directly to the students.

Want to become a friend? More information is linked here:
<https://theatreuni.uni.edu/friends-theatreuni>

Katrina Sandvik
President, Friends of TheatreUNI

Want to become a friend?
Scan the code to join today!



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



CLAIRE THOMA

Claire Thoma is a 5th year theatre major with a double emphasis in performance and design & production, and a minor in music. She joined the department as a 3rd year, and has been involved with a variety of TheatreUNI productions. She performed in *Blood at the Root* in Spring '22 and in *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy* in Fall '23. Her design emphasis is in costumes, and she has been a TA in the costume studio for 4 semesters now. She worked on *Radium Girls* in Spring '23 as the crew head for the wardrobe crew and served as assistant to the props head

for both mainstage shows in Fall '23. She would like to thank all the professors, peers, family, and sponsors who have helped her get to where she is today; their support means the world to her.



MONICA RIPLEY

I am Monica Ripley (she/her) and I'm a Theatre Design and Production and Performance double emphasis, graduating in May of this year. I am currently performing in the cast of *Heathers*. I recently served as Stage Manager for *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy*. I've worked on many other productions at TheatreUNI, including assistant stage managing *Radium Girls*, playing Audrey/Chiffon in *Little Shop Of Horrors*, playing Charlotte in *Cinderella*, and being a part of multiple Cornerstone productions. I spent this past summer working as a scenic artist in Missouri, and upon

graduation I plan to continue to pursue freelance theatrical scenic painting as well as audition for regional theatre companies.



ERIC SCHUTT

Eric Schutt is a Senior Theatre Performance and Theatre for Youth and Communities double major that will be graduating in May this academic year. Within the last 4 years, he has been an actor, director, teaching artist, and even stage manager within many different projects at UNI. He also has served as an executive board member for UNISTA and APO for three years now. Recently he completed a contract as a summer teaching artist intern at The Rose in Omaha. After graduation, Eric plans on going wherever the industry takes him, working in the disciplines mentioned before. With the long term goal of obtaining his master's degree in the theatrical arts.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



GABBY DEPRIZIO

Gabby DePrizio is a senior costume designer and technician, who will graduate with a BA in Theatre Design and Production, and a History Minor in May of 2024. Recently, they worked as the Costume Designer for *Dracula, A Feminist Revenge Fantasy* at TheatreUNI. Throughout their time at UNI, Gabby has been a part of organizations such as UNITT, USITT, MTS, UNISTA, APO, and UNI Proud. In addition to their volunteer work, Gabby is a Technical Assistant in the Scenic and Costume Studios at Strayer Wood and a Stagehand at the Gallagher Bluedorn. After graduation, Gabby plans to work as a freelance costume technician until they begin attending graduate school to earn a Master of Fine Arts in Costume Technology.



JULIE MATTA

Julie Matta is a 4th-year Theatre Performance and Theatre for Youth and Communities major with a minor in Spanish. They will be graduating in the Spring of 2024. They currently are serving as the President of the Multicultural Theatrical Society and Executive Director of the University of Northern Iowa Student Theatre Association. Throughout their career at UNI, they have been in various plays including: *It's Greek to Me*, *Dream with Me*, *A Small Pair of Feet in the Middle of the Sea*, *As You Like It*, *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy*, and currently *Suzette Who Set to Sea*, as well as various other student and department projects. After their time at UNI, Julie hopes to work as an actor in bilingual classical theatre. They eventually wish to return to school to obtain their Master's Degree in Theatre for Social Change and Justice and ultimately become a professor in the field.

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THEATRE UNI

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2023-2024 SEASON

SUZETTE WHO SET TO SEA

APRIL 20 & 21

By Finegan Kruckemayer

In a small seaside village where men build boats and women do not, young Suzette knows she is different – she longs for the sea and believes she is meant for something greater than a life on land. So when a mysterious event occurs, Suzette is forced to do that most difficult thing – prove herself worthy of her destiny.

This youth theatre production will tour to nine local elementary schools during the Spring 2024 semester.

4/20 - public performance in the Bertha Martin Theatre, 10:30 a.m.

4/21 - public performance in the Bertha Martin Theatre, 2 p.m.

This show is best enjoyed by K-5 audiences and their families.



**SCAN
TO BUY
TICKETS**

**WANT TO SEE WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING?
VISIT THEATREUNI.UNI.EDU**

THEATREUNI MISSION

The mission of the Department of Theatre is to create theatre which excites and which illuminates the human condition in ways that are relevant to students, audiences, community members, teachers, and guest artists. To this end, the department offers coursework and productions that are diverse, creative, and participatory, serving students who want to prepare for a life in the theatre and also students who want to prepare a place for theatre in their lives. We create theatre, and in this process, educate.

The Strayer-Wood Theatre, as the home of the Department of Theatre on the campus of the University of Northern Iowa, strives to produce theatre which allows an opportunity for student creation and participation and nurtures and entertains the University Community and the Cedar Valley. Strayer-Wood Theatre productions are innovative, captivating, real theatre.

The Department of Theatre is accredited through the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). NAST is the national accrediting agency for theatre and theatre-related disciplines and is made up of approximately 200 schools of theatre. The granting of accredited membership is a sign that an institution has met an external set of basic criteria for its programs. It also indicates an ability to provide a base of academic strength and operational integrity.