

TROY
UNIVERSITY.

Department of
Theatre and Dance

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor
Dr. Michael Thrasher, Dean, CCFA

HEATHERS

Book, Music and Lyrics by
Laurence O'Keefe and Kevin Murphy
Based on the film written by Daniel Waters

January 18-21, 2024

Malone Black Box Theater

Troy University Department of Theatre and Dance and
The College of Communication and Fine Arts Present

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Book, Music and Lyrics by
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Based on the film written by Daniel Waters

Cast

Veronica	Kate Simechak*
Veronica Understudy	Natalee Savage
JD	Chris Ahlf
JD Understudy	Reese Lemaster
Heather C.	Lily Kate Gwin*
Heather D.	Anna Grace Johnson*
Heather M.	Ellen Foxx*
Martha	Grace Bennett*
Kurt	John Alloway*
Ram	Reese Lemaster
Ms. Fleming/Veronicas Mom	Emma Thomason*
Ram's Dad/Coach Ripper/Big Bud Dean	John Ingram*
Kurt's Dad/Veronica's Dad/Principal Gowan	Caleb Quick*
Preppy Stud	Caden Blackwell*
Beleaguered geek	Will Corbitt*
Hipster Dork	Colton Suttles*
Young Republicanette	Olivia Szymanski
New Wave Girl	Riley Turberville*
Stoner Girl	Natalee Savage
Swing	Macy Sauls
Swing	Colton Suttles*

*indicates members of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honor Society

Setting

1989 in Sherwood, a small suburban town in Ohio.

Act I

Scene One

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

Scene Two

- 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 Three

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

Scene Four

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

Scene Five

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

Scene Six

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

Scene Seven

- 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 Eight

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

Scene Nine

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

Scene Ten

- 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 One

- 10a. "Organ Entr'acte" Orchestra
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 Two

12. "Seventeen" Veronica, J.D.

Scene Three

- 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 Four

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

Scene Five

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

Scene Six

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

Scene Seven

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

Scene Eight

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

Artistic and Production Team

Director, Scenic Design, and Prop Design: Tommy Newman

Assistant Director: Riley Turberville*

Choreographer: Leia Riehl

Assistant Choreographer: Anna Grace Johnson*

Assistant Production Manager: Maggie Scarbrough*

Lighting Design: Will Corbitt*

Sound Design: Chris Ahlf

Music Director: Kate Simechak*

Stage Manager: Adie Carter

Assistant Stage Managers: Karly Johnson, Macy Sauls

Department technical Director: Jennifer Glass

Faculty Technical Mentor: Andrew Hauter

Faculty Lighting Design Mentor: James Arakas

House Manager: Sami Taylor*

Usher: David Miller, Isabelle Braddock

Marketing and Publicity Manager: Anna Grace Johnson*

Assistant Marketing and Publicity Manager: Gracie Smith

Marketing Team: Ashton Fisher, John Ingram*, Lily Kate Gwin*, Sami Taylor*, Isabelle Braddock, Caden Blackwell*, Alexis McNeal*

Box Office Managers: Caleb Quick*, Colton Suttles*

Graphic Design: Anna Gordon

Special thanks to Victoria Lee Averett

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Director's Notes

The 1980s were marked by an onslaught of intense challenges and cultural shifts—Reagan, counterculture, the war on drugs—and high school was not immune to the changing times. American high schools became the background for a whole host of epic power struggles. MTV made gods of the cool kids, and made everyone else a bunch of losers. Popular vs not, nerds vs jocks— young people felt the pressure to label and divide themselves the same way the grownups did. As someone who survived that time, the scars it left are deep...which is partly why I was reticent to return to it with this musical! That said, I am honored to be part of this production of *Heathers* by Lawrence O'Keefe and Kevin Murphy. *Heathers* delves into the intricacies of teenage life, love, and the darker aspects of adolescence. Since the original film's release in 1988, Veronica's story is a parable, exploring what happens when a teenage girl gives into the dark-side. This production is not only a showcase of our students' talent, but an opportunity to reflect on the issues faced by young people today, just as it was with the class of 1989. I'm so proud of our students for taking on this musical as a classroom project, and for seeing it through with energy, class, and integrity. I'm particularly grateful to the student designers and leaders who helped to bring it all together. We have worked together as a team to conceptualize and create the production you will see tonight, and we are hopeful that you will leave this evening feeling optimistic for the future of this generation and maybe even the next.

Sincerely,

Tommy Newman

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

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

Upcoming Events

February 15–25, 2024

Chaos

March 21–24, 2024

Dog Sees God

April 18–28, 2024

Into the Woods



Scholarship & Audition Dates

February 24, 2024

March 23, 2024



The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein. Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation. Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts. This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels. Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance. Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.