

HEATHERS

The Musical

AUDITIONS

ABOUT THE SHOW

Heathers is based on the cult classic 1980s movie of the same name starring Winona Ryder and Christian Slater.

Heathers is the darkly delicious story of Veronica Sawyer, a brainy, beautiful teenage misfit who hustles her way into the most powerful and ruthless clique at Westerberg High: the Heathers. But before she can get comfortable atop the high school food chain, Veronica falls in love with the dangerously sexy new kid JD. When Heather Chandler, the Almighty, kicks her out of the group, Veronica decides to bite the bullet and kiss Heather's aerobicized ass... but JD has another plan for that bullet.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MPA operates as a fully vaccinated company. Proof of vaccine is required at callbacks. Temperature Checks will be required before every rehearsal and/or performance.

Actors in *Heathers* are volunteers. There is no monetary compensation for this show. All actors will receive a \$50 gas gift card as a thank you.

Audition Submission and Contact Details

To submit your audition, or for any enquiries, email Barbara at exec.director@MetropolitanPerformingArts.org using the subject line "Heathers Casting [Your Name]"

Audition & Callback Date, Time and Venue

Auditions Video Submissions are due Saturday, October 9th. Please email your submission to Barbara at exec.director@MetropolitanPerformingArts.org.

Callbacks will be held on Saturday, October 23rd with Saturday, October 30th reserved for a second callback if required. The callback, rehearsal and performance venue is Metropolitan Performing Arts located at 6403 E Mill Plain Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98686.

Age Limit

Auditionees must be 18 years or older at the time of the audition submission.

Please be advised that most of the characters in *Heathers* depict teenagers. However due to the style of the show and its vocal demands we anticipate that people older than teenagers will be cast

Audition and Callbacks Panel

You will be auditioning for the Director Paul Angelo, Musical Director TBA and Choreographer Shannon Jung. Barbara Richardson will also be present as the representative from MPA. An accompanist may also be present in the room at callbacks. The Stage Manager will be at the venue to run the callbacks and assist with any questions.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

NB the ages stated below are 'stage age', actors older than these ages may be cast.

VERONICA SAWYER - 17. She burns to be both cool and kind but doesn't know yet how to be both at the same time. Fierce sense of right and wrong, keen sense of ironic humor. Thinks she is an old soul, but she is still innocent enough to be blindsided by love/hormones (or shocked by cruelty). Voice: High belting required, up to A. Must have dynamic and stylistic range.

JD - 17. He is darkly charismatic, compelling, attractive, charming on the outside yet very damaged on the inside. Keen smarts and strong inventive comedy. Voice: Strong, confident belt to at least an Ab, A preferable; wide emotional range.

HEATHER CHANDLER - 17. Richest, hottest, most magnetic, cruelest girl in town. Relishes power and wields it like a scalpel – no fear, no patience, no mercy. Voice: Strong belt to F or higher preferred. Mezzo for chorus. NOTE: In certain choral songs Chandler can switch parts with her other Heathers as needed.

HEATHER MCNAMARA - 17. Beautiful, innocent, stupid, can be mean on command if Heather Chandler orders it, but actually quite vulnerable and fearful. Voice: Strong belt to Db, D preferred. Soprano for chorus. NOTE: in certain choral songs Heather Mac and Duke can switch vocal parts as needed.

HEATHER DUKE - 17. Whipping-girl of the 3 Heathers. When she finally becomes Queen Bee she wields power like a bulldozer. Alto for chorus. Voice: Strong belt to C, D preferred. Alto for chorus. NOTE: in certain choral songs Heather Duke and Mac can switch vocal parts as needed.

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MARTHA DUNNSTOCK - 17. Nicknamed “Martha Dumptruck”, the opposite of hot, confident, or popular. Huge and beautiful soul, optimistic even in the face of rejection. Voice: Strong belt to E or F, wide vocal expression.

RAM SWEENEY - 17, Linebacker. Big, insensitive to the feelings of others, ruled by appetites. Voice: Strong Baritone, belt to G, some Falsetto useful.

KURT KELLY - 17. Quarterback and Captain. Big, chiseled, rude, entitled, cocky. Mean, thinks he’s the brains in the friendship with Ram. Voice: Tenor, strong belt to Ab or A, some Falsetto. NOTE: in certain songs Ram and Kurt can switch choral assignment if, say, Ram sings higher than Kurt.

RAM’S DAD / BIG BUD DEAN / COACH RIPPER - 40 to 45. Ram’s Dad: Former football player turned suburban Dad, has never outgrown his glory days in high school. Hates weakness, but capable of soul-searching when tragedy strikes. Also plays Big Bud Dean: JD’s single Dad. Big jolly personality that barely conceals the enormous rage bubbling just below the surface. Quite possibly a serial bomber. Also plays Coach Ripper: Stalwart, man’s man; quick to defend his players. Voice: Baritone/Tenor – power Country/Gospel belt to Ab, higher welcome. NOTE: Depending on the auditions, it is possible these characters may be played by a combination of actors cast in other roles.

MS. FLEMING / VERONICA’S MOM - 45 to 50. Ms. Fleming: Aging hippie teacher, still yearning for the day the Age of Aquarius reaches Ohio. Hungry for the spotlight, resentful of entitled youth. Also plays Veronica’s Mom: easygoing, distant, yet capable of laying down the law. Voice: Great belt up to C, higher always welcome. NOTE: Depending on the auditions, it is possible these characters may be played by a combination of actors cast in other roles.

KURT’S DAD / VERONICA’S DAD / PRINCIPAL GOWAN - 30 to 45. Kurt’s Dad: Straight-laced, very conservative, also former football player. A simple guy, not book smart, you’d be happy to share a beer with him. Also plays Veronica’s Dad: Easygoing and distant. Voice: Strong Baritone/Tenor -- power Country/Gospel belt to G, even higher better. Also plays Principal Gowan: Rumpled, burned out, hates conflict. NOTE: Depending on the auditions, it is possible these characters may be played by a combination of actors cast in other roles.

BOY 1 - Bitter Geek 16-18. A put-upon, bitter geek. Voice: Bari (up to F#) or Tenor (up to A).

BOY 2 - Blowdried Preppy 16-18. A blowdried 80’s preppy. Voice: Bass (up to E) or Bari (up to G#).

BOY 3 - Hipster Dork 16-18. Thinks he’s Ducky from ‘Pretty In Pink.’ Voice: Bari (up to F#) or Tenor (up to A).

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GIRL 1 - Goth Girl 16-18. A sullen goth girl. Voice: Belt to at least C# (a Soprano up to high A/B is also a plus).

GIRL 2 - Stoner Chick 16-18. A fuzzyheaded stoner chick. Voice: Belt to at least C# (a Soprano up to high A/B is also a plus).

GIRL 3 - Young Republicanette 16-18. A tennis-playing, uptight Student Council type. Voice: Belt to at least C# (Soprano up to high A/B is also a plus).

ADDITIONAL PARTS - The audition panel may decide to cast additional chorus/ensemble parts and understudies.

AUDITION FORMAT

Video auditions must be submitted via email by October 9th, 2021. Any video submissions received after October 9th will not be considered. Email your submission to Barbara at exec.director@MetropolitanPerformingArts.org

Include a headshot, acting resume and ANY conflicts with the rehearsal schedule.

1. Vocal Performance

- **1-2 minutes of a contemporary song (own choice - not from the show)**

You are required to sing a contemporary song that demonstrates your vocal range and ability. This should be a song that you know well and can perform off by heart. A song in the style of the show (e.g. pop/musical theatre) is preferred. The song should be performed to an instrumental backing track. If you would like to self-accompany your song with an instrument (e.g. piano/guitar) you are welcome to do so.

- **Song Excerpts (If wanting to be considered for Veronica or JD)**

If you are auditioning for Veronica or JD you should be familiar with a *Heathers* song excerpt(s) below. We have chosen these excerpts to help you demonstrate the required vocal range and offer opportunities for you to show us characterization. Unlike your own choice selection, you are welcome to hold the music. We recommend that you practice this excerpt, but we do not expect performance standard for this component of the audition. **Sheet music is a separate document on the audition page.**

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Character	Song Excerpt(s)	Accompaniment Track
Veronica Sawyer	Dead Girl Walking	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdNgO1QYXtY
	AND	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ld8tCUGZbFQ
	Beautiful	
JD	Freeze Your Brain	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCkdWwkDP_c
	AND	
	Meant to Be Yours	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMo9fh9yD-I

CALLBACK FORMAT

All auditionees should keep the call back dates available just in case. You will be contacted if you are required for call backs and emailed further music to prepare if required. We suggest familiarizing yourself with the songs from the show before the call backs. Everyone should be prepared to dance and to read a script excerpt from the show in a “cold read.”

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

What are we looking for?

Heathers is an exciting, fun and high energy show and it needs a cast to match. We are looking for:

- Variety in look with all ethnicities, body shapes and sizes (we are open to cross-gender casting)
- Versatility in acting range, with the ability to play more than one character, including characters of contrasting ages
- Strong solo singers who can also blend in an ensemble
- Strong singers who can dance
- Strong dancers who can sing
- Triple threats
- Friendly people who work hard
- Commitment to the show and rehearsal process
- A good attitude

When and how will you find out if you are cast?

We will notify you as soon as possible of the outcome of your audition whether you are cast or not. Please ensure that the contact details you provide on your audition form are correct.

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Auditionees who are cast will be contacted by telephone. Auditionees who are not cast will be notified by email.

Mental Health Notice and Content Warning

Heathers is a dark comedy which deals frankly and sometimes comically with subjects such as sexuality, mental health, murder and suicide. We consider these are aspects of real life which should be represented in art however we acknowledge these subjects may be triggering for some people.

Please seriously, and honestly, consider your ability and comfort dealing with these issues before committing to your involvement in *Heathers*.

In particular, you should note the following:

- Veronica and JD are required to kiss and there may be a simulated sex scene
- Kurt, Ram, JD and Veronica are required to appear on stage in their underwear
- Martha, Heather McNamara and JD attempt suicide in the show
- Veronica fakes her own suicide
- Veronica, Kurt and Ram are involved in a scene where sexual assault is implied
- Heather Chandler, Kurt and Ram are murdered in the show
- Many characters sing about topics of a sexual nature
- Some scenes depict the use of alcohol and drugs
- Some scenes and songs include coarse language and adult themes

We have included this information not to put you off from auditioning but rather to be honest about what the show includes. To avoid difficulties later, we encourage all auditionees to read a full synopsis of the show and consider watching the movie prior to auditioning. You might also wish to discuss this with your family, friends or healthcare professional prior to making the decision to audition.

Please be assured that *Heathers* will be created in a safe and controlled manner and we will treat the material with sensitivity.

However, if you are auditioning for/offered one of these roles and have concerns about the above please discuss it with the production team before committing to the show.

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REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

Rehearsals

General rehearsals are planned to commence November 27, 2021. All rehearsals are held at Metropolitan Performing Arts. Please note that rehearsal calls are subject to change. All potential rehearsal days are listed below.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov. 27 th 10am-5pm						Dec. 4 th 10am-4pm
Dec. 5 th 5pm-10pm		Dec. 7 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 8 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 9 th 6-10:30pm		TBD Dec 11 th 10am-12pm
Dec. 12 th 5pm-10pm	Dec. 13 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 14 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 15 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 16 th 6-10:30pm		TBD Dec. 18 th 10am-12pm
Dec. 19 th 5pm-10pm	Dec. 20 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 21 st 6-10:30pm	Dec. 22 nd 6-10:30pm	Dec. 23 rd 6-10:30pm		
	Dec. 27 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 28 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 29 th 6-10:30pm	Dec. 30 th 6-10:30pm		TBD Jan. 1 st 12pm-5pm
Jan 2 nd 10am-5pm	Jan 3 rd 7:30-10:30pm	Jan. 4 th 7:30-10:30pm	Jan. 5 th 7:30-10:30pm	Jan. 6 th 7:30-10:30pm	Jan. 7 th 7:30-10:30pm	
Jan. 9 th 5pm-10pm	Jan. 10 th 7:30-10:30pm	Jan. 11 th 7:30-10:30pm	Jan. 12 th 7:30-10:30pm	Jan. 13 th 7:30-10:30pm	Jan. 14 th 7:30-10:30pm	

We value your time, so we will only call you for the rehearsals that you are needed. However, you should ensure that you are generally available for these times during the rehearsal period prior to auditioning.

If you anticipate absences during the rehearsal period, please be honest about this on the audition form.

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Tech weeks and performance dates

Cast will be required for **each** rehearsal during the soft tech and tech weeks and **all** performances. This is **not** negotiable.

Please consider your availability for rehearsals and the performance season prior to auditioning to avoid disappointment.

The production schedule is as follows:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan. 16 th 6pm-10pm Sitzprobe	Jan. 17 th 7:30-10:30pm Soft Tech	Jan. 18 th 7:30-10:30pm Soft Tech	Jan. 19 th 7:30-10:30pm Soft Tech	Jan. 20 th 7:30-10:30pm Soft Tech	Jan. 21 st 7:30-10:30pm Soft Tech	
Jan. 23 rd 5pm-10pm Cue2Cue	Jan. 24 th 7:30pm go Tech	Jan. 25 th 7:30pm go Dress	Jan. 26 th 7:30pm go Dress	Jan. 27 th 7:30pm go Dress	Jan. 28 th 7:30pm go Opening Night	Jan. 29 th 7:30pm go Show #2
Jan. 30 th 7:00pm go Show #3					Feb. 4 th 7:30pm go Show #4	Feb. 5 th 7:30pm go Show #5
Feb. 6 th 7:00pm go Show #6				Feb. 10 th 7:30pm go TBD Show if sold out	Feb. 11 th 7:30pm go Show #7	Feb. 12 th 7:30pm go Show #8
Feb. 13 th 7:00pm go Show #9	Feb. 14 th 7:00pm go Closing Show Valentine's Day Event					

