

PRESS RELEASE**For Immediate Release: June 22, 2023****Media Contact:**

Jonathan White

jwhite@childrenstheatre.org

612.872.5110



**Children's Theatre Company Announces
Triple Threat Summer Intensive Production of
Head Over Heels (High School Edition)
A Musical Comedy with Music and Lyrics from the Catalog of The Go-Go's**

Friday, August 11, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 12, 2023

2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Minneapolis— June 22, 2023 — Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is pleased to announce that the 2023 Triple Threat production will be *Head Over Heels (High School Edition)*. Featuring music and lyrics by The Go-Go's, *Head Over Heels* was conceived by Jeff Whitty (*Avenue Q*), who also wrote the original book, and adapted by James Magruder (*Triumph of Love*). CTC's Triple Threat production of *Head Over Heels* will be directed by Stephen DiMenna, with choreography by Jack Moorman, and music direction by Justin Cook. More information is available at childrenstheatre.org/whats-on/head-over-heels.

Students enrolled in the Triple Threat Summer Intensive spend the first half of their day in theatre arts training (classes in acting, movement, voice, and more) and the second half in rehearsal for the production. Past productions include *Carrie*, *Rent*, and *Be More Chill*. They work with professional directors, professional designers, and other experienced theatre artists and practitioners. The focus is on process; students have the opportunity to hone their craft, dig deeper, and build their community.

Head over Heels is a bold musical comedy from the visionaries that rocked Broadway with *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Avenue Q*, and *Spring Awakening*. Set to the iconic music of the Go-Go's, *Head Over Heels* is a hilarious celebration of love in all its infinite varieties. Set in the kingdom of Arcadia, the royal family must embark on an extravagant journey to save their kingdom and find love and acceptance.

"I'm so excited to see this talented bunch of kids in the triple threat program at CTC perform the music of the Go Gos in this hilariously funny musical," said Director Stephen DiMenna.

"What makes our program unique is the training and coaching students receive while in this program," said Ann Joseph-Douglas, CTC's Director of Education. "TAT is a process-based program which means that we motivated by the journey rather than the final product. Members of the triple threat program attend morning acting and dance classes with CTC company member Autumn Ness and the afternoons are dedicated to rehearsal. Our goal is to guide students as they build a practice of professionalism that combines training and performance. We couldn't be more excited to bring *Head Over Heels* to CTC. TAT summer intensives are known for choosing hard-hitting material that students would find the opportunity to perform in their high schools. We selected *Head Over Heels* because of its overall message of 'love is love,' challenging the status quo, and breaking out of the box that society has placed us in."

CTC's Triple Threat production of *Head Over Heels* will perform on Friday, August 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, August 12, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. All performances will take place on CTC's Cargill Stage (2400 Third Avenue South Minneapolis MN 55404). Tickets may be purchased online at childrenstheatre.org/tickets or by calling the ticket office at 612.874.0400. All tickets are \$25.

In addition to Stephen DiMenna, Jack Moorman, and Justin Cook, the creative team includes Dakota Blankenship (Costume Design), Nathaniel Glewwe (Sound Design), and Ellie Simonett (Lighting Design).

Ticket Information

Tickets to *Head Over Heels* may be purchased online at childrenstheatre.org/tickets or by calling the ticket office at 612.874.0400. All tickets are \$25.

Recommended for ages 10 and up.

RUNNING TIME: 2 hours and 15 minutes with one intermission.

About CTC's Triple Threat Summer Intensive (Grades 8-12)

Theatre Arts Training's performance opportunities are specifically designed for students who have a demonstrated commitment to their craft as performers and display a positive attitude in their work. Students work with like-minded peers and industry professionals to produce a play or musical. During this five-week intensive, students spend their mornings in studio classes advancing voice and dance skills; the afternoons are dedicated to rehearsal.

About CTC's Education and Engagement Programs

CTC's Education and Engagement programs deepen the theatre experience in our building and throughout our community for tens of thousands of people each year. We create opportunities for audiences of all ages to connect with the art, the artists, and each other. Grounded in ACT One, the theatre's commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, we choose programming and partners to more fully reflect all of the experiences and perspectives that make our community strong with a focus on communities of color, the LGBTQIAP+ community, and the disability community all from the full socio-economic spectrum.

Theatre Arts Training's Scholarship Program: Made Possible by You

At Children's Theatre Company, we believe that every child should have the opportunity to experience the arts-to learn, grow and discover themselves. But for many families, this exploration is not financially possible. Please consider a donation to help support our Theatre Arts Training Scholarship program. Your gift will help a child live out their dream. Every dollar counts-if we all do a little, we all do a lot. Thank you. Consider donating today. childrenstheatre.org/give

Children's Theatre Company's 2023-2024 Season

CTC's 2023-2024 Season of seven productions features two world premieres, *Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress* and *Babble Lab*, the international sensation *Cookin'* from South Korea, the only Minnesota stop of the national tour of *The Carp Who Would Not Quit and Other Animal Stories* from Honolulu Theatre for Youth, the return of last year's sold out production of *Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, the 3-time Tony Award®-nominated musical *A Year With Frog and Toad*, and the wildly inventive *Alice in Wonderland*.

Full season subscriptions and renewals for the 2023-2024 Season are now on sale and can be purchased online at <https://childrenstheatre.org/shows-and-tickets/subscribe-and-save/> or by calling the ticket office at 612.874.0400.

Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is the nation's largest and most acclaimed theatre for young people and serves a multigenerational audience. It creates theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire for more than 250,000 people annually. CTC is the only theatre focused on young audiences to win the coveted Tony Award® for regional theatre and is the only theatre in Minnesota to receive three Tony® nominations (for its production of *A Year with Frog and Toad*). CTC is committed to creating world-class productions at the highest level and to developing new works, more than 200 to date, dramatically changing the canon of work for young audiences.

CTC's engagement and learning programs annually serve more than 93,000 young people and their communities through Theatre Arts Training, student matinees, Neighborhood Bridges, and early childhood arts education programs. ACT One is CTC's comprehensive platform for access, diversity, and inclusion in our audiences, programs, staff, and board that strives to ensure the theatre is a home for all people, all families, reflective of our community. childrenstheatre.org

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: CTC's Triple Threat production of *Head Over Heels (High School Edition)*.

WHEN: Friday, August 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, August 12, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: CTC's Cargill Stage (2400 Third Avenue South Minneapolis MN 55404)

AGE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended for ages 10 and up.

RUNNING TIME: 2 hours and 15 minutes with one intermission.

TICKETS: Tickets are \$25 and are available at childrenstheatre.org/tickets or by calling the ticket office at 612.874.0400.

#