

PLAYBILL

Unity House Players

SONGS BY **THE GO-GO'S** · BASED ON "THE ARCADIA" BY **SIR PHILIP SIDNEY**
CONCEIVED & ORIGINAL BOOK BY **JEFF WHITTY** · ADAPTED BY **JAMES MAGRUDER**



March 1-3, 8-10

TICKETS:

uuspringfield.org



Director: Erin Greene Wallace

Music Director: Elisabeth Weber

WARNINGS

CAUTION

**THIS SHOW
MAY NOT BE SAFE FOR SOME
PEOPLE WITH EPILEPSY.**



**Some lighting is used at this show
that may be disruptive to people
who are sensitive to light.**

PARENTAL WARNING: PG for Sexuality, Language

Only parents/guardians are qualified to determine what is appropriate for their children. The link below connects to a Preview Guide created by the Cope Gillette theater to help you make the decision that is right for you and your family.

<https://villagetheatre.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Head-Over-Heels-Performance-Preview-Guide.pdf>

USE OF AISLES BY ACTORS WARNING

Please keep all body parts and items clear of the aisles. Actors will be using all the space surrounding the audience seating. Also use extreme caution if entering or exiting during the performance!

WELCOME TO UNITY HOUSE PLAYERS

The Intersection of Art & Life

Through plays and musicals for youth and adults Unity House Players find timeless messages in the art we produce and builds community through the process.

Unity House Players is a community theater organization and outreach program of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Greater Springfield. Unity House Players strives to bring vibrant and quality inclusive theater to the Pioneer Valley where anyone can participate in the many facets of theater production.

We are especially happy to welcome you and present for you this joyful tale of love and acceptance, HEAD OVER HEELS. We believe deeply in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and this show bring that message to life. Through a plot containing usurped kingship, unlikely lovers, and gender-fluid disguises, Head Over Heels preaches unconditional love and acceptance of yourself and everyone you know, no matter their gender or sexual identity, and uses some of the greatest pop rock hits of the late 20th century. We hope you enjoy it and take some love with you to share and celebrate out in the world!

Notes On the Show

As creative director for this show I wanted to use colors to visually add to our storytelling and message, especially in the important element of costuming. Color has a long relationship and history with identity. Flags, crests, even gang colors use color as a symbol of identity and belonging. You are invited to visit our Garden of Flags, a display of how gender and sexual identity groups, organizations, and individuals have used color, specifically in flags, to represent and as a call to be seen (and take the color challenge to match the main characters with their colors and meaning!) May you wear all the bright beautiful colors you are *PROUDLY!*

-Darcie

Credits

Conceived by, Original Book by

JEFF WHITTY

Adaptation by

JAMES MAGRUDER

“Automatic Rainy Day” – written by Regina Schock, Steve Plunkett, and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Plunksongs (BMI), Schock It to Me Music c/o PEN Music Group Inc. (ASCAP) and Wiedwacker Music (ASCAP).

“Beautiful” – by Charlotte Caffey and Regina Schock. Used by permission of Schock It to Me Music c/o PEN Music Group Inc. (ASCAP) and Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP).

“Cool Jerk” – by Donald Storboll. Used by permission of T/Q Music Inc. c/o BMG Bumblebee (BMI).

“Get Up and Go” – by Charlotte Caffey and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP).

“Good Girl” – by Charlotte Caffey and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP)

“Head Over Heels” – by Charlotte Caffey and Kathy Valentine. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP) and Spirit Two Music Inc. o/b/o Spirit Services (ASCAP).

“Heaven is a Place on Earth” – by Richard Nowels, Jr. and Ellen Shipley. Used by permission of BMG Bumblebee (BMI) and Spirit Two Music Inc. o/b/o Spirit Services Holdings, S.a.r.l (ASCAP).

“Here You Are” – by James Vallance, Charlotte Caffey, and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Wiedwacker Music (ASCAP), Chargo Music (ASCAP), and Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP).

“How Much More” – by Charlotte Caffey and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP).

“Lust to Love” – by Charlotte Caffey and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP).

“Mad About You” – by Paula Jean Brown, James Francis Whelan and Mitchel Young Evans. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP) and Len Freedman Music, Inc. on behalf of Lilac Drive Music (ASCAP).

“Our Lips are Sealed” – by Jane Wiedlin and Terence Edward Hall. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP) on behalf of itself and Plangent Visions Music Ltd. (ASCAP)

“Skidmarks on My Heart” – by Belinda Carlisle and Charlotte Caffey. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP) and Punishment Tunes c/o BMG Gold Songs (ASCAP)

“This Old Feeling” – by Charlotte Caffey and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP).

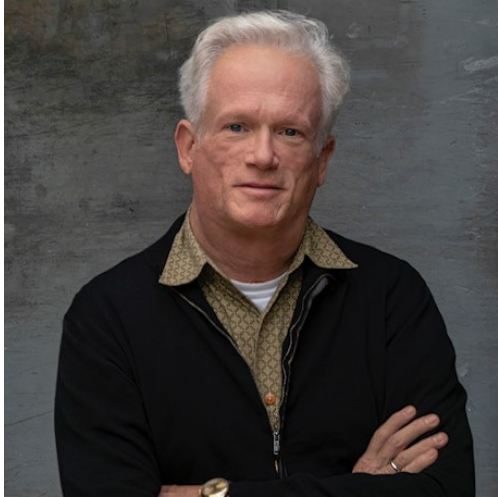
“Turn to You” – by Charlotte Caffey and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP).

“Vacation” – by Charlotte Caffey, Kathy Valentine and Jane Wiedlin. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP) and Spirit Two Music Inc. o/b/o Some Other Music (ASCAP).

“Vision of Nowness” – by Kathy Valentine and Craig Ross. Used by permission of Spirit Two Music Inc. o/b/o Some Other Music and Wiggged Music (BMI)

“We Got the Beat” – by Charlotte Caffey. Used by permission of Universal Music- MGB Songs (ASCAP).

The Broadway Creators



James Magruder made his Broadway debut with the book for *Triumph of Love*. His adaptations of Marivaux, Molière, Lesage, Labiche, Gozzi, Hofmannsthal, Dickens and Giraudoux have been staged across the country in Germany and Japan, and his dissertation, *Three French Comedies*, was named an “Outstanding Literary Translation of the Year” in 1997. Also a fiction writer, he has published *Sugarless*, a Lambda Literary Award Finalist; *Let Me See It*, a story collection; *Love Slaves of Helen Hadley Hall*; and the just-released *Vamp Until Ready*. He has taught at Swarthmore College, Princeton University, and Yale School of Drama, where he received his doctorate.

The Go-Go's are band members Charlotte Caffey, Belinda Carlisle, Gina Schock, Kathy Valentine and Jane Wiedlin and they will forever have the beat! These female pioneers formed The Go-Go's in 1978 and were an integral part of the Los Angeles punk scene. The Go-Go's made history as the first, and to date only, all-female band that both wrote their own songs and played their own instruments to ever top the Billboard charts. Their 1981 debut album, *Beauty and the Beat*, was #1 on the charts for six consecutive weeks and it remains one of the most successful debut albums of all time. Other albums include *Vacation* (1982), *Talk Show* (1984) and *God Bless The Go-Go's* (2001). With a 1982 Grammy nomination for Best New Artist, a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, a 2021 induction into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and a place in history that no other band can claim, it is assured that the Go-Go's will keep going with a classic catalog of songs that transcends time, trends and genres.



The Cast & Crews

Head over Heels a new musical

Basilius: Gene Choquette
Gynecia: Stevie Norman
Pamela: AJ Kirby
Philoclea: Isabelle Williams
Dametas: Joshua Farber
Mopsa: Lisa Rizzo
Musidorus: Michael DeVito
Pythio: Richard Parris Scott

Ensemble:

Ben Cantwell, Khara Hoyer, Avery MacGrath,
Madi Mason, Mikayla McLean, Kristen O'Brien,
Aaron Reynolds, James Thacher, Sharice
Vazquez



Understudies:

Gynecia: Khara Hoyer
Pamela: Mikayla McLean
Mopsa: Sharice Vazquez
Musidorus: James Thacher

Director - Erin Wallace

Music Director - Elisabeth Weber

Musicians

Guitar 1 - Charlotte Ross
Guitar 2 - Laura Ross
Keyboard 1 - Elisabeth Weber
Keyboard 2 - Cliff Schofer
Drums - Kevin Barker

Production Manager - Becca Coolong

Creative Director (Concept Design & Implementation) - Darcie Farber

Props:

Lisa Rizzo Martin
Eric Boucher
Erin Greene Wallace
Maureen Kellman

Set:

Head of Construction - Paul Gonzales
John Benoit
Eric Boucher
Allison Boucher

Costumes:

Cassia Farber
Avery Macgrath
Christine Papka-Hartling
Stevie Norman (and Hair/Make-Up Design)

With special thanks to Richard Parris Scott, Becca Coolong, AJ Kirby, Greene Room, & the cast

Tech Director - Mark Weber

Sound:

John Benoit
Mark Weber

Lights:

Avery Richardson
Erin Wallace (Lighting Design)
Monique Gerken (Spot)

Stage Manager - Fahad Rahmat

Stage Crew:

Jen Rawlings
Zach Johnes

Social Media Manager - Eric Boucher

With special thanks to Nick Rapuano

Unity House Players Bios

BEN CANTWELL (Ensemble) - Returning to the Unity House Players, Ben is excited to get up and go back on the Unity House stage! Previously Ben has been in Something Rotten (Exit 7), The Wedding Singer(Exit 7), Legally Blonde (Exit 7), and they were previously in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Unity House Players). Outside the theater, Ben spends countless hours drumming, spending time with pets, and seeing how many frogs are in the pond on a given day.

GENE CHOQUETTE (Basilus) - Gene is delighted to be back with Unity House Players in this production of HEAD OVER HEELS! He was last seen at UHP as Otto Frank in THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK and Fagin in OLIVER! Gene also directed THE MUSIC MAN here and recently directed THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME for Opera House Players. Favorite roles include AMERICAN BUFFALO (Don), THE CRUCIBLE (John Proctor) at Circle in the Square NYC; PIPPIN (Charlemagne) at Playhouse on Park; BRIGHT STAR (Daddy Murphy), MAMMA MIA (Bill Austin) at The Majestic Theater; ASSASSINS (Sam Byck), CABARET (Herr Schultz) at K and E Theater Group; SOMETHING ROTTEN! (Nostradamus), SPAMALOT (King Arthur), MY FAIR LADY (Henry Higgins) at Opera House Players; ANNIE (Oliver Warbucks), FOLLIES (Ben Stone) at Theater Guild of Hampden; JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (Pilate) at Exit 7; HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE (Uncle Peck) at Ghost Light. Gene earned a BFA in Drama from NYU Tisch and studied acting at Circle in the Square Theater School. He sends much love and thanks to Erin, Elisabeth, Darcie and Becca, this amazing cast and crew and the entire Unity House/UUSGSteam! For Minnie.

BECCA COOLONG (Production Manager) is thrilled to be back at UHP. After four years as the producer/managing director of J-ART @ the JCC, she is loving being part of a broader theater community in Western MA. Her most recent directing credits include Closer Than Ever, Falsettoland, and [title of show] (J-ART Cafe), Spring Awakening (Exit 7 Players), Beauty and the Beast and Matilda (Opera House Players), Seussical and Godspell (Unity House Players), Rumors and Arsenic and Old Lace (Suffield Players), and Play On! (Black Cat Theater). She is looking forward to directing Into the Woods for the Unity House Players in the Spring. Additional theatrical credits include UHP (Producer), Hartford Stage (Associate General Manager), OnLocation Education (Director), and Lucille Lortel's White Barn Theater(Stage Manager/TD). Becca would like to thank her family for their support and flexibility and this most remarkable team of artists.

MICHAEL DEVITO (Musidorus) is thrilled to be joining the cast of Head Over Heels in his debut with Unity House Players! You may have seen Mike most recently perform in Majestic Theater's Bright Star as Billy Cane this past Fall. Michael's other theater credits include: First Date (Aaron), Wild Party (Phil), Next to Normal (Gabe), Altar Boyz (Mark), Mamma Mia! (Sky), Footloose (Ren), Beauty and the Beast (Lefou), and The Little Mermaid (Prince Eric). Mike is also a graduate of WNEU Law School with an MS of Law and currently works in compliance in Springfield, MA. He would like to send his thanks to the Unity House Players cast and creative team this opportunity, as well as his family and friends for all of their outstanding support!

DARCIE FARBBER (Creative Director) is a prime example of a liberal arts education gone awry. With a passion for creativity and design work Darcie has lent her talents on and off the stage to the Vermont Theater Company, Monson Arts Council, Greene Room Productions, Monson Summer Theater, Theater Guild of Hampden, and Unity House Players. Darcie debuted as a

director for Unity House Players' Les Mis in 2020 and directed Matilda in 2023. She is looking forward to being part of the directorial team for Into the Woods this Spring at Unity House Players. Darcie also serves the Unitarian Universalist Society of Greater Springfield as the Director of Family Ministry and believes strongly that the arts are crucial for centering community around the practice of the inherent worth and dignity of every living being. She is especially grateful for her family, tea & Indian lunches, and for the collaboration of the dedicated leadership, cast, and crew who joyfully brought to life this celebration of love and authenticity.

JOSHUA FARBER (Dametas) grew up in Boston's children's theater and choir scenes, graduated from BU's Theater Institute in 1989 intending to go into the limelight...and ended up in the classroom instead. Since returning to the stage in 2008 at his children's request, Joshua has directed one (Romeo & Juliet) and performed in twelve Unity House Players productions, from Oliver to Diary of Anne Frank, starring as "himself" in The Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged), as Frederik in A Little Night Music, and - most recently - as the voice of the Escapologist in last year's production of Matilda. He has also directed youth productions at UUSGS (Wonka, Godspell) and elsewhere (Into the Woods, Seussical), and enjoyed lead/supporting roles with other regional companies, including Judge Turpin in Sweeney Todd (Greene Room), Oliver/Corin in As You Like It (Hampshire Shakespeare), and Edna Turnblad in Hairspray (Greene Room). He is thrilled and honored to be a part of the visionary cast and production of Head Over Heels!

KHARA C HOYER (Ensemble, understudy-Gynecia) is excited to return for her second show at Unity House, previously seen as Alma Hix in The Music Man. Some previous favorite roles include Cindy Lou (Marvelous Wonderettes), Sally (Heartless), Grandma Ida / Aaron's Mom (First Date), Karen (August Osage County), and Delores (Working). Though she studied music and theatre, she works in aerospace finance to fund her theatre nightlife, and entertains on the weekend with face painting, balloon twisting, and magic. Thank you Daddy and Ro for always supporting her shows!

AJ KIRBY (Pamela) is thrilled to make her UU debut in Head Over Heels! AJ sends big, huge, gorgeous thank yous to everyone who has supported her on this journey. If you like what you see, you can catch AJ in Zanna, Don't! at K&E this Summer. AJ hopes that you enjoy the show and that you are reminded of just how Beautiful you are!

AVERY MACGRATH (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back at the UU for Head Over Heels! You may have seen Avery in The Drowsy Chaperone, Shakespeare Abridged, and Les Mis. Avery would like to thank their friends, their family and the Taco Bell drive thru employees.

LISA RIZZO MARTIN (Mopsa) is thrilled to be acting alongside this wonderful cast of Head Over Heels. This is her second time on stage with the Unity House Players, previously appearing as part of the ensemble of Godspell. Other favorite roles include Cordelia in Falsettoland, Woman 2 in Closer Than Ever, Aggie in Play On! and Gertrude McFuzz in Seussical the Musical. She'd like to thank her incredible friends and parents for their love and support. And an extra thank you to her husband Kevin for holding down the fort at home and loving her even when she's loudly practicing her songs.

MADILYNN MASON (Ensemble) is excited to be in their sixth production with Unity House Players. Madilynn is sixteen years old and has a natural beat and passion for performing. Some of their favorite roles include The Theatre Guild of Hampden as Annie in Annie, the Doctor and Rudolpho in Matilda and Judas in Godspell. Madi is a budding pianist who also plays guitar, ukulele, the electric bass guitar and some of the drums. They are homeschooled most of the

time and take two classes at Holyoke Community College. Madilynn is so grateful for another opportunity to work with Erin and Elisabeth.

MIKAYLA MCLEAN (Ensemble, understudy Pamela) -Mikayla is so ecstatic to be a part of this beautiful, colorful cast and crew! Working hard or hardly working, she's doing her best as both ensemble and the understudy for sweet Pamela. Her previous performances include her first role ever as Gloria in "Wait Until Dark", ensemble for "The Boy Who Stood Still", Ox, townsfolk, and Son Understudy in "Trail to Oregon", and finally Helen and Carrie's Understudy in "Carrie: The Musical" -- all performed with Dramatically Incorrect Theater Company in Lowell, MA. In doing this show, she's learning to take elements of Pamela's confidence to implement into herself. She sincerely hopes that the audience is able to enjoy and appreciate the loving message that "Head Over Heels" portrays!

STEVIE NORMAN (Gynecia) - Stevie holds a Bachelor of Music, specializing in opera, from UNC School of the Arts where she studied under Marion Pratkanicki as a Kenan Scholar, and is a GHAA alumna, where she studied with Sarah Armstrong. She is a featured player with Phantom Sheep Improv and sketch comedy (@phntmsheep), as well as the owner of the state licensed daycare Laura's Family Daycare and co-owner of local entertainment company, The Wonderland Works Company. (@wonderlandworkscountry) She was last seen with UHP as The Sour Kangaroo in Seussical and most recently with Opera House Players as the Costumer and Makeup Special FX Artist for Jesus Christ Superstar and as Maureen Johnson in RENT. Other favorite credits include; Mrs. Claus (Mrs. Claus's Christmas Eve), Susan ([title of show]-JART), Ursula (The Little Mermaid-JART), and Betty Paris (Ward's The Crucible-Piedmont Opera). "Now's the time for us to move, Actions shout out loud. Let's cut the talk and move our feet, 'Cause words get lost in crowds."

KRISTEN O'BRIEN (Ensemble) - (She/her) Kristen is thrilled to be back on stage at the Unity House Players. She most recently played Peggy in Godspell last Spring on the same stage. She has also performed in Spring Awakening, The Producers, Beauty and the Beast, and Into the Woods, just to name a few. When auditioning for this show, she admittedly didn't know much about it, but has fallen Head Over Heels. It is a show about belonging and becoming. It is about breaking "tradition" and expectations and defining new ones. And most importantly, it is about love— in its truest and purest form. She is extremely grateful to be working alongside such a talented cast who has become her theater family. Kristen is eager for the audience to experience the journey of being seen for who you are, and hope they will laugh and cry along too. May the beat forever be a reminder of our connection to each other.

AARON REYNOLDS (Ensemble) - Hi my name is Aaron, I was told by Becca to write a bio about my life and all the work I've done in the community theater world. Like how I was in RENT with The Opera House Players of how I have done countless shows with the improv troupe Phantom Sheep. I could also go on and on about his time I spend on social media where I have gained a following making comedy sketches about work and everyday life (Tik Tok: Aaronjohn120). However I would like to use the rest of my bio to talk about how The Muppets caused Water Gate...

RICHARD PARRIS SCOTT (Pythio) - Born and raised in Springfield, Massachusetts, Richard Parris Scott is a composer, musician, and actor whose dedication to music and live performance intertwines itself with their black and queer identity. In the past, they've had the opportunity to grace the stage of The Majestic Theater in "Mamma Mia the Musical", "The Buddy Holly Story", and "Disney's Aristocats" and are thrilled to share space with the Unity House Players as Pythio the Oracle in "Head Over Heels". One of their goals as an artist is to inspire and empower

others to move forward in the direction that they so choose. They do this now as a performing artist, playing out with "Richard Parris Scott and The Band" and as a Sonido Musica Teaching Artist at the Community Music School of Springfield.

JAMES THACHER (Ensemble, understudy Musidorus) - is overjoyed to be part of this wonderful cast and production which marks his return to a stage he first appeared on at age 7 in "Down by the Creek Bank". James has performed in Unity House Players' youth productions of Godspell Jr. and Les Misérables, Monson Summer Theater's Into the Woods, and Opera House Players' The Hunchback of Notre Dame. He is very grateful for the guidance of his voice teacher Devon Bakum and his choir director and musical messiah Elisabeth Weber.

SHARICE VAZQUEZ (Ensemble, understudy Mopsa) is very excited to be joining Unity House for her first community theater production. She currently participates as a member of the Eclipse dance company in East Longmeadow and has worked as a Six Flags performer for 5 years. She is happy to be challenging herself to try something new, and would like to thank everybody involved for being so supportive in this process. She can't wait for you all to enjoy the show!

ERIN WALLACE (Director / Choreographer / Light Design) is delighted to be a part of the creative team of "Head Over Heels". As co-founder of Greene Room Productions; Theater Production & Ed Outreach Inc. Erin has produced and led creative teams for many projects at The Academy of Music Theater in Northampton, The Stafford Palace Theater in CT, and various other community theater locations in Western Ma. Favorite productions include a variety of shows such as, "Hedwig & the Angry Inch", "The Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe", "Spring Awakening", "The Who's Tommy", "Little Shop of Horrors", "Sweeney Todd", and "Hairspray" to name a few. Erin is also a co-creator for original works of outdoor immersive theater at Silver Bell Farm in Monson. Besides theater Erin is a certified Zumba Fitness and PiYo Instructor, Sunday school Superintendent at the First Church of Monson, and business owner/operator of Clean Room 413; Cleaning & Organization Inc. Erin's favorite activity however, is to gig out with her band "Wicked Biscuit", and duo "Side of Gravy". Erin would love to say a huge thank you to her husband David, 2 kids, and family for putting up with her crazy schedule and always being supportive of her wild ideas.

ELISABETH WEBER (Music Director) is the Director of Music at UUSGS where she works with adult, high school, and youth choirs as well as serving as organist/pianist for services. She has served as Music Director for the Majestic Theatre as well as many local community theater groups over the years, including the Theatre Guild of Hampden, Wilbraham United Players, Monson Summer Theatre, and Greene Room Productions. Thank you to this amazing cast and fabulous band for bringing this beautiful show to life. It has been a true joy to make music together with you. Thank you to UUSGS for supporting Unity House Players as we tell these important stories. Special thanks to Erin, Darcie and Becca for their creative partnership and friendship, and most importantly to her wonderful sound guy, Mark, for his unwavering support through the whole process. It's been fun!!

ISABELLE WILLIAMS (Philoclea) is beyond thrilled to be performing in Head Over Heels! After 6 years, she has hit the stage once again and feels blessed to be working alongside such a wonderful cast. Previous shows featured Isabelle as a Bird Girl in SEUSSICAL and Shelly in ALMOST MAINE. She'd like to thank her family's unwavering support and her sweet friends' love and encouragement. Passion and love radiates through this production, and Isabelle can't wait for you to experience this special joy!

Musical Numbers

Act I

- "We Got the Beat" (Charlotte Caffey) – Company (minus Pythio)
- "Beautiful" (Gina Schock, Caffey) – Pamela and Ensemble
- "Vision of Nowness" (Kathy Valentine, Craig Ross) – Pythio and Ensemble
- "Get Up and Go" (Jane Wiedlin, Caffey) – Basilius, Gynecia, Dametas, Philoclea, Pamela, and Ensemble
- "Mad About You" (Paula Jean Brown, James Whelan, Mitchel Young Evans) – Musidorus and Male Ensemble
- "Good Girl" (Caffey, Wiedlin) – Philoclea, Mopsa and Pamela
- "Vision of Nowness / Beautiful" (Reprise)* (Valentine, Ross, Schock, Caffey) – Musidorus, Pythio and Ensemble
- "Automatic Rainy Day" (Schock, Wiedlin, Steve Plunkett) – Pamela and Mopsa
- "Cool Jerk"* (Donald Storbball) – Company
- "Vacation" (Caffey, Valentine, Wiedlin) – Mopsa and Female Ensemble
- "How Much More" (Caffey, Wiedlin) – Pamela
- "Our Lips Are Sealed" (Wiedlin, Terry Hall) – Musidorus, Philoclea, Pamela, Mopsa, Pythio and Ensemble

Act II

- "Head Over Heels" (Caffey, Valentine) – Musidorus, Philoclea, Mopsa, Pamela and Company
- "This Old Feeling" (Wiedlin, Caffey) – Gynecia and Basilius
- "Turn to You" (Caffey, Wiedlin) – Mopsa, Pamela and Ensemble
- "Heaven Is a Place on Earth" (Rick Nowels, Ellen Shipley) – Pythio, Gynecia, Basilius and Ensemble
- "Lust to Love"* (Caffey, Wiedlin) – Basilius and Ensemble
- "Here You Are" (Caffey, Wiedlin, Jim Vallance) – Philoclea, Gynecia, Pamela, Basilius, and Company
- "Mad About You" (Reprise)* (Brown, Whelan, Evans) – Philoclea, Musidorus, Pamela, Mopsa, Dametas, Pythio
- "Finale" (Caffey, Wiedlin, Belinda Carlisle) – Company
- "Get Up and Go (Reprise)" (Caffey, Wiedlin) - Band

At various moments in the show, "Skidmarks on My Heart" is played to signify realizations by the characters.

Synopsis (Wikipedia)

Act 1

The kingdom of Arcadia is peaceful and prosperous, its people's lives governed by a mysterious "Beat" ("We Got the Beat"). King Basilius and his wife Gynecia have two daughters. The younger, Philoclea, is in love with her childhood friend Musidorus, a shepherd who is not considered an appropriate match. The older, Pamela, is the most beautiful woman in the land, though she confesses to being jealous of her "plain" sister since she does not have to deal with suitors ("Beautiful"). As Basilius berates Pamela for sending another round of suitors away, a message arrives from Arcadia's new oracle Pythio, asking for a meeting with the royal family and warning that Arcadia may lose its famous Beat. Basilius and his loyal viceroy Dametas depart for the forest, with Gynecia reminding her hot-headed husband to listen to what Pythio has to say.

Pythio, who is [non-binary](#), explains that the kingdom has become too rigid and traditional, and gives Basilius and Dametas four prophecies. ("Vision of Nowness")

1. "Thy younger daughter will bring a liar to bed. He thou shall forbid, she he'll then assume."
2. "Thou elder daughter will consent to wed. She'll consummate her love but with no groom."
3. "Thou with thy wife, adultery shall commit"
4. "You will meet and make way for a better king"

They explain that as these prophecies are fulfilled, four flags will fall. If all four fall, the Beat will be lost and the kingdom will succumb to a permanent distemperature, but it is possible to cheat the Oracle. Basilius, for whom the new king is the most pressing matter, decides to leave Arcadia to find and slay him on the road, bringing everyone along so he can keep watchful eyes on his wife and daughters. He lies to his family, explaining that Pythio only prophesied happy ends and that they must hunt a golden stag on the road. Gynecia is suspicious, but the kingdom prepares to embark anyway ("Get Up and Go"). As they are about to leave, Musidorus arrives, and Philoclea persuades her father to let him ask for her hand. The ensuing proposal is inelegant but heartfelt, and Gynecia is convinced. Basilius still thinks that Musidorus will

be unable to provide for his daughter, and eventually the two agree. As Philoclea leaves, Musidorus repeats his vow of love and impulsively decides to follow the group ("Mad About You").

On the road, Philoclea asks her sister and Mopsa, Dametas' daughter and Pamela's loyal handmaid, for advice about Musidorus. Pamela tells her that she must do what is best for the kingdom, even if it hurts her specifically ("Good Girl"). Musidorus realizes that his journey was not well-planned, and worries that he may die in the forest before coming across a dead theatre troupe and their belongings. Pythio arrives and tells Musidorus to let his shepherd identity die, and take on a new personage so he can join Philoclea. They suggest the wardrobe and weapons of the Amazon, and Musidorus agrees ("Vision of Nowness" (Reprise)/"Beautiful" (Reprise)). As the traveling kingdom is attacked by a lion, Musidorus rescues Philoclea, and is asked to join the group on their journey. "Cleophila" agrees.

When Mopsa realizes that Pamela's ideal suitor might not be a man at all, she attempts to reassure Pamela by confessing that she has similar feelings. Pamela does not understand, and releases her from her duties. An angry Mopsa decides to leave and "follow her inclinations" to [Lesbos](#) ("Automatic Rainy Day"). Cleophila has become quite popular, with Basilius, Pamela, and Gynecia (who learns that "she" is a man, but not her true identity) all developing feelings for her, though Cleophila only has eyes for Philoclea ("Cool Jerk"). While away, Mopsa realizes that her feelings for Pamela remain, and decides to return ("Vacation").

Musidorus is able to evade Dametas' watchful eye with his female disguise, and is about to confess to Philoclea before a jealous and distraught Pamela interrupts them, destroying the room ("How Much More"). Philoclea is shocked that Pamela would be jealous of her and her new friend, and when Cleophila admits that she had reason to be, she realizes that the Amazon is actually Musidorus, and they embrace. Mopsa arrives and confesses her love to Pamela, who reciprocates. As Pythio's first two flags fall, both couples vow to keep their love secret ("Our Lips are Sealed").

Synopsis (continued)

Act 2

As the trip continues, both couples are happy in their new relationships, though Musidorus must also deal with the king and queen's feelings for Cleophila ("Head Over Heels"). Dametas attempts to warn Basilius about the flags, but he brushes it off, as he is still king and no men have been seen with his daughters. He gives Cleophila a letter for "the one I love most". Doubtful but reassured by Philoclea that this must be for the queen, Cleophila delivers it to her. Basilius and Gynecia make plans to meet each other secretly in the caves, both believing they are writing to Cleophila ("This Old Feeling"). Confused by Mopsa's action, Dametas assures her that he will find her a husband. Mopsa and Pamela are unsure of what their relationship means, but they are elated to find another couple like themselves when they witness Philoclea and Cleophila kissing ("Turn to You").

Gynecia and Basilius both arrive in the pitch black cave to meet Cleophila, actually meeting each other. Pythio facilitates their conjoining, marking the fulfillment of the third prophecy ("Heaven is a Place on Earth"). Mopsa and Pamela tell their secret to their friends, prompting the other two to reveal that Cleophila is actually Musidorus. Though Pamela is initially annoyed that they do not have the same secret, the two sisters reconcile. Basilius and Gynecia arrive arguing, Dametas arrives with all three flags, and confusion breaks out when husband and wife both point out Cleophila as the one they have adulterated with. An angry Philoclea explains Cleophila's true identity and that Musidorus is her love, not either of her parents.

As the king and queen realize what really happened, Basilius decides that Musidorus must be the new king and challenges him to a duel ("Lust to Love"). Musidorus fights valiantly but is eventually slain.

As Philoclea mourns her lost love ("Here You Are"), Basilius understands the error of his ways. He takes off the crown, offering it to Gynecia, who he believes will be a better ruler. As she takes it, the fourth flag falls and, with all prophecies fulfilled, the citizens of Arcadia are struck with the loss of the Beat.

Gynecia tells her people to pray to the gods for a new Beat, and one emerges, as does a golden stag. It is actually Musidorus, revived and returned to the overjoyed Philoclea, who proclaims her love and vows to marry him. Dametas realizes there is still one prophecy, prompting Pamela and Mopsa to admit their love to their surprised but accepting parents. As Dametas wishes that Mopsa's mother could be there, Pythio arrives. They are actually Dametas' lost wife, banished from Arcadia after they confessed their gender identity to him. They promise not to leave Mopsa again, and Dametas apologizes for his cruel treatment, embracing Pythio for who they truly are ("Mad About You" (Reprise)). Musidorus reveals his own gender fluidity, explaining that he plans to "keep Cleophila around". Basilius decides to leave his people, but Gynecia tells him to stay, as she thinks he will become a better man without a crown.

The reunited group travels to the nearest city, only for it to be Arcadia. Realizing that they have traveled in a circle, the group considers how they have changed on their journey and vow to become a wiser and more accepting society with their new Beat ("Finale").

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Mission


The mission of Longmeadow pride is to bring support, engagement, and resources to the LGBTQ+ community in Longmeadow, MA and the surrounding area.





Vision

Our vision is to be more than just a festival organizers group. We want to create a network of families, a repository of resources, and a safe space for members of our community. We want our LGBTQ+ kids in the school system to be safe and supported, and free from harassment or bullying. We want all members of our community to feel supported, and build intentional community with our vibrant LGBTQ+ family!





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CONGRATULATIONS

to the cast and crew of *Head Over Heels!*

Thank you for bringing the music of *The Go-Go's* to life in the sanctuary! You are inspiring! Creative expression makes us human and whole. The arts enable us to understand ourselves and each other.

At UUSGS, home of Unity House Players, we are planning building improvements that better reflect our values of accessibility, equity, and inclusion.

Please pardon our appearance in the meantime.

We hope that audiences of *Head Over Heels* will enjoy the show, be inspired, and support our efforts to be a beacon of light and love in Greater Springfield.

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