

Kyle Heffner



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Kyle Heffner was born in Chicago, Illinois. His parents noticed his acting ability early and enrolled him, at 11 years old, in a well-respected children's theater, The Jack and Jill Players. After a few plays he began working as a professional in commercials and educational films. His passion for acting took him to Northwestern University. After receiving his degree, he set out for Los Angeles in his grandfather's Ford Granada. Kyle's L.A. angel turned out to be Garry Marshall, who put Kyle to work in Young Doctors in Love (1982), Marshall's directorial debut. "Doctors" was produced by Jerry Bruckheimer, which led to Kyle's portrayal of Richie Blazik in Flashdance (1983). Heffner has appeared in over a dozen films since then, including Runaway Train (1985), The Woman in Red (1984), When Harry Met Sally... (1989), High Crimes (2002), and The Hallmark MOW's Family Plan (2005) and Wishing Well (2009). Rounding out his career are numerous national commercials and dozen's TV guest-starring roles which include "Curb your Enthusiasm" (2004), "Seinfeld" (1990), Gideon's

Crossing (2000), Suddenly Susan (1996)), and LA theater such as "In Heat" (2008) at the Lost Studio.

Kyle Heffner was involved with "The Mee-Ow Show" in 1978, serving as the director and contributing to the set design. The Mee-Ow Show was a sketch comedy production that was also known to have involved notable individuals like Tom Virtue and Allison Burnett, who performed in earlier versions of the show at Northwestern.

Kyle Heffner's Connection to The Mee-Ow Show

- Director:

In 1978, Kyle Heffner was the director for "The Mee-Ow Show".

- Set Design:

He also contributed to the set design for the 1978 production.
The Mee-Ow Show

- A Comedy Show:

"The Mee-Ow Show" was a sketch comedy show.

- Northwestern Connection:

It was a show performed at Northwestern University by students, which included people like Kyle Heffner, Tom Virtue, and Allison Burnett.

Other Notable People

- Tom Virtue:

An actor who was also involved with "The Mee-Ow Show".

- Allison Burnett:

A noted author and screenwriter who also performed in the show.

- Jeff Lupetin:

Another notable voice actor and performer who participated in the show. Kyle Heffner was involved with the Mee-Ow Show, a student-run improvisational and sketch comedy troupe at Northwestern University. He was both a cast member and a director for the show during his time at the university.

Kyle Heffner's role in Mee-Ow

- Cast member (1977): Heffner performed in the 1977 Mee-Ow show, the first year that improv was officially included in the production.

- Director (1978): The following year, Heffner returned to direct the 1978 show, titled "In Search of the Ungnome".

About the Mee-Ow Show

- The Mee-Ow Show is the longest-running student improv and sketch comedy show in the United States.
- The show was founded at Northwestern University in 1974 and has been a springboard for the careers of many comedy professionals.
- Notable alumni include Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Seth Meyers, Ana Gasteyer, and Dermot Mulroney.

Kyle Heffner's subsequent career

After graduating from Northwestern, Heffner moved to Los Angeles and became a professional actor, with roles in movies and TV shows including:

- Flashdance (1983): Portrayed Richie Blazik, a friend of the protagonist.
- When Harry Met Sally... (1989): Played the character Gary.
- Runaway Train (1985): Appeared as the dispatcher.
- Seinfeld (1990s): Had a guest-starring role.
- Curb Your Enthusiasm (2000s): Also had a guest-starring role.

Did Kyle Heffner participate in Mee-Ow reunions?

Yes, actor Kyle Heffner has participated in Mee-Ow alumni reunions and maintains contact with fellow cast members.

Evidence of Heffner's reunion participation

- Mee-Ow Fest 50th Anniversary: Heffner was included in a group photo for the 50th anniversary of the Mee-Ow Show in 2024. The picture featured fellow 1977 cast members and was published in Northwestern Magazine.
- Ongoing alumni connections: In August 2025, Heffner posted on his social media that he had lunch with several Mee-Ow alumni, including Tom Virtue, Jeff Lupetin, Betsy Fink-Lupetin, and Allison Burnett, where they reminisced about their time on the show.
- Facebook group activity: Heffner has commented on posts within "The Mee-Ow Show Alumni Group" on Facebook, indicating that he is an engaged member of the community.