

REIF THEATER ARTS PRESENTS

ROALD DAHL'S  
**Matilda**  
THE MUSICAL JR.



“Even if you are little you can do a lot.”

**Tuition and registration due before first class. Space is limited!**

Rebellion is nigh in Matilda JR., a gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination! This story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have audiences rooting for the “revolting children” who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson.

Matilda has astonishing wit, intelligence... and special powers! She’s unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Matilda’s school life isn’t completely smooth sailing, however – the school’s mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, hates children and just loves thinking up new punishments for those who don’t abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts, and could be the school pupils’ saving grace! Roald Dahl’s Matilda Jr. is presented through special arrangement with and all materials are provided by Music Theatre International.



**Theater Arts build confidence and character. Come make friendships and memories that will last a lifetime!**

**AUDITION SCHEDULE**

3rd-6th Grade Saturday, September 9th, 12:00-2:30pm

7th-12th Grade Saturday, September 9th, 3:00-6:00pm

(Please plan to stay for your entire audition time.)

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

JR. ENSEMBLE (Likely younger cast)

Tuesday & Thurs 3:30-5:00, Some Fridays 3:30-6:30

SR. ENSEMBLE (Likely older cast)

Monday, Wed, Friday 3:30-6:30

PRINCIPALS (MAIN CHARACTERS)

Mon, Wed, Fri 3:30-6:30, Tues & Thurs 3:30-5:30

Not all Cast members will be required for the entirety of every rehearsal. Detailed weekly schedules will depend on casting.

**REHEARSALS BEGIN MONDAY, September 11th, 2023**

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DATES. INCLUDE ANY POTENTIAL CONFLICTS WITH YOUR REGISTRATION.**

In addition to the regular schedule these additional rehearsals will take place.

Thursday-Friday, October 19-20 (NO SCHOOL)

Full Cast 3:30-6:30

Monday, November 6 (NO SCHOOL)

Daytime rehearsal Times TBD

November 11-16 TECH WEEK

MANDATORY rehearsals-Times TBD

We can work with you on some conflicts but Tech week is crucial. Please make sure these dates are available.

**1st Class/  
Auditions  
Saturday, Sept. 9  
Performances  
Nov. 17-19**

## AUDITIONS FOR MATILDA JR. SATURDAY, September 9th @ THE REIF

**Grades 3-6 12:00-2:30pm | Grades 7-12 3:00-6:00pm**

All participants get a part. Auditions just help me place you where you fit best. Please plan to stay for the entire session of auditions for your age group. Students must be registered and paid before auditions.

### **How to prepare for auditions:**

- ♦ **Listen to the soundtrack.** All songs are available on the Reif Website. Get to know the music and practice singing with the performance tracks. Everyone will sing individually during auditions.
- ♦ **Read the audition sides** that are available on the website. Get to know the characters and try experimenting with saying the parts out loud.
- ♦ **Prepare something to recite at auditions.** This can be anything you have memorized. I want to see how you handle language that you are really comfortable with. It can be a poem, a speech or your favorite commercial. (Returning performers, I challenge you to choose something new each time you audition!) Once you have recited, I may ask you to do it again as though you are stuck in quicksand or as though you smell rotten eggs. This allows me to see how well you take direction and how you handle different feelings or emotions. (Parents, please help your kids understand ahead of time that getting direction does not mean they have done anything wrong. Sometimes kids shut down when they feel like they are being criticized. Taking direction is part of theatre. Sometimes we try things several different ways before we find the “right” one.)
- ♦ **Come ready to dance!** Everyone in the show will dance, some more than others. During auditions, students will learn a bit of choreography and I will be watching for their performance quality and willingness to try new things. Above all, look like you are having fun and the “audience” might not see little mistakes!

Check out the Reif website [www.reifcenter.org](http://www.reifcenter.org) for the following resources...

- Links to all of the audio tracks. There will be a version of the music with words to help you learn the song. There will also be a version of the music without words for them to practice with once they are comfortable. Students will audition with the version without words.
- Audition sides to get familiar with some of the language used in the show. Audition sides are short scene selections from the script that may be used as part of the audition process. These sides will help you understand the characters and how they interact with each other.

You can choose which song you would like to audition with. This does not mean that you will only be considered for that one role. You may be asked to read for multiple parts. Just remember that every moment counts in auditions. Give it your all even if you are not reading for the part you want. Directors are always looking to see how versatile you can be and how well you take direction.

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### **PARENTS PLEASE NOTE...**

Students will be required to supply their own footwear for the performance. In addition to shoes, certain items may be required for their costumes as well. Instructions regarding these items will go out after casting and the design process is complete. We do our best to provide costumes but as the cast sizes keep growing, it has become impossible for us to purchase and store everything we need for a musical of this size.

Parents should anticipate volunteering to help. We need help monitoring children during performances, sewing costumes, gathering props, etc. Please let me know how you can help!

**REHEARSALS BEGIN MONDAY, September 11, 2023**

**PERFORMANCES November 17-19, 2023**

**Please see page 1 for other important dates.**

Register at [www.reifcenter.org](http://www.reifcenter.org) Questions: Call The Box Office (218)327-5780 or email Katie [ksmith@reifcenter.org](mailto:ksmith@reifcenter.org)

# ROALD DAHL'S **Matilda** THE MUSICAL JR.

## Cast of Characters

**Matilda Wormwood** The hero of the show. She's brilliant, resilient, creative, and kind, despite growing up in difficult circumstances. Her parents treat her poorly, but Matilda escapes into a world of books, which puts her reading level far above the other children in her class, and she develops a bit of magical power in an effort to defeat Trunchbull.

**Miss Honey** A teacher at Matilda's school. She is kind, is generous, and really cares about the children despite her own desperate circumstances.

**Agatha Trunchbull** The quintessential terrifying tyrant. As headmistress, she runs her school like a dictator, making up arbitrary rules to suit her every whim and dreaming up creative punishments.

**Mr. Wormwood** Matilda's father. He is egotistical, rude, and not very bright, not to mention a liar. Though Mr. Wormwood is not a good person and he is mean to Matilda, his harebrained schemes can be hilariously funny.

**Mrs. Wormwood** Matilda's mother. Like her husband, she dislikes Matilda and does not understand why her daughter loves to read. Mrs. Wormwood is selfish, obsessed with her own appearance, and believes everything she sees on TV. Her dancing lessons with Rudolpho are the most important part of her day.

**Michael** Matilda's brother. He is not very bright, though he is the apple of his father's eye.

### **Students at the school**

**Bruce** One of Matilda's schoolmates. He has the bad luck to get caught after eating Trunchbull's cake.

**Lavender** She is kind and bright (though not as brilliant as Matilda) and quickly decides that Matilda is her best friend.

**Nigel** He is enthusiastic, sweet, and always in a bit of a panic.

**Eric**

**Amanda**

**Hortensia**

**Alice**

**Tommy**

**Nigel**

**Mrs. Phelps** The kindly librarian who loves hearing Matilda's stories.

**Escapologist** A character of Matilda's creation. Everything this character does is grand and exaggerated – he's performing for the cheap seats!

**Acrobat** A product of Matilda's imagination.

**Rudolpho** Mrs. Wormwood's self-obsessed dance teacher.

**Sergei** A customer swindled by Mr. Wormwood. Though he shows up looking for payback, Matilda has had quite enough of revenge, and Sergei lets the Wormwoods escape.

**Ensemble** Ensemble roles include Russians, Little Kids, Big Kids (including Big Kid 1, Big Kid 2, and Big Kid 3), Mums, Dads, the Cook, and the Mechanic.