



Presents



ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.

Book by

DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics by

TIM MINCHIN

Director

Kaitlyn Moccia

Choreographer

Machelle Johnson

Stage Manager

Kylee Emory

Music Director

Joan Calonico

Set/ Props Design

Nicki Radisich

President, CEO

Jennifer "JT" Johnson

Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical JR.* is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, New York, NY. (212) 541-4684 mtishows.com

4th- 12th Grade Only

Updated 7/23/26

Thank you for your interest in GymStars Junior Theatre's Production! GymStars' mission is to provide quality instruction in a safe, clean and fun environment so that every participant can meet their full potential and reach for the stars! We are so excited for our first ever musical and are eager to take this journey with you and your family! Here is some important information:

Auditions Day 1	Tuesday, August 11th	4:00-6:30
Auditions Day 2	Thursday, August 13th	4:00-6:30
Auditions Day 3	Friday, August 14th	4:00-6:30
Cast Announcements will be made by	Sunday, August 16th	

Synopsis

Rebellion is nigh in Matilda JR., a gleefully witty ode to the 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!

Packed with high-energy dance numbers and catchy songs, Matilda JR. is a joyous girl power romp. Children and adults alike will be thrilled and delighted by the story of the special little girl with an extraordinary imagination.

Expectations

- ☐ All actors are expected to attend ALL performances.
- ☐ All actors are expected to always be attentive and respectful.
- ☐ All actors are expected to do work at home to prepare for rehearsals and shows.

Parent Expectations

- ☐ All rehearsals will be closed to parent viewing.
- ☐ Be respectful to all staff.

Performance Dates:

Friday, September 25th

Show 1 (Opening Night): Call at 5:00, Show at 6:30

Saturday, September 26th

Show 2 (Matinee): Call at 1:00, show at 2:30

- (Onsite Break- Bring a Lunch/Dinner)

Show 3 (Evening): Call at 5:00, show at 6:30

Sunday, September 27th

Show 3 (Closing Matinee): Call at 1:00, show at 2:30

- STRIKE after last performance

General Rehearsal Schedule:

Tuesdays 5:30-7:45

Thursdays 5:30-7:45

Fridays 4:00-6:15

Please note *it is possible that not all actors will be called to all rehearsals & additional rehearsals may be called. **First rehearsal is Tuesday, August. 18th at 5:30**

Auditions

1. "Auditions" can seem a little stressful which is why at GymStars JTC we want to create an environment that is fun and supportive.
2. Parents will not be allowed to view auditions
3. Parents should have submitted their digital Audition Form or if must, provide students with a fully filled out paper copy of it

Please, prepare:

1. Dance Audition: You are expected to participate in a dance audition, please bring proper footwear, preferred jazz shoes (but, no open toed shoes, clogs, Crocs, etc.)
2. Singing Audition: Please, prepare the song selection(s) found below. You will be singing with a recorded track. Please note, you may read the lyrics if you have not mastered it, so don't worry!

Full AUDITION INFORMATION:

<https://gymstars.box.com/s/les7q0n4nei86ayy4nccq5w5k5jy1i4l>

Audition Music:

All students should learn the audition songs "Naughty". Sheet music, vocal track, and instrumental track can be found in the folder for each song. Students will sing with the instrumental track during their audition.

- Naughty :44 - 1:20
 - From "Even if you're little..." through "You have to be a little bit naughty!"

Audition form is REQUIRED.

Digital Audition Form is preferred; however, paper version at the end of this packet.

<https://forms.gle/gpb6ScTnJ8C5qxWR8>

Character Breakdown

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.

Eric- An expressive student at school with Matilda.

Amanda- A pigtailed student at school with Matilda.

Bruce- One of Matilda's schoolmates. He has the bad luck to get caught after eating Trunchbull's cake. Bruce goes through quite a transformation throughout the show.

Hortensia, Alice, Tommy- Alice, Hortensia, and Tommy are classmates of Matilda.

Lavender- One of the kids at school with Matilda. She is kind and bright (though not as brilliant as Matilda) and quickly decides that Matilda is her best friend.

Nigel- One of the kids at school with Matilda. He is enthusiastic, sweet, and always in a bit of a panic.

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.

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.

Acrobat- A product of Matilda's imagination.

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.

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), Kids, Mums, Dads, the Cook, and the Mechanic.

General Information

Thank you so much for your interest in GymStars Junior Theatre Company's production of Matilda Jr. Please, note all rehearsal dates that your child will NOT be able to attend. Be aware that while we will do our best to accommodate every child's individual schedule conflicts, the number of conflicts that your child has will be taken into consideration when casting. If too much is missed, or the child has not taken the necessary action to learn what was missed, they may be dropped from that number.

Full List of Rehearsals// GS= GymStars/ MN= McNair Mamie Starr Theatre

August	September	Shows
Tues, 8/11 5:30-7:45 GS	Tues, 9/1 5:30-7:45 GS	Fri, 9/25 OPENING Night Show 1: Call 5:00, Show 6:30pm
Thurs, 8/13 5:30-7:45 GS	Thurs, 9/3 5:30-7:45 GS	
Fri, 8/14 4:00-6:15 GS	Fri, 9/4 4:00-6:15 GS	
Tues, 8/18 5:30-7:45 GS	Tues, 9/8 5:30-7:45 GS	
Thurs, 8/20 5:30-7:45 GS	Thurs, 9/10 5:30-7:45 GS	Sat, 9/26 Show 2: Call 1:00pm, Show 2:30 On Site Break Show 3: Call 5:00, Show 6:30
Fri, 8/21 4:00-6:15 GS	Fri, 9/11 4:00-6:15 GS	
Sun, 8/23 10:00-4:00 GS	Tues, 9/15 4:45-7:45 GS Extended DRESS	
Tues, 8/25 5:30-7:45 GS	Thurs, 9/17 4:45-7:45 GS Extended DRESS	
Thurs, 8/27 5:30-7:45 GS	Fri, 9/18 4:00-8:00 MN TECH	
Fri, 8/28 4:00-6:15 GS	Sun, 9/20 10:00-4:00 MN TECH	Sun, 9/27 CLOSING Matinee Show 4: Call 1pm, Show 2:30pm
Sun, 8/30 10:00-4:00 GS	Tues, 9/22 4:00-8:00 MN TECH/ DRESS	
	Thurs, 9/24 4:00-8:00 MN TECH/ DRESS	

*TECH= Technical Rehearsal

*DRESS= Dress Rehearsal

*Call= Performances Check in

Audition form is REQUIRED.

Digital Audition Form is preferred; however, paper version is on the next page is available at this end of this document.

<https://forms.gle/gpb6ScTnJ8C5qxWR8>

Bios of Production Team

Director, Kaitlyn Moccia is our Artistic Director for GymStars Junior Theatre Company. Kaitlyn is a passionate performing artist, educator, and creative leader whose lifelong love of theatre has shaped a dynamic career spanning performance, design, writing, and arts education. Born and raised in Stockton, California, Kaitlyn discovered her passion for the stage at an early age, performing in more than 40 children's theatre productions before graduating from Lincoln High School. She went on to earn her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre from Texas State University, graduating summa cum laude with emphases in Acting, Playwriting, and Costume Design. During her time at Texas State, Kaitlyn studied Shakespeare at London's historic Globe Theatre, became one of the inaugural members of the university's Performance and Production Advisory Committee, and honed specialized skills in traditional costume sketch rendering and corset construction. Her talent as a playwright also earned recognition when one of her original works was selected as a regional finalist at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Kaitlyn's professional experience reflects her versatility and commitment to the arts. She has designed and costumed multiple full-length productions for respected organizations including the Broadway Training Center and internationally renowned Stagedoor Manor, where she created imaginative costumes that helped bring young performers' stories to life. Her creative journey has also included studying improvisation at New York City's renowned PIT (People's Improv Theater), working as a motion-capture performer, and teaching visual arts through painting, ceramics, glass fusing, and other creative mediums. Whether she is acting, writing, designing, teaching, or mentoring young artists, Kaitlyn brings enthusiasm, creativity, and a deep belief in the transformative power of the arts. She is thrilled to return to her roots in Stockton and share the joy, confidence, and sense of community that theatre can inspire in people of all ages.

Music Director, Joan Calonico graduated from the University of Pacific Conservatory of Music in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in Music Education. She was a General Music and Choral Specialist in Lincoln Unified School District for 20 years. During that time, she served as Mentor Teacher and Music Teacher Specialist, coordinating the K-8 music program district-wide. She has directed middle school honor choirs throughout the region. After earning a master's degree in Educational Administration, Mrs. Calonico became principal of Lincoln Elementary School and later, Don Riggio School, where Visual & Performing Arts are an integral part of every student's education. She has directed the Stockton Youth Chorale since 2002 and making music with kids is her favorite thing to do.

Choreographer, Machele Johnson has over 20 years of dance training and performance experience. She graduated from a high school with a full-time theater and performing arts program and has been teaching all styles of dance at GymStars since 2014. While she enjoys teaching every style, ballet and musical theater are her favorites. In addition to dance, Machele has degrees in Communication Sciences and Disorders and English, bringing an understanding of communication, voice, and performance to her teaching. She is passionate about creating a positive, encouraging environment where students can grow in both confidence and artistry, and she looks forward to sharing her love of the performing arts with the community.

Stage Manager, Kylee Emory believes some of life's greatest memories are made through shared experiences, laughter, and the courage to step into the spotlight. She is passionate about coaching children, helping them

discover confidence in themselves, and creating a community where every child feels seen, supported, and celebrated. It is a true privilege to be part of each performer's journey and to help bring their stories to life on stage.

Sets/ Props Designer, Nicki Radisich brings imagination, creativity, and a splash of magic to the stage as the Set & Props Designer for our musical production. With a Bachelor's degree in Art Studio and more than 20 years of experience as a professional mural artist, Nicki has spent her career transforming ordinary spaces into extraordinary works of art. Her passion for visual storytelling makes her the perfect person to bring our production to life through beautifully crafted sets and imaginative props that transport audiences into the world of the show. Every painted set piece, prop, and artistic detail is thoughtfully designed to help tell the story and create an unforgettable theatrical experience. In addition to her work as a muralist, Nicki has inspired creativity throughout the community as an Art Docent, private art instructor, and host of countless Paint & Sip and Paint & Play events. She loves encouraging artists of all ages to explore their creativity and discover the joy of making something with their own hands. A lifelong lover of art, design, and working with children, Nicki is thrilled to combine her artistic talents with the magic of musical theatre. She can't wait for audiences to experience the colorful worlds she helps create—one brushstroke, prop, and set piece at a time!

President, CEO: Jennifer "JT" Johnson, has impacted thousands of children and families throughout our community. JT's GymStars story began in 1999 when she joined the team at just 16 years old as a coach. What started as a part-time job quickly became a lifelong passion. Through hard work, dedication, and an unwavering belief that every child deserves the opportunity to grow, she worked her way through nearly every leadership position in the company—from Coach to Program Director, General Manager, Vice President of Operations, and today, President and CEO of GymStars. JT attended San Joaquin Delta College before transferring to the University of the Pacific, where she graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor's Degree in Business. She has combined her business knowledge with her passion for youth development to help transform GymStars into one of the area's premier destinations for children's enrichment. Her greatest joy has always been watching children discover confidence, develop lifelong friendships, and accomplish things they never thought possible. Never one to stop dreaming, JT has continually expanded the GymStars family by creating innovative programs that serve children of all ages. Most recently, she expanded GymStars into a brand-new dance studio and is thrilled to launch the GymStars Junior Theatre Company, bringing the magic of musical theatre to the next generation of performers. Although JT never performed in stage productions herself, her love for the performing arts has been growing for years. She studied acting for more than a year while attending college and has since produced two theatrical productions for a local school. She firmly believes that musical theatre is one of the most powerful ways to help young people build confidence, creativity, communication skills, teamwork, discipline, and lifelong memories. For JT, GymStars has never simply been about gymnastics, dance, or theatre—it's about changing lives. Every new class, every new program, every production, and every child who walks through the doors represents another opportunity to inspire confidence, ignite imagination, and help young people discover just how capable they truly are. Her vision for GymStars is simple: to create a place where every child feels seen, supported, challenged, and celebrated. Whether it's on the gym floor, in the dance studio, on the stage, or in the classroom, JT's mission remains the same as it was when she first became a coach over 27 years ago—to help children shine. And if you ask anyone who knows her, they'll tell you one thing: JT isn't done dreaming yet.

Audition Form

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Experience- (List any performances you have been a part of- theatre, dance, concerts, etc.)

Training- List any training (such as classes in dance, music, martial arts, gymnastics, tumbling, cheer, etc.)

Special Skills – List in skills (such as- instruments, roller skating, acrobatics, etc.)

Character Preference

1.

2.

3.

All characters are open to any age or gender. Will you accept a role of any gender? Yes No

Which gender of character would you prefer to play? _____

Are there any characters you prefer not to play? If so, please list. _____

Is there anything else we should know? _____

Conflicts: What dates do you know that you CANNOT rehearse?

Name: _____

Important Dates

Regular Rehearsals: Tuesdays (5:30-7:45), Thursdays (5:30-7:45), Fridays (4:00-6:15)

- Dress Rehearsal #1 at GymStars: Tuesday, September 15th 4:45-7:45
- Dress Rehearsal #2 at GymStars: Thursday, September 17th 4:45-7:45
- Tech Rehearsal # 1 at McNair Mamie Star Theatre: Friday, September 18th 4:00-8:00
- Tech Rehearsal #2 at McNair: Sunday, September 20th 10:00-4:00
- Tech Rehearsal #3 at McNair: Tuesday, September 22nd 4:00-8:00
- Tech Rehearsal # 4 at McNair: Thursday, September 24th 4:00-8:00
- Show 1- Matinee- Friday, September 25th, Call 5:00, Show 6:30
- Show 2 and 3 on Saturday, September 26th, Call 1:00, Show 2:30 (on site break), Call 5:00, Show 6:30
- Show 4 on Sunday, September 27th Call 1:00, Show 2:30
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I understand that my child, _____, is auditioning for the GymStars Junior Theatre Company's Fall Production of Matilda Jr. I understand and agree to the above commitments and that the information we reported is correct.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____