

Audition Packet

We're so excited that you are auditioning for the 2026 Lower Grades Musical: **Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.**

Auditions are open to students in grades 2 - 5.

Please take a moment to read all of the instructions. As in previous years, auditions will be done by submitting videos comprising three components: acting, singing and dancing.

The <u>AUDITION FORM</u> is where you will submit your audition video link (Google Drive/Dropbox or similar), as well as answer some casting-related questions. The answers on that form help us, as we review your videos.

Audition submissions are due by 5pm on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16. The cast list will be announced by Sunday, November 30.

Rehearsals begin on Monday, February 9, 2026 and will take place from 3:00-5:00pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. **Both days are required**, so please be honest with your time, as we need a solid commitment from students in order to mount this show. There is a lot of work to accomplish, in a limited period of time!

Mandatory Tech Rehearsals will be from 3:00pm - 7:00pm, on Monday, June 8; Tuesday, June 9 and Wednesday, June 10, with Performances on Thursday, June 11 and Friday, June 12 at 5:30pm. On performance days, students will be expected to be there starting at dismissal, for clean-up rehearsals and warm-ups, prior to the performance time.

If you cannot commit to these regular rehearsal dates, mandatory tech rehearsal dates and performance dates, please do not audition.

Tuition - \$1,150 (\$575/per day - both days required)

We are rooting for you and want your audition to go well! But please be aware, that submitting an audition does not guarantee acceptance to the program. While we do our best to include as many students as possible, if we have a large turnout, we may not be able to accept everyone.

Please reach out with any questions! <u>nestmusicals@gmail.com</u>

Good luck! Michael, Randy and Kim

ACTING

- Choose and *memorize* one of the monologues listed below.
- At the beginning of your audition, tell us your name and what monologue you will be doing (i.e. "My name is Kim Roberts, and I will be playing Ariel")
- Address the monologue directly to the camera. This will be very difficult if you do not memorize your monologue.
- We do not need a full body shot. It is best to have the camera focus only on the top half of your body. No lower than the belly button.
- You are the focus. Try to keep the background noise at a minimum.
- Filming against a bare wall is best, but if that is not possible, aim for having as little going on behind you as possible.
- Please DO NOT do an accent when performing these monologues.

MISS HONEY

Matilda, starting tomorrow I shall bring in a selection of very clever books that will challenge your mind. You may sit and read them while I teach the others and if you have any questions, well I shall do my best to answer them. How does that sound?

(MATILDA hugs MISS HONEY)

Matilda! Why... that is the biggest hug in the world! You're going to hug all of the air out of me!

BRUCE

Okay, look, I stole the cake. And honestly I was really, definitely, sort of almost thinking about owning up... maybe? But I was having a lot of trouble with my belly. The Trunchbull's cake was so good that I'd scoffed it down too quick and now it was beginning to fight back. (His belly rumbles.)

See?

TRUNCHBULL

Well?... Come along, Bogtrotter.

Oh, did I not mention? That was the first part of your punishment. There's more. The second part. And the second part is... chokey! Do you think I would allow myself to be defeated by these maggots? Did you? Who do you think I am, Miss Honey? A weakling? An idiot? You?

MATILDA

And so the great day arrived. Everything was arranged by the Acrobat's sister - a frightening woman who used to be an Olympic-class hammer thrower, and who loved nothing better than to scare the children of the town. Suddenly, out came the Escapologist. "Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls... The Burning Woman Hurling Through The Air With Dynamite In Her Hair Over Sharks And Spiky Objects, Caught By The Man Locked In The Cage... has been... cancelled."

Cancelled because my wife is... pregnant.

Just then the Acrobat's sister stepped forward and produced... a contract. "I have paid for the posters, publicity, the catering, the toilet facilities. Where is my profit? A contract is a contract. You will perform on this day or off to prison you both shall go!"

VOCAL

- Each student should prepare TWO of the song selections listed below
- Only prepare the segment of the lyrics included below, not the entire song.
- Please state your name and the song you are singing at the beginning of the video.
- You should use the Performance Track when you are recording your audition video.
- Make sure you sing standing up and that you can be seen and heard well.
- Have fun and perform the song!
- Matilda Jr. Music Tracks
 - This folder contains two subfolders one has guide vocals (to learn the song) and one is the performance tracks, which should be used when you record your audition video.
 - Please note access may be limited when logged in via your @nycstudents.net email address. You may need to log out/into a different account to access.

Revolting Children

Whoa! Never again will she get the best of me, never again will she take away my freedom, And we won't forget the day we fought for the right to be a little bit naughty.

Never again with the chokey door slam... Never again will I be bullied...

And never again will I doubt it when my mummy says I'm a miracle.

Never again.

This Little Girl

But this little girl, this miracle... She seems not to know that she's special at all.

And what sort of teacher would I be, I I let this little girl fall?

I can see this little girl needs somebody strong to fight by her side.

Instead she's found me, pathetic little me, And another door closes, and Jenny's outside.

The Hanmer

Look at these trophies, see how my trophies gleam in the sunlight?

See how they shine?

What do you think it took to become English Hammer Throwing Champion Nineteen sixty nine?

Do you think in that moment when my big moment came

That I treated the rules with casual disdain?

No, no, no, no, no!

*NOTE - there are two versions of the guide vocal recordings for this song. Please feel free to choose whichever version you feel most comfortable singing. The performance track is the same for both versions.

Naughty

Even if you're little, you can do a lot... you mustn't let a little thing like little stop you.

If you sit around and let them get on top, you might as well be saying that you think it's OK and that's not right.

And if it's not right, you have to put it right.

But nobody else is gonna put it right for me, nobody but me is gonna change my story, Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty.

DANCE

- Using the song Revolting Children, show us your best version of movement/dancing.
- It should be 4 counts of 8 (approx :30) from any part of the song that you like!
- Please make sure your video is well lit and we see a full body frame in your video submission.
- Please make sure to state your full name at the beginning of your video.
- Enjoy and show us your personality!

AVAILABLE ROLES

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

A student at school with Matilda.

Amanda

A 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

Classmate of Matilda.

Alice

Classmate of Matilda.

Tommy

Classmate 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 – he's performing for the cheap seats!

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.