

### Audition Packet for Matilda, Jr.

# Thank you for your interest in auditioning for the Our Town Theatre- Northern Outreach inaugural production.

**Production Details:** This year we will be producing *Matilda, Jr.* with actors from grades K-12. The production will take place May 2nd-5th at Friendsville Park and Grantsville Park. An additional preview performance may be added at Our Town Theatre on the weekend of April 27th.

**Rehearsals:** Tentative rehearsal schedule is as follows: January 24-February 28- Wednesdays 4:45-6:30 March 6- 22- Wednesday & Friday rehearsals 4:45-6:30 April/May TBD

<u>Audition Details</u>: The auditions will take place in the Great Hall of Penn Alps at Spruce Village in Grantsville January 17 & 18 from 4:45-6:30 pm. <u>Actors only need to attend</u> <u>one day of auditions.</u>

All actors will be required to sing <u>one</u> of the attached selections: "Naughty", "When I Grow Up", "Revolting Children", "Miracle", or "The Hammer" based on the character they are auditioning for. (If you are auditioning for a non-singing role you will not be required to sing any of these selections.)

Actors will be asked to read for at least one character from the attached sides. (Sides do not need to be memorized but actors will be asked to attempt British accents as all characters in the play are British.)

Finally, brief choreography will be taught at the audition and actors will be asked to demonstrate the choreography in small groups.



# CHARACTER SUMMARY

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, Amanda, Bruce, Alice, Hortensia, Tommy, Lavender, Nigel	Students at the school with Matilda. Different personalities and characters!
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. This is a hilarious supporting role
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. Needs to be able to give this role their all!
Miss Honey	A teacher at Matilda's school. She is kind, generous, and really cares about the children despite her own desperate circumstances. Performer needs to be able to portray Miss Honey's sweetness and her strength.
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. This role must be able to command the stage and embody Trunchbull's larger-than-life villainy.
Rudolpho	Mrs. Wormwood's self-obsessed dance teacher. This is a hilarious featured role for a comedic performer who moves well.
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.

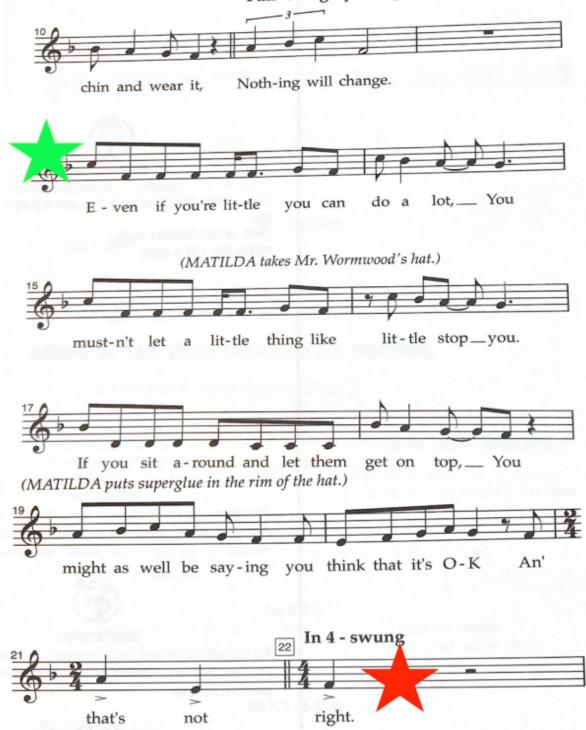


Songs





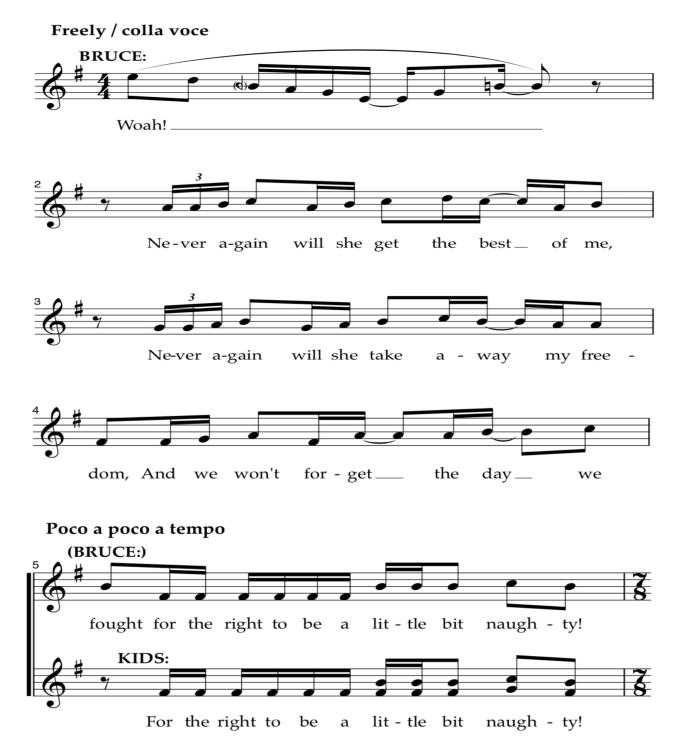
Full "Naughty" tempo



From "Naughty", sung by Matilda



# **REVOLTING CHILDREN**













# From "Miracle", sung by all kids



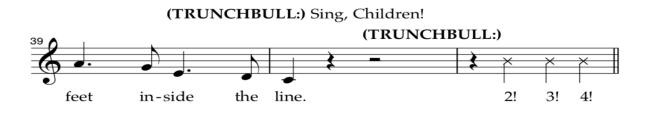


If you want to throw the ham-mer for your count - ry









## From "The Hammer", sung by Trunchbull



#### Matilda:

-Well, I needed to learn to read words so that I could read sentences because basically a sentence is just a big bunch of words. And if you can't read sentences you've got no chance with books.

-Oh Yes. Nigel suffers from a rare but chronic sleeping disorder called narcolepsy. The sufferer falls asleep, often without any warning. We put him under the coats for safety, Didn't we?(kids stare open mouthed)Didn't we?

-Oh yeah. He's always saying "Matilda, I am very proud to have a daughter as..."(a beat) That's not true, Miss honey. He's not proud at all. He calls me a liar and cheat and a nasty little creep.

#### 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?

-I'm not strong like you, Matilda. My father died when I was young. Magnus was his name and he was very kind. But when he was gone, my aunt became my legal guardian. She was mean and cruel like you can hardly imagine.

#### Trunchbull:

-Miss Honey, you believe in kindness and fluffiness and books and stories. That is not teaching. To teach the child, we must first <u>break</u> the child.

-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?

-How dare you! You are not fit to be in this school! You ought to be in prison, in the deepest, dankest, darkest prison! I shall have you wheeled out, strapped to a trolley with a muzzle over your mouth!

#### Mr. Wormwood:

-<u>Very</u> rich, Russian businessmen. Very, very stupid. Your genius husband is going to sell them one hundred and fifty-five old bangers as...brand new luxury cars!

-When suddenly I had the most genius idea in the world! I grabbed a drill and, using my incredible mind, I attached the drill to the speedometer of the first car, turned it on and whacked it in reverse.

-You know what I'm going to do tomorrow? I'm gonna go down that school and tell your teacher you're never to be let in again! And if she does...I'll have her fired! And you will never read another stinking book as long as you live young man!



#### 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.

### Mr. and Mrs. Wormwood

MRS. WORMWOOD Look at this, she's reading a book. That's not normal for a five year old. I think she might be an idiot.

#### MR, WORMWOOD

Stop scaring your mother with that book, boy!

#### MRS. WORMWOOD

And she keeps trying to tell me stories, Harry. Stories? Who wants stories? I mean it's not normal for a girl to be thinking.

#### MR. WORMWOOD

Would you please shut up! I'm trying to pull off the biggest business deal of my life and I have to listen to this. It's your fault, you spend us into trouble and you expect me to get us out. What am I, a flaming escapologist?

#### MRS. WORMWOOD

Escapologist he says. What about me then? I've got a whole house to look after - dinners don't microwave themselves you know! If you're an escapologist I must be an acrobat to balance that lot - the world's greatest acrobat. I am off to bleach my roots and I shan't be talking to you for the rest of the evening you...you horrid little man!