BLP ‘MATILDA JR’ AUDITION PACKET

BLP is *thrilled* to bring the magic of 'Matilda JR.' to our stage, 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!

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.

Our fall programming will teach the theatrical process through production. This program will culminate in a production of the musical comedy 'Matilda JR'. This program will be open to students in grades 5 through grade 11 in high school as of September ‘20.

- Our productions are being creatively designed to adhere to social distancing with masks worn. We are restructuring how we normally do things with our students, but promise a theatrical and educational experience that will be fun and challenging for all.
- This show has been specifically chosen because of our ability to design an experience that will be meaningful but safe.
- Music rehearsals will be conducted via Zoom and will be an at home experience with students recording their vocals to tracks.
- We will be following BLP's new safety protocols (attached here)
- We are currently capping each program at 17 students. Once a program reaches capacity, we will maintain a waiting list. If the waiting list is above ten students we will add a second cast.
- The "online only" option is for students who do not want to be in person for rehearsals, but would still like to join in the fun. They would be able to join us for all zoom music rehearsals and submit recordings of their vocals on an ensemble track which would be featured in the production.
WE WILL BE HOLDING VIRTUAL AUDITIONS FOR ‘MATILDA Jr’. YOU WILL BE ASKED TO SUBMIT AN INITIAL AUDITION VIDEO DUE BY FEBRUARY 27TH. THE PRODUCTION TEAM WILL REVIEW IT AND WILL THEN GET ANY NEEDED CALLBACK MATERIALS TO YOU.

INITIAL AUDITIONS- WHAT TO PREPARE:

VOCAL- Please prepare a video of one of the following, whichever you feel shows off your talents best. Be sure to convey your acting with your singing as this will also count as part of your acting audition. In the video you send please sing with the accompaniment track, we have included the vocal track for you to practice with. Please submit to production@brokenlegproductions.com

**INITIAL AUDITIONS- WHAT TO PREPARE**

- VOCAL TRACK
- ACCOMPANIMENT TRACK
- SHEET MUSIC
  - PLEASE PERFORM MEASURES 2-43
  - SHEET MUSIC IS BELOW

ADDITIONALLY WE ARE ASKING THAT YOU PREPARE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THREE MONOLOGUES.

CALLBACKS:

Once we review your audition video, we will send out what we need from you specifically for callbacks along with sheet music and backing tracks. We’ll also give you a deadline for when we need your callback video by. We may try to use Zoom for some Callback scenework. We may also not need callbacks depending on what is seen from auditions

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO US ANYTIME AT Production@brokenlegproductions.com

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

AT BLP WE ARE COMMITTED TO INCLUSIVITY AND ARE HAPPY TO CONSIDER ANY GENDER, RACE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, ETC FOR ANY ROLE IN THIS PRODUCTION. WE ARE VERY OPEN TO
non-traditional casting in any role. All of the cast will find themselves in exceptional character opportunities worthy of exploration.

**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. Cast a fantastic singer and great actress in this role who can embody both Matilda’s cleverness and her kindness.

**Eric** A student at school with Matilda. He has the very first solo line of the entire show, so make sure to cast a good singer in this role. He also has some featured moments as one of Matilda’s schoolmates, so it’s helpful if Eric is also an expressive actor.

**Amanda** A student at school with Matilda. She has a few solos and lines, but her most featured moment is when Trunchbull throws her through the air using her pigtails. Cast a good singer and mover in this role.

**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 and has some important solos, so cast an excellent singer and actor. Keep in mind that just because Bruce eats the cake, it doesn’t mean he has to be physically larger than the other children – just cast an actor who can portray Bruce’s journey throughout the show.

**Hortensia** Alice, Hortensia, and Tommy are classmates of Matilda who each sing solos, and Hortensia has a few lines. These roles are great for good singers and movers who may be newer to the stage.

**Alice** Alice, Hortensia, and Tommy are classmates of Matilda who each sing solos. These roles are great for good singers and movers who may be newer to the stage.

**Tommy** Alice, Hortensia, and Tommy are classmates of Matilda who each sing solos. These roles are great for good singers and movers who may be newer to the stage.

**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. Cast an actress in this role who can portray Lavender’s likability and friendliness.

**Nigel** One of the kids at school with Matilda. He is enthusiastic, sweet, and always in a bit of a panic. Nigel has a few solos and some great featured moments in the show, so cast a strong actor and singer in this great supporting role.

**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, so cast a fantastic character actor in this role who can really land the comedy and isn’t afraid to play an unlikeable character. It’s helpful if Mr. Wormwood reads as older onstage and makes a dynamic pair with Mrs. Wormwood.

**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. Cast a great actress who can portray Mrs. Wormwood’s nastiness but also play up her ridiculousness and lean into the comedy.
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 for a younger actor with comedic timing, as Michael’s contributions to the scene usually function as deadpan one-liners.

Mrs. Phelps The kindly librarian who loves hearing Matilda’s stories. This is a great featured role for a stronger actress who reads as older than Matilda onstage.

Escapologist A character of Matilda’s creation. Everything this character does is grand and exaggerated—he’s performing for the cheap seats! Cast a solid actor and mover in this fun featured role.

Acrobat A product of Matilda’s imagination. Cast an actor in this featured role that can give their all!

Miss Honey A teacher at Matilda’s school. She is kind, is generous, and really cares about the children despite her own desperate circumstances. Cast an excellent actress and singer who can portray Miss Honey’s sweetness and her strength. It’s helpful if the actress reads as older than the kids from onstage.

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. The Trunchbull can be played by a male or female (though the character is female). It’s helpful if Trunchbull is physically larger than the actors playing children. Cast a fantastic character actor and singer who can 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 cus ter swindled by Mr. Wormwood. Though he shows up looking for payback, Matilda has had quite enough of revenge, and Sergei lets the Wormwoods escape. This is a great featured role for an actor who can embody Sergei’s intimidating presence.

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.

Full synopsis available at mtishows.com
SCENE 12: A PARK

(#34 – WHEN I GROW UP TRANSITION begins.)

WHEN I GROW UP

Swung 2

BRUCE:

When I grow up

I will be tall enough to reach

the branches

That I need to reach
to climb

The trees you get to climb
BRUCE, TOMMY:

And when I grow up

I will be smart enough to answer all the questions that you need to know before you're grown up.

AMANDA, ERIC:

And when I grow up I will eat sweets every day on the way to work and I

AMANDA, ERIC, BRUCE, TOMMY:

And I will go to bed late every night.

AMANDA, ERIC, BRUCE, TOMMY:

And I will wake up when the sun comes up and I will watch cartoons until my eyes go square.

ALICE, ERIC, LAVENDER, NIGEL, AMANDA:

And I won't care cos I'll

HORTENSIA, TOMMY, BRUCE:

When I grow be all grown up

HORTENSIA, TOMMY, BRUCE:

When I grow be all grown up
MATILDA

But that's not right!

MR. WORMWOOD

You're off to school in a few days and I know your headmistress Agatha Trunchbull. I've told her all about you. Scary woman she is, used to compete in the Olympics, throwing the hammer. Imagine what she's going to do to a horrible little goblin like you, boy.

MATILDA

I'm a girl.

MR. WORMWOOD

Now get off to bed you little... bookworm!

(MATILDA goes to her room and picks up a book.)

SCENE 2: MATILDA'S BEDROOM

(#3 - NAUGHTY begins.)

NAUGHTY

Bright, sung:

MATILDA:

Jack and Jill went up the hill to

fetch a pail of water, So they say, The

subsequent fall was inevitable. They

never stood a chance, they were written that way. I

wonder why they didn't just change their story.

We're told we have to do what we're told, but surely...

Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty!

(MATILDA sneaks out of her room and crosses into the hallway.)

Just because you find that life's not fair, it...
doesn't mean that you just have to grin and bear it.

If you always take it on the chin and wear it.

Nothing will change. 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 of you, it might as well be saying you think that it's O.K. and

that's not right. And if it's not right,

You have to put it right. But

no-body else is gonna put it right for me.

No-body but me is gonna change my story.

Some-times you have to be a little bit naughty!

(MATILDA opens a cabinet, taking out the bottle of peroxide.)

(MATILDA)

(reads the bottle)


(picks up another bottle, reads it)

"Oil of Violets Hair Tonic, For Men." Yep.

(She opens the hair tonic and pours peroxide into it. She shakes the bottle, then replaces them both in the cabinet.)

(MATILDA crosses back to her bedroom, triumphant.)