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presents...



ROALD DAHL'S

Matilda

THE MUSICAL

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Roald Dahl's
MATILDA
The Musical

Book
DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics
TIM MINCHIN

Orchestrations & Additional Music by Chris Nightingale

Based on the book, *Matilda* by Roald Dahl

Directed by Keven Renken
Musical Direction by Mary Jo Hahn
Choreography by Asia Folchs

Matilda was first commissioned and produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company and premiered as The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, England on 9 November 2010. It transferred to the Cambridge Theatre in the West End of London on 25 October 2011 and received its US premiere at the Shubert Theatre, Broadway, USA, on 4 March 2013.

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

ROALD DAHL'S MATILDA THE MUSICAL

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com

■ CAST ■

Matilda Wormwood.....Jayden Garner
Miss Agatha Trunchbull Tony Peter Agati
Miss HoneyChristy Adams
Mr. Wormwood.....Jim Gunning
Mrs. Wormwood Lisa Prieto
Michael Wormwood..... Finn Brown
Mrs. Phelps..... Ann K. Lehman
Bruce..... Ian Fan
Lavender.....Justice Butler
Rudolpho/EscapologistDustin Trafton
AmandaAdina Polley
Nigel..... John Knox
EricMalcolm Kruger
Alice.....Gianna Brown
Hortensia Annabelle DePolis
Tommy.....Roman Morrison
Doctor.....Lianne McDonnell-Kruger
Ms. Sergej Caitlein Jayne Jammo
Acrobat.....Sydney Hilton
Ensemble.....Jade Ethier, Annie Elise, Chelsea Smith

■ PRODUCTION TEAM & CREW ■

Orchestrations and Additional MusicChris Nightingale
DirectorKeven Renken
Music Director Mary Jo Hahn
Choreographer.....Asia Jade
Stage Manager..... Tyler Temple
Assistant Stage ManagerRachel Sallustio
Assistant Director.....Zachary Trenkle
Set DesignDrew Eberhard
Costume DesignDevan Bittinger
Lighting DesignerShelby Smotherman
Props Master.....Aaron Land
Sound Daniel Gentry, Robert Curry IV
Lighting Tech Josh Eberhart
CrewCarl Canestrano, Craig Ruska, Erin Ruska,
Culver Casson, Zachary Trenkle, Yuliani Rodriguez

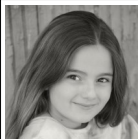
■ SONG LIST ■

Act One

1. Miracle Doctor, Matilda, Kids, Parents, Ensemble
2. Naughty Matilda
3. Acrobat Story I Acrobat, Escapologist
4. School Song Kids
5. Pathetic Miss Honey
6. The Hammer Trunchbull, Kids
7. Naughty Surprise (Superglue) Matilda
8. Chokey Chant Kids
9. Loud Mrs. Wormwood, Rudolpho, Ensemble
10. This Little Girl Miss Honey
11. Acrobat Story II Orchestra
12. Bruce Kids

Act Two

13. All I Know Mr. Wormwood
14. Telly Off & Lavender's Newt Orchestra
15. When I Grow Up Kids, Miss Honey, Matilda
16. I'm So Clever Mr. Wormwood
17. Acrobat Story IV (I'm Here) Escapologist, Matilda
18. The Smell of Rebellion Trunchbull, Matilda,
Miss Honey, Kids
19. Quiet Matilda
20. My House Miss Honey, Escapologist
21. Revolting Children Kids
22. Priyatna Paznakomitsa Ms. Sergei
23. They Had Found Each Other Orchestra
24. Bows Company

**JAYDEN GARNER**

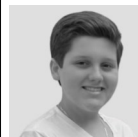
(Matilda) is thrilled to be making her Center debut! She was last seen as Mary Beth in *A Christmas Story* and Young Fiona in *Shrek* at Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theatre. Favorite regional credits: Cheshire Cat in *Alice in Wonderland*, Flounder in *The Little Mermaid* and Shawanda in *Elf*. Jayden is a proud alumni of Broadway Artist Alliance in NYC. Thanks to Mom, Dad, vocal coach Linda Switzer and Keven Renken for this amazing opportunity!

**CHRISTY ADAMS** (Miss Honey)

is excited to return to the stage after her four kids (that are all miracles, of course) convinced her to audition after 18 years of teaching Spanish/ESOL to amazing middle schoolers! When she had extra energy, she played Sandy in *Grease*, Lead Player in *Pippin*, Jack's Mom in *Into the Woods*, and Lt. Cdr. Galloway in *A Few Good Men*. Getting back into this passion with the awesome *Matilda* cast has been a blast!

**TONY PETER AGATI** (Miss Trunchbull)

recently you have seen Tony in *Tony N Tina's Wedding* or in *Titanic* here at the Center. Other Florida credits include Bill Austin in *Mamma Mia!*, 9 to 5, *RIP-CORD!* (Derek), *Sweet Charity* (Herman), *The Odd Couple* (Vinnie), and *Man of La Mancha* (Sancho Panza), *Sweeney Todd* (Pirelli), and *The Producers* (Max Bialystock). Tony would like to especially thank his wife Dawn, son Alex, and the Del Webb Bexley community for their continued support.

**FINN BROWN** (Michael Wormwood/Ensemble)

has always had a passion for singing and acting. He has enjoyed performing with the Community School of the Arts, Patel Conservatory, Corbett Prep Theater Group and St. Lawrence Catholic Church. Some of his favorite roles include *Shrek*, Bruce and as a disciple (Live Stations of the Cross). From singing and acting to creating short films, Finn's talents are versatile and he aspires to reach the Broadway stage. He was honored to have his first experience with the Carrollwood Cultural Cen-

ter in *Matilda* where he hopes to take part in other performance opportunities.

**GIANNA BROWN** (Alice)

has enjoyed her experiences in the local theater with such roles in *Wizard of Oz Jr* (Jitterbug), *Matilda Jr.* (Hortensia) and *Shrek Jr.* (Gingy), she has been honored to work with various casts at Community School of the Arts, Corbett Prep Theater and St. Lawrence Catholic Church. Gianna has a big heart and gives back to her community. She cantors in her church choir, helps those in need by working at the food bank, visits the elderly and cares for her new puppy.

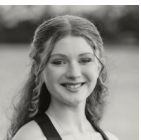
**JUSTICE BUTLER**

(Lavender) is thrilled to bring Lavender to life through her performance at the Center. She has performed as Caroline in the

Hip Hop Nutcracker, various roles in *All Together Now* at St. Petersburg City Theatre and an ensemble member in *Aladdin*. She would like to thank the cast and crew of *Matilda*, her friends and family for their support and also her vocal teacher Michelle for helping her find her voice!

**ANNABELLE DEPOLIS**

(Hortensia) is thrilled to return to the Center stage after performing as Young Sour Kangaroo in *Seussical* last summer. Other recent highlights include the role of Charlotte in DeArmon CAST's *Charlotte's Web* in March, placing second in Heritage Arts Spotlight on Talent 2021, and placing third in the Florida State Fair's Got Talent 2022. Annabelle, now eleven, has been singing, dancing, and acting since the age of four.

**JADE ETHIER** (Ensemble)

is so excited to be a part of this production of *Matilda!* She has been performing in musicals for 5 years and dancing her whole life. Her most recent roles include Chava (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Ms. Honey (*Matilda Jr.*), and Fiona (*Shrek Jr.*). She would like to thank her friends, family, and fellow actors for their support and encouragement.



IAN FAN (Bruce) 9 years old and passionate about performing musicals. He has played Jonathan in *A Christmas Carol* and Billy in *Assassins* in the past year. Ian

loves playing piano, playing hockey, and skiing.



JIM GUNNING (Mr. Wormwood) This is Jim's maiden voyage on the Center's stage. He would like to thank Keven Renken for casting him, the other cast members

for welcoming him and you for coming out to support the arts. Enjoy the show!



SYDNEY HILTON (Acrobat/Ensemble) is a graduate of Pinellas County Center for the Arts now attending SPC, majoring in criminology. She is so excited to be apart of

the ensemble and the part of the Acrobat. In the future she hopes to peruse a career in the arts and to continue singing. She would like to thank her middle school theater teacher Mr. Browning and her volleyball coach, Coach Thompson, for shaping her into the person she is today and for making her stronger. She would also like to thank her family for always being her number one supporters.



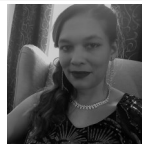
CAITLEIN JAYNE JAMMO (Ms. Sergei/Ensemble) is so excited to be back on the Center stage after being Mrs. Thayer in *Titanic!* Her more recent shows were *Assassins* at MAD Theatre; *I*

Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change at West Coast Players; and *40 Years of Broadway* at Carrollwood Players. She studied theatre and mathematics at UF somehow to end up as a probate and commercial litigation attorney as a partner at Johnson Pope. She thanks her friends and family for all of the love and support they have always shown. Pinky!



JOHN KNOX (Nigel) started in theatre at his school in the musical *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* and was co-stage manager on *The Brothers Grimm Spectacular*.

This is his first community play.



LIANNE MCDONNELL-KRUGER (Doctor/Ensemble) has been in theater for longer than she likes to admit, though usually from the production end rather than the acting side. She is thrilled to return to the Center's stage for the first time in over 10 years. While she has had the pleasure of working with some extraordinary artists, it is very special to be sharing the stage with Malcolm, her personal little miracle.



MALCOLM KRUGER (Eric) is proud to make his debut performance in *Matilda!* He is a soon-to-be third grader at McKittrick Elementary and is currently learning more about art and performance at Center's Summer Arts Camp. He wants to thank his mom, dad, Grammy, Gigi and all his other family and friends who support and encourage him. When he is not singing his heart out, he loves soccer, swimming, and defying expectations.

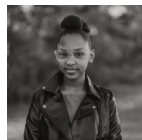


ANN K. LEHMAN (Mrs. Phelps) is excited to make her debut with Center in this wonderful production. She has been involved in theater since grade school (too many years to mention). Some favorite roles include Mrs Medlock in *The Secret Garden*, Sister Hubert in *Nunsense*, Aunt Eller in *Oklahoma*. She sends special thanks to her boys, Max and Bubba for putting up with hours away from home. Love you guys!



ANNIE ELISE (Ensemble) is pleased that you are attending today's (hopefully) exceptional performance on *Matilda*. Her past credits include *Cabaret* (Kit Kat Girl)

at Francis Wilson Playhouse and *Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead* (Van's Sister) at CWP. She would like to dedicate her performance to her Godfather, who encourages her from beyond to throw all of her passion into every performance. She hopes you enjoy the show and remember to tip your waiters.



ROMAN MORRISON (Tommy) is a member of the National Elementary Honors Society, and has maintained Principal's Honor Roll annually. Roman has been cast in

Beauty and the Beast Jr and *Legally Blonde Jr* with Tampa Bay's Triple Threat Theatre. In her spare time, Roman loves traveling and spending time with family and friends.



ADINA POLLEY (Amanda) is thrilled to be performing in *Matilda* for her debut with the Center. Adina has previously played Jojo in *Seussical Jr.* and Young Simba in *Lion*

King Jr. Adina has also performed in *Moana Jr.*, *Aladdin Jr.* and *Elf Jr.* Adina recently completed the 5th grade at Starkey Ranch K-8 where she studies Musical Theater. She enjoys dancing, singing, and traveling. Adina is grateful for the opportunity to play Amanda.



LISA PRIETO (Mrs. Wormwood) last appeared at the Center in *It's a Wonderful Life* as Mary Bailey. Favorite "loud" roles elsewhere in Tampa Bay include Snow

White in *Disenchanted!*; Lucy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*; Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes*; and Betty in *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*. A lifelong fan of Roald Dahl's books, Lisa's favorites include "Matilda," "The BFG," and "The Witches." Love to Fernando!



CHELSEA SMITH (Ensemble) is returning to the wonderful world of theatre in this performance of *Matilda* at the Center. Chelsea is an alumna of Pinellas County Center for

the Arts with her first two years in the Musical Theatre program, finishing off with violin in the Music Program. Chelsea has not been a stranger to the stage since that time, only performing music with her violin, ukulele, and voice. Chelsea is a full-time private music instructor and performer. In addition to her solo act, Chelsea is a part of the local Celtic Band North of Argyll, filling in for fiddle and bass guitar.



DUSTIN TRAFTON (Rudolpho/Escapologist/Ensemble) is ecstatic to be playing Rudolpho in the Center's production of *Matilda*! Dustin graduated from Gibbs

High School, and is currently attending college at Lees-McRae College in North Carolina. He has performed as Brother Jeremiah in Gibb's Production of *Something Rotten!* and most recently was Mr. Hart at Lees-McRae's production of *9 to 5*.

He wants to thank his family and friends for their continued support.



KEVEN RENKEN (Director) is making his directorial debut at the Carrollwood Cultural Center. He has acted and directed in the Tampa Bay area for more than 35 years.

He recently retired from teaching at the Pinellas County Center for the Arts, where he was the chairman of the theatre department. His debut novel, "Welcome to the Day," came out in 2019 and was a finalist for five independent book awards. He lives in Tampa with his husband Bill.



MARY JO HAHN (Music Director) Mary Jo is a buckeye at heart, where she attended Ohio University majoring in Music Education. Musical Theatre is one of her loves for children and adults!

She has been the music director for many musicals at the Center! She is thrilled to be joining the Cast, Keven, and Asia on this journey.



ASIA JADE (Choreographer)

Asia Jade is so honored to have choreographed her first, full show! Asia recently graduated from Gibbs High School in Musical Theatre and

is pursuing writing and theatre in the UK this fall. Asia cherishes every moment she spends teaching and would like to give a big thank you to the kids, the rest of the cast and crew, as well as Mr. Renken, for so graciously giving her this opportunity. She hopes you all enjoy the show!



TYLER TEMPLE (Stage Manager)

This is Tyler's 10th project at the Center! He is a Tampa Bay native and holds a BA in Theatre Arts from USF. Selected stage management credits: *Titanic*, *Seussical*, *The Parchman Hour* (the Center); *tick, tick... BOOM!* (Spanish Lyric Theatre); *21st Century Voices: New Play Festival* (American Stage); *Aida*, *A Doll's House* (Carrollwood Players). He thanks his mom and friends for their never-ending love and support.



RACHEL SALLUSTIO (Ass't

Stage Manager) Rachel is very excited to be involved with her second show here at the Center! Past theatre credits include *Titanic* (Ass't Stage Manager), *Man of La Mancha* (Stage Man-

ager), and *The Producers* (Stage Manager). She is so grateful for this opportunity and would like to thank her friends and newfound family at the Center for the support.

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DENNIS KELLY (Book) work for theatre includes *Debris*, *Osama the Hero*, *After the End*, *Love and Money*, *Taking Care of Baby*, *DNA*, *Orphans*, *The Gods Weel*, and *The Ritual Slaughter of George Mastro-mas*. He has written the book for the new musical *Pinocchio* which opened at the National Theatre at the end of 2017, and in 2018 his new play *Girls and Boys* opened at the Royal Court. His plays have been performed worldwide and to date have been translated into nearly forty languages. For television he co-wrote and co-created *Pulling* and wrote and created *Utopia*. For film, he wrote the screenplay for *Black Sea*, directed by Kevin MacDonal. He also wrote the book for the Olivier and Tony winning *Matilda the Musical*. In 2010, DNA became a set text on the GCSE English Literature syllabus.

TIM MINCHIN (Music & Lyrics) is an Australian musician, comedian, composer, actor, writer, and director. He has toured extensively in the US, UK, and Australia

performing solo, with bands, and with symphony orchestras. He's released five DVD's, he most recent recorded with the Heritage Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall. He is the composer lyricist of two hit West End/Broadway musicals, *Matilda* and *Groundhog Day*, both of which won the Olivier Award for Best West End Musical and garnered nominations for Best Score and Best Musical in Broadway's Tony Awards. Minchin wrote, produced and starred in the Sky Atlantic/Foxtel TV series, *Upright*, in 2019. Other screen-acting credits include Atticus Fetch in *Season 6 of Californication*, a Logie Award-winning Smasher Sullivan in the ABC's *Secret River*, and Friar Tuck in Lionsgate's *Robin Hood* reboot. Stage highlights include *Judas* in the UK/Australian Arena tour of *Jesus Christ Superstar* in 2012, and *Rosencrantz* in the Sydney Theatre Company's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* the following year. He has published two books: the graphic novel, "Storm", and the illustrated childrens' book, "When I Grow Up". He is a member of the Order of Australia, a philanthropist and a mediocre juggler.

ROALD DAHL (1916—1990) was the author of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," "Matilda," "The BFG," and many more of the world's best-loved children's stories. He remains one of the world's greatest author-based event, Roald Dahl Day—which is recognized across the globe on 13th September. His first children's story, "James and the Giant Peach," published in 1961 and was a huge hit. Every subsequent book became a best-seller. Today his stories are available in 59 languages and, by a conservative estimate, he has sold more than 250 million books. Many of these stories have also been adapted for stage and screen, including the 1971 film classic *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, Wes Anderson's acclaimed *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and the Royal Shakespeare Company's multi-award winning production of *Matilda The Musical*.

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■ A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR ■

To me, there are two major takeaways from both the novel and musical versions of Matilda (I must confess to not having seen the 1996 movie):

1. The human spirit can be incredibly resilient of given half a chance.
2. There is something so very freeing about learning, about knowledge, about the opening of the mind up to information.

To number one: there is no denying that this young child is in an untenable (dare we even say abusive) family situation. But she is so strong, so resourceful—she ends up tapping into reserves of power and strength she didn't even know she has in order to save herself. True, she is also aided by a kind, caring, compassionate adult (rumor has it that such a creature does still exist). But when it comes down to it, she, in large part, saves herself. And that is because of number two. She is smart. She is brave. She is like a sponge the way she soaks up knowledge. She has what a number of other people around her don't have. She has information and the desire to learn. And she is never alone, she is never totally unprotected, if she has that. So I hope you see, as I do, what an amazing literary creation Matilda is (and thank you for coming to see our version ahead of the Netflix film, coming out this December). And thank you so much for supporting local theatre—keep up the good work on that front. There are more people to thank than I could possibly have room for here, but there is one person who deserves special mention, always and forever—and that is my husband Bill. He continues to be the best part of who I am.

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