

Matilda Lead Character Descriptions

Audition sides & songs will be on our website by Thurs. Feb. 12 for any students interested.

Audition Prep night is Tues. February 17, followed by auditions on February 18.

Callbacks are March 3 and 4. Listed below are all characters with a brief description.

Please read through them all, and **choose one or two roles** YOU are interested in auditioning for.

We encourage you to GO FOR IT!! All kids should work on their English dialect.

Most Lead roles are much more demanding of your time and require work at home, so please consider the extra time on Wed. evenings BEFORE you choose to audition.

Please note-Some lead roles are only in a few scenes. Feel free to ask Elizabeth about some of the smaller roles if you are interested in attending "some" Wed. evenings.

*Matilda & her 8 Classmates will have rehearsal EVERY Wed. night & are busy throughout the show.

- ❖ **Matilda Wormwood**-(appears age 8-11) Must be grades 4-7th to audition. An imaginative girl who is clever and wise far beyond her years. She has a thirst for learning, and is likable, not annoying or pretentious. She is endearing, honest, understated, humble and unassuming, but with a prankster streak and a strong sense of justice. She has many lines to memorize, monologues, speaks with a dialect, & sings many songs such as "Naughty" "Quiet", "When I Grow Up". *On stage most of the show*
- ❖ **Lavender**-(appears age 8-11, female). Must be grades 4-7th to audition. Matilda's classmate and best friend. Lavender is loud and quirky, with a fun, big personality. She is bubbly, charismatic, exuberant, full of energy, spirited, and cheerful. What she lacks in intelligence she makes up for in enthusiasm and friendliness. She has important lines, solos in the opening song "Miracle" and others, as well as featured dance moments. She is the one who sticks the large newt into Ms Trunchbull's drinking glass, which sends her into a frenzy. She is the one who sings the "*precious barrelina*" in Miracle.
- ❖ **Amanda- (female, 3rd -5th gr.)** She is known as "the girl with the pigtails". Matilda's classmate who has important lines, solos or duets in the opening song "Miracle" and others, as well as featured dance moments. Amanda is a "good girl", more petite, innocent, wholesome, and obedient to the rules. She may be doing a stunt with Ms. Trunchbull, flying around. Do not audition for this role if that scares you.
- ❖ **Alice**-(female, age 8-12) Must be grades 4-8th to audition. Strong and bold actress. Matilda's classmate who is scrappy, tough, courageous, willing to fight back. She has important lines and duets in the opening song Miracle, Revolting Children, and others, as well as featured dance moments.
- ❖ **Hortensia**- (female, appears age 8-12,). Must be grades 4-8th to audition She is known as "the feisty one", who has already had many battles with Ms. Trunchbull. Matilda's classmate who is older, wiser, and has the battle scars to prove it. She is tough, smart, cunning, and is the one who warns Matilda and Lavender about The Chokey". She has important lines and duets in the opening song Miracle, Revolting Children, and others, as well as featured dance moments.
- ❖ **Bruce**- (male, appears age 9-12,). Must be grades 5-8th to audition. Matilda's classmate who is subject to punishment by Ms. Trunchbull. Bruce is a genuine, kind boy who likes sweets, and stares down a giant chocolate cake, and "The Trunchbull", and lived to tell the tale. His spirit is broken by Ms. Trunchbull, but he bounces back stronger than ever. He proves that even the most impossible punishment can be overcome with enough determination. He has a specific pop/rock style in his voice, important lines, solos and duets in Miracle, Revolting Children, others, and featured dance moments.
- ❖ **Tommy**- (male, appears age 9-12) Must be grades 5-8th to audition. Matilda's classmate who is the anxious realist, and usually expects the worst, and is often right. He is the first to freeze up when Ms Trunchbull storms in, representing the constant state of fear the students live in. He has important lines, sings in Miracle, Revolting Children, and others, as well as featured dance moments.
- ❖ **Eric**- (male, appears age 9-12) Must be grades 4-8th to audition. The pint-sized recruit. He is cute, and smaller than the others, and gets tossed around, but bounces back with surprising resilience. He proves you don't have to be big to be brave. Matilda's classmate who has important lines, sings in Miracle, Revolting Children, and others, as well as featured dance moments.

- ❖ **Nigel-** male, appears age 9-12) Must be grades 5-8th to audition. The frantic survivalist. He lives in fear of unpolished shoes and dirty hands. He is high-energy, neurotic, and the first to sound the alarm when trouble is coming. One of Matilda's closer friends (classmate) at school who has important lines, sings in *Miracle*, *Revoluting Children*, and others, as well as featured dance moments.
- ❖ **Michael Wormwood-** (male, age 13-18- C or D group) Matilda's older brother. He is not very bright and is favored by their parents. He is a deadpan comedic actor. He is the "golden child" in his parents eyes, despite having the personality of a damp sponge. He is slow-witted and constantly exhausted by doing absolutely nothing. The challenge here is playing a character that is hilariously dim and rude, without being boring. He is the opposite of Matilda's brilliance. No singing required for this role.
- ❖ **Miss Trunchbull-(D group male or female)** Kyle will be playing this role as well. Headmistress at *Crunchem Hall* Primary School who despises children. She is Miss Honey's Aunt. Once a famous athlete, she is described as a fierce tyrannical monster who marches like a storm trooper. Cruel, sly and conniving strong character actor with an imposing presence. The character presents as a female, but is usually played by a male. A physical character actor who sings many songs, and has many important lines, monologues, solos, and some featured dance movement in a song or two.
- ❖ **Miss Honey-** (D group girl- appears age 20-30) Matilda's kindhearted teacher who is adored by every child in her care, and is secretly Ms. Trunchbull's niece. She is tired of living in fear, and is sweet, honest, caring and intelligent. Miss Honey is timid but willing to become brave and stand up to bullies in order to protect her students. She has many important lines, monologues, and a few beautiful ballads to sing. Must be a strong singer, and strong enough actor to make the role truly compelling. Sings "Pathetic", "My House", "This Little Girl", and others throughout the musical.
- ❖ **Mrs. Wormwood-** (D group girl- playing age 30-40) Matilda's self-absorbed negligent mother and amateur ballroom dancer. She is obsessed with her dancing partner, Rudolpho, and her looks. Like her husband, she thinks very little of Matilda's unique abilities and is very rude to Matilda. She is as ***loud*** as her makeup and dress sense, as she is in her voice. She must have strong comedic timing. She has many lines, sings a belty song "Loud" and "Miracle", and will have featured dance moments.
- ❖ **Mr. Wormwood-**(D group male- playing age 30-40) Matilda's uncaring father. A slimy, greedy used-car salesman crook. He is unintentionally hilarious! Strong character actor, with a strong "over the top" personality. He is not a nice person, but not in any angry way- more of an ignorant clown type. Must be a strong actor and able to show physical comedy. He sings a section of "All I know" at the top of Act 2.
- ❖ **Mrs. Phelps:** (D group girl- playing age 25-35) Warm and nurturing local Librarian who encourages Matilda's love of reading. She has an inner peace, and does not sing any songs, yet has many important lines and scenes throughout the musical.
- ❖ **Doctor** (C or D group male) Mrs. Wormwoods Doctor, when she goes into labor with Matilda. He sings "Miracle" and is a high tenor, whaling on a high A in this fun, up-tempo song with backups. He values children and the joy they bring into the world. He is very expressive, and passionate when he sings.
- ❖ **Children's Entertainer :**(D group male playing age 20-25) The party entertainer at the start of the show who sings a great solo in "Miracle". (Baritone)
- ❖ **Rudolpho-** (D group male playing age 20-30) Mrs. Wormwood's ballroom dance partner. Should be genuinely fit and athletic. A comedic character actor with strong comedic timing and a flair for physical comedy. Strong Dancer with Ballroom Dancing ability. He sings duets on "Loud" with Mrs. Wormwood.
- ❖ **The Escapologist)-**(D group male) The male character in the stories that Matilda tells to Mrs. Phelps who comes to life in their imagination. He also sings a few short solos in the stories, and a duet with Matilda in one of her stories. (Baritone/tenor)
- ❖ **The Acrobat:** (C or D group female) The female character in the stories that Matilda tells to Mrs. Phelps who comes to life in their imagination. She sings a few short solos in a story. (alto/mezzo sop)
- ❖ **The School Cook:** (C group male or female) They bring the full chocolate cake to Bruce to eat. Audition for another lead role- no auditions needed
- ❖ **Sergei:** (D group male) A Russian Mafia Boss who is physically intimidating. He speaks with a Russian dialect. He sings one small section at the end of the show to Matilda.

- ❖ **Sergei's Henchmen:** (D group males) They work for Sergei, the Russian Mafia Boss- and will do anything to protect Matilda. Audition for another lead role- no auditions needed
- ❖ **Mums & Dads-** (D group kids) 4-8 Couples that sing duets together in the opening song, "Miracle" and have extra singing/dancing/movement. Audition for another lead role- no auditions needed
- ❖ **A group lead-** (male) Will be featured in one of the songs with Matilda. No auditions in March, but we will see who is prepared on their ensemble songs & dances in mid-April. TBA in a few months.
- ❖ **A group lead-** (female) Will be featured in one of the songs with Matilda. No auditions in March, but we will see who is prepared on their ensemble songs & dances in mid-April. TBA in a few months.

Due to the fact that this is our FIRST TIME doing this BRAND NEW musical, we apologize that there is only one role available for the A group girls. They will have SO MUCH to learn for ensemble, and a lot of prep time needed at home to keep up the new dances, songs, lyrics, harmonies & difficult rhythms.

The 8 Classmates (Lavender, Amanda, Alice, Hortensia, Bruce, Tommy, Eric and Nigel) will have a lot of work (and FUN) ahead of them. Please make sure you are not doing too many other activities, and can give 100% to the show IF you choose to try out for any of those big roles, or Matilda.

We will call them The 8 Mates!

****For those that play the 8 Mates-** IF you are a 7 or 8th grader (C group), or possible 3rd grader (A grp) that may play the role of Amanda- you will ALSO need to come to the B group ensemble rehearsals on Mondays at 6:30, as well as your own group. This will start after the casting process is complete.*

There are no Dance Troops needed for this show. Ensemble dances, and new rhythms in weird time signatures will be enough for our B, C, and D groups.