The Upper School Theatre Department at The St. Paul's Schools is proud to announce auditions for our fall musical…

August 24-25, 2020
12:00-4:15 p.m.

Inspired by the twisted genius of Roald Dahl, the Tony Award-winning Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical is the captivating masterpiece from the Royal Shakespeare Company that revels in the anarchy of childhood, the power of imagination and the inspiring story of a girl who dreams of a better life. With book by Dennis Kelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, Matilda has won 47 international awards and continues to thrill sold-out audiences of all ages around the world.

Matilda is a little girl with astonishing wit, intelligence and psychokinetic powers. She's unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Over the course of her first term at school, Matilda and Miss Honey have a profound effect on each other's lives, as Miss Honey begins not only to recognize but also appreciate Matilda's extraordinary personality. 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!

Auditions are open to all rising SP/SPSG 9th-12th graders.

Those auditioning will sign up for one 2-hour time slot. Sign Up HERE.

Auditioners will be expected to perform…

- **16-32 bars of a contemporary musical theatre song (*not* from the show)**
- **one short memorized monologue (from the selections below)**
- **dance sequence: 8 counts of 8 (taught at the audition)**

Auditioners are encouraged (*but not required*) to be able to perform their songs to the best of their ability without music in hand. Monologues must be memorized. All those auditioning will participate in the vocal and dance portions; please wear appropriate clothing and footwear for choreography. Please bring marked sheet music in the correct key to your audition and a resume (if you have one). Audition sheets will be available prior to and at the audition. Please have a list of any conflicts (*including after school and weekend commitments*).

FALL MUSICAL AUDITION WORKSHOP – May 21, 2020

Those auditioning are encouraged to participate in our Fall Musical Audition Workshop on May 21, 2020. The workshop will focus on selecting and preparing audition material, mastering choreography audition basics and learning acting and cold reading techniques. To register, please click HERE.

**The workshop is open to ALL rising current or future SP/SPSG 9th-12th graders.*

Looking for more ways to strengthen your skills before auditions this summer? Check out the opportunities below:

MUSICAL THEATRE INTENSIVES (www.spsfg.org/summer) **| Upper School: July 27-31 | 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.**
Five-day co-ed programs focused on providing actors with strong performance-technique fundamentals in musical theatre.

THE DANCE CONSERVATORY AT ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Contact our choreographer and TDC Director, Mrs. Rhodes, for information about dance classes this summer: nrhodes@spsfg.org

PRIVATE VOICE LESSONS
Working with a private voice coach is a great way to help you learn about vocal health, techniques and exercises to strengthen your instrument. There are many terrific vocal coaches around the area. Feel free to contact us for suggestions!

Click HERE to sign up to AUDITION.

For more information, contact Christina Kemmerer, Upper School Theatre Director
ckemmerer@stpaulsmd.org

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

MATILDA WORMWOOD: An intense, clever, and imaginative young girl. She has a thirst for learning and is willing to break rules for the greater good. Mezzo Soprano: A3 to D5

MR. WORMWOOD: Matilda's cruel father. A sleazy, scheming used car salesman who loves his television. Baritone: D3 to A4

MRS. WORMWOOD: Matilda's mother - Obsessed with her amateur Ballroom dancing partner and her looks. She thinks little of Matilda's unique abilities. She is as loud in her makeup and dress sense as she is in her voice. Mezzo Soprano: A3 to F5

MICHAEL WORMWOOD: Matilda's older, monosyllabic brother. He is not very bright and favored by their parents. Role calls for deadpan comedy and the ability to create character with much stage time and few words.

MISS AGATHA TRUNCHBULL: The bullying headmistress of Matilda's school, who uses her former discipline as an Olympic shot-put champion to terrorize her 'maggot' students. Baritone: A2 to G4

MISS HONEY: Matilda's kindhearted teacher. A mild, quiet person who never raises her voice and seldom seems to smile. She is adored by every child under her care. Mezzo Soprano: F3 to D5

The Little Kids in Matilda's classroom: General VOCAL RANGE: C4-E5

- BRUCE BOGTROTTER: Matilda's classmate. He is subject to extreme punishment by Miss Trunchbull. Vocal range: C4 to E5
- LAVENDER GLOTTLESTOP: Matilda's loud & kooky friend. She has a big personality & likes to have fun. Vocal Range: C4 to F5
- AMANDA THRIPP The girl with the pigtails.
- NIGEL One of Matilda's closer friends at school.
- ERIC The cute, small one…
- ALICE The strong, bold one…
- TOMMY The anxious one…
- HORTENSIA Already a feisty 10, veteran of many Trunchbull battles.

THE BIG KIDS: Bigger in stature than the little kids. These are the older, tougher students at school (*strong singing and dancing skills required*).

MRS. PHELPS: Warm and nurturing local librarian who encourages Matilda's love of reading.

THE ESCAPOLOGIST: A character in the story Matilda tells to Mrs. Phelps who comes to life in their imagination. Baritone: C3 to E4

THE ACROBAT: Beloved wife of the Escapologist in Matilda's story. Alto, Mezzo Soprano: D4 to A4

RUDOLPHO: Mrs. Wormwood's ballroom dance partner. Not quite Italian. Tenor: D#3 to A4

DOCTOR: Mrs. Wormwood's obstetrician when she goes into labor with Matilda. Tenor, Alto: C3 to A4

SERGEI: A Russian Mafia Boss who is physically intimidating, with an accomplished Russian dialect. Baritone.

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER: A party entertainer at the start of the show. Alto, Tenor: F#3 to Eb4

OTHER ROLES: PARENTS, HOSPITAL STAFF, SCHOOL COOK, SERGEI's HENCHMEN, SCHOOL CHILDREN

MONOLOGUES

Please choose ONE short monologue to present at your audition.

MRS. WORMWOOD *(Who is annoying and arrogant in every possible way)*
Look, is this going to take much longer, Doctor, I've got a plane to catch at three. I'm competing in the bi-annual international amateur Salsa and Ballroom Dancing Championships in Paris. I always compete, doctor. And this time I have a secret weapon: Rudolpho. He's part Itallian, you know. Very supple. And he has incredible upper body strength.

DOCTOR *(Who has just told Mrs. Wormwood that she is 9 months pregnant)*
A baby, Mrs. Wormwood! A child, the most precious gift that the natural world can bestow has been handed to you! A brand new human being, a life, a person, a wonderful new person is about to come into your life to bring love and magic and happiness and wonder!

NIGEL *(Who has been wrongly accused of playing a prank on Miss Trunchbull)*
Hide me! Someone poured a whole can of treacle onto Trunchbull's chair! She sat down and when she got up her knickers stayed stuck to the seat! Someone told her I did it but I never did and now she's after me! Oh Matilda ... they're saying she's going to put me in Chokey! They say it's a cupboard in her office that she throws children into. They say she's lined it with nails and spikes and bits of broken glass ... please don't tell her where I am!

LAVENDER *(Who is speaking to the audience)*
Hello. I'm Lavender by the way. Matilda's best friend. There's a bit coming up that's all about me. Well, not exactly about me, but I play a big part in it. But I'm not gonna say what happens because I don't want to spoil it for you. *(Pause)* Alright, look, what I do is I volunteer to get the Trunchbull a jug of water. And then ... Not! I don't want to tell you any more because I don't want to ruin it! *(Pause)* Well on the way back I find a newt. A newt is like a really ugly lizard that lives in water, so I pick it up and - No! I will not say any more! *(Pause)* I'm going to put the newt in the Trunchbull's jug! It's going to be brilliant!

TRUNCHBULL *(Who has just been challenged by Matilda)*
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! I shall crush you! I shall pound you, I shall dissect you madam! I shall strap you to a table and perform experiments on you. I tell you that there is nothing that I shall not do, no length to which I shall not go, no punishment I shall not inflict, no ear I shall not stretch, no fingers I shall not snap back to defeat you! In me you have met the avenger, the spirit of all that is right! And I shall I defeat you in exultation, do you hear?

MR. WORMWOOD *(Who is criticizing Matilda, as usual)*
Fair does not get you anywhere, you thick-headed twit-brain! All I can say is thank heavens Michael has inherited his old man's brains. This is your fault! With your stupid books and your stupid reading! I tell you something, you're off to school in a few days time and you're in for a surprise. I know your headmistress Agatha Trunchbull, and I've told her all about you and your smarty pants ideas. Great big strong scary women she is, used to compete in the Olympics, throwing the hammer. Imagine what she's going to do to a horrible, squeaky little goblin like you! Now get off to bed you little bookworm!

MRS. PHELPS *(Who is eagerly awaiting the next chapter of Matilda's story)*
Your parents must be so proud to have a girl as clever as you. And do you tell them lots of stories like you do with me? Oh, I love your stories Matilda. And that's not a hint, by the way. But if you wanted to finish the story you were telling me the other day ... what happens next Matilda?!? Oh, I can't wait to hear what happens next! I don't know if my nerves can take it, but Matilda you must tell me how it ends! I know your story made me cry last time, but it's not because it's sad. It's just that they want that child so very much. It must be wonderful for a child to be so wanted. Oh please tell me how it ends. Matilda! I can't wait until tomorrow!

MISS HONEY *(Who has come up with a plan to challenge Matilda's incredible mind)*
Matilda could I speak to you please? I'm afraid I have not been so successful in getting others to recognize your ... abilities. So, 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 *(Who is telling a story to Mrs. Phelps)*
Once upon a time the two greatest circus performers in the world - an escapologist, who could escape form any lock that was ever invented, and an acrobat, who was so skilled it seemed as if she could actually fly - fell in love and got married. They performed some of the most incredible feats together anyone has ever seen and people would come from miles around; kings, queens, celebrities and astronauts. And not just to see their skill, but also to see their love for each other, which was so deep that it was said that cats would purr as they passed them and dogs would weep with joy.

MATILDA *(Who is tricking Miss Trunchbull and making this all up on the spot)*
I know where Nigel is Miss Trunchbull. He's over there under those coats. Where he's been for the last hour actually. You see unfortunately, Nigel suffers from the rare but chronic sleep disorder, narcolepsy. The condition is characterized by the sufferer experiencing bouts of chronic fatigue and falling suddenly asleep, often without knowing or any warning at all. You see he fell asleep and we put him in the coats for safety. He'll probably think he's in bed when he wakes up.