



ROALD DAHL'S

Matilda

THE MUSICAL

2020
SEASON

MUSICAL

PRODUCTION NUMBER 224

Feb. 21 — THROUGH — Apr. 11

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PROUDLY PRESENTS

ROALD DAHL'S Matilda THE MUSICAL

BOOK BY: *Dennis Kelly* • MUSIC & LYRICS: *Tim Minchin* • ORCHESTRATIONS & ADDITIONAL MUSIC: *Chris Nightingale*
Matilda was first commissioned and produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company and premiered at 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.

STARRING

Kelsey Plewe • Mia Stevenson • Marshall Madsen • Scott Rollins
 Kenzie Davis • Brandalee Bluth Streeter

SUPPORTING

Corinne Adair • Suzie Balser • Jeremy Egan • Wade Robert Johnson • Andy Loveridge
 Shawnda Moss • Tannah O'Banion • Ben Parkes • Malcolm Smith • Tanner Sumens

FEATURING

Brooklyn Allison • Evan K. Beesley • Blake Burnham • Parker Burnham • Seren Carter • Savannah Cobb
 Olivia Dayton • Kelsey Fairchild • Libby Gardiner • Kelsey Harrison • Afton Grace Higbee • Cade Hixson
 Nathan Holbrook • Aimee Johnson • Yunnice Kim • Spencer Manning • Clara McCarter • Asher Reynolds
 Emily Runyan • Seth Sherman • Grant Westcott • Luke Widdison

DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER
 Ashley Gardner Carlson

MUSIC DIRECTOR
 DeLayne Bluth Dayton

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
 Meagan M. Downey

DIALECTS
 Dianna Graham

PRODUCTION MANAGER & LIGHTING DESIGN
 Joseph Governale

COSTUME DESIGN
 Peter Terry

SET DESIGN, TECHNICAL DIRECTION, & SOUND DESIGN
 Cole McClure

SCENIC ASSISTANTS
 Anthony Bouge
 Lori McClure

SCENIC ARTISTS
 Anthony Bouge
 Makenzie Phillips
 Dorothy Phillips (age 5)
 Ada Phillips (age 3)
 Nora Hagen (age 7)

HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN
 Janna Larsen

PROPERTIES
 Linda Hale

MASTER CARPENTER
 Bobby Swenson

COSTUME DIRECTOR
 Anne Swenson


TECHNICIANS
 Ryan Fallis
 Richie Trimble

CUTTER / DRAPER
 Jessica Barksdale

ASSISTANT HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN
 Melinda Wilks
 Bekah Wilbur

ASSISTANT PROPERTIES
 Cody Hale

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 • The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.



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◇ CAST OF CHARACTERS ◇

MATILDA WORMWOOD	Mia Stevenson (MWF) • Kelsey Plewe (TTtS)
MISS AGATHA TRUNCHBULL	Marshall Madsen (MWF) • Scott Rollins (TTtS)
MISS HONEY	Brandalee Bluth Streeter (MWF) • Kenzie Davis (TTtS)
MR. WORMWOOD	Ben Parkes (MWF) • Wade Robert Johnson (TTtS)
MRS. WORMWOOD	Suzie Balser* (MWF) • Corinne Adair (TTtS)
MICHAEL WORMWOOD / COOK	Malcolm Smith (MWF) • Andy Loveridge (TTtS)
MRS. PHELPS / CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER / NURSE	Shawnda Moss (MWF) • Tannah O'Banion (TTtS)
MAN 1 / RUDOLPHO / THE ESCAPOLOGIST / DOCTOR	Jeremy Egan (MWF) • Tanner Sumens (TTtS)
MAN 2 / SERGEI	Spencer Manning (MWS) • Nathan Holbrook (TTtF)
MAN 3 / HENCHMAN	Seth Sherman (MTtF) • Evan K. Beesley (TWS)
WOMAN 1 / HENCHWOMAN	Kelsey Harrison (MWF) • Yunnice Kim (TTtS)
WOMAN 2 / THE ACROBAT	Kelsey Fairchild (MWF) • Brooklyn Allison (TTtS)
WOMAN 3	Savannah Cobb (MWF) • Emily Runyan (TTtS)
TOMMY	Asher Reynolds (MWF) • Luke Widdison (TTtS)
BRUCE	Blake Burnham (MTF) • Grant Westcott (WTtS)
NIGEL	Parker Burnham (MTF) • Cade Hixson (WTtS)
LAVENDER	Olivia Dayton (MWF) • Aimee Johnson (TTtS)
HORTENSIA	Afton Grace Higbee (MWF) • Libby Gardiner (TTtS)
AMANDA	Seren Carter (MWF) • Clara McCarter (TTtS)

◇

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◇ SCENE SYNOPSIS ◇

ACT I

SCENE 1: Birthday Party / Doctor's Office

- **Miracle**—*Children, Entertainer, Doctor, Mrs. Wormwood, Mr. Wormwood, Matilda, Ensemble*

SCENE 2: Wormwood Home

- **Naughty**—*Matilda*

SCENE 3: Library

- **Acrobat Story I**—*Matilda, Acrobat, Escapologist*

SCENE 4: School Gates

- **School Song**—*Children*

SCENE 5: Classroom / Outside Trunchbull's Office

- **Pathetic**—*Miss Honey*

SCENE 6: Trunchbull's Office

- **The Hammer**—*Miss Trunchbull, Miss Honey, Children*

SCENE 7: Wormwood Home

- **Naughty (Reprise)**—*Matilda*

SCENE 8: Playground

- **Chokey Chant**—*Children*

SCENE 9: Wormwood Motors

SCENE 10: Wormwood Home

- **Loud**—*Mrs. Wormwood, Rudolpho, Ensemble*

SCENE 11: Street Outside Wormwood Home

- **This Little Girl**—*Miss Honey*

SCENE 12: Library

- **Acrobat Story II**—*Matilda, Mrs. Phelps, Escapologist*

SCENE 11: Classroom

- **Bruce**—*Children*

ACT II

SCENE 1: Intermission

- **All I Know**—*Mr. Wormwood & Michael Wormwood*

SCENE 2: Playground

- **When I Grow Up**—*Children, Miss Honey, Matilda*

SCENE 3: Library

- **Acrobat Story III**—*Matilda, Acrobat, Escapologist*

SCENE 4: Wormwood Home

- **I'm So Clever**—*Mr. Wormwood*
- **Acrobat Story IV (I'm Here)**—*Matilda & Escapologist*

SCENE 5: Playground / Classroom

- **The Smell of Rebellion**—*Miss Trunchbull, Miss Honey, Children*
- **Quiet**—*Matilda*

SCENE 6: Miss Honey's Cottage

- **My House**—*Miss Honey & Escapologist*

SCENE 7: Classroom

- **Revolting Children**—*Children*

SCENE 8: Library

- **When I Grow Up (Reprise)**—*Company*

Written by: Ashley Gardner Carlson



more exaggerated. I wanted the dance numbers, sets, costumes and scenes to all reflect this outlook.

Matilda the Musical is based on a novel by Roald Dahl who is known for his terrifically clever and hugely popular, but sometimes dark and ironic, stories for children. This story definitely has some moments when Matilda and her classmates are in tense, dangerous, and even abusive situations. This only further highlights the message of this story, which is universal to everyone, at all ages.

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.

Matilda is told through the eyes of a precocious 5-year-old girl who loves to read. She uses books and stories to escape her own real-life narrative of an abusive family and school life. Not only is Matilda extremely bright and clever, she takes control of her situation and decides that she will not let the actions of others define her.

I wanted everything the audience sees in this production to be seen through Matilda's lens. A child has a vivid imagination and a sharp mind and what they remember as their reality, is bigger than life, more colorful,

Nothing ever changes by complaining about a situation. You might feel helpless at times, but by doing nothing, nothing will change. *Matilda* finds strength in her situation and even a power all her own.

There is something so inspiring working with kids. Their resiliency, their stamina, their insatiable need to please are traits that wane after a certain age when we let our insecurities rule. I love this show because it reminds us that we are the captains of our own ship. We are in control of our own destiny. If you don't like something, change it. I hope that is what you take away with you today.

Courtesy of: www.mtisbshows.com

DENNIS KELLY

Writer

Work for theatre includes *Debris*, *Osama the Hero*, *After the End*, *Love and Money*, *Taking Care of Baby*, *DNA*, *Orphans*, *The Gods Weep*, and *The Ritual Slaughter of Gorge Mastromas*. He has written the book for the new musical of *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*, and 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

Composer-Lyricist

Tim is a musician, actor, comedian, writer and director. He's toured extensively in the US, UK and Australia, performing solo, with bands, and with symphony orchestras. He's released five DVDs, the most recent recorded with the Heritage Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall. Screen acting credits include *Robin Hood Origins* (2018), *Secret River* (2015), and *Californication* (Season 6—2013). Stage acting credits include *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* (Sydney Theatre Company) and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (UK/Australia tours). Tim has written extensively

for theatre, and is the composer-lyricist of *Matilda the Musical* (with Dennis Kelly) and *Groundhog Day the Musical* (with Danny Rubin).

ROALD DAHL

Author

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 storytellers and is celebrated annually by the world's biggest author-based event, Roald Dahl Day—which is recognised 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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◇ WHO'S WHO ◇

CORINNE ADAIR

Mrs. Wormwood (T18)

Corinne is a voice over artist, certified yoga instructor, and University of Utah BFA graduate. You may have seen her guest hosting ABC's Good Things Utah, singing backup for Michael Bubl  or in notable roles including: Bambi in *Curtains* (The Grand Theater), Ghost of Christmas Past in *A Christmas Carol II* (Desert Star Theater), Brooke in *Noises Off* and Tanya in *Mamma Mia!* (Sandy Arts Guild). xoxo A, G, & B.

BROOKLYN ALLISON

Woman 2 / The Acrobat (T18)

This is a dream come true for Brooklyn! *Matilda* has been one of her favorite musicals



Corinne Adair

for as long as she can remember. Roald Dahl is an absolute genius with his writing and his words. She has always wanted to be in the ensemble of this show and is very grateful towards Ashley and DeLayne for giving her this opportunity. Some of her favorite credits are: Peter in *Peter Pan*, Kira in *Xanadu* and Rosalia in *West Side Story*. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this production. The cast, the crew, the directing team, everyone behind the scenes and everyone in the audience who is here to support. "Somewhere inside all of us is the power to change the world." —Roald Dahl

SUZIE BALSER

Mrs. Wormwood (MWF)

Suzie is pleased to be performing on the HCTO stage for the first time. Suzie is no stranger to the theatre. Some of her most memorable roles have been "Mom" Singing in Car, "Mom" Dancing Around Kitchen, and "Mom" Using a Cockney Accent While Helping with Homework. Paying roles include Sophie in *Mamma Mia!*, Molly Brown in *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*, Laurie in *Oklahoma!*, Demeter in *CATS*, Ahey in *Sunfish*, and Debbie in *R.R.R.E.D.* Suzie earned a BFA from BYU, is a mom of four and a part owner/artistic director of Utah COPA. "Thanks to HCTO for this opportunity and thanks to my own little clan for their support...thank heavens it wasn't just 'gas!'"

EVAN K. BEESLEY

Man 3 / Henchman (TWS)

Evan is excited to be back at HCTO, in *Matilda!* He was recently seen in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Some of his favorite roles include: Ensemble in *Tuck Everlasting*, Specs

in *Newsies*, Harvey Johnson in *Bye Bye Birdie*, and The Herald in *Cinderella*. Evan has also had the opportunity to perform at Carnegie Hall with Broadway Classics in Concert, as well as on the cruise boat Royal Caribbean with Stars at Sea. He trains in singing, dancing, and acting with Utah COPA. He thanks his family, especially his mother, and his friends, Emmie and Eliza, for helping him get to where he is today!

BLAKE BURNHAM

Bruce (MTF)

Blake is thrilled to return to HCTO to play Bruce, one of his bucket list roles! He was last seen on our stage as Les in *Newsies*. Other stage credits include: Fletcher in *Freaky Friday* (HCTS), Munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz* (SCERA), Iago in *Aladdin Jr.*, and Michael Darling in *Peter Pan Jr.* Blake is a member of Rise Up Children's Choir. This 5th grader loves to play sports, sing,



Suzie Balsler

and spend time with friends and family. He is excited to perform with his brother/best friend, Parker. "Thank you Ashley, DeLayne, Meagan, and everyone at HCTO for this opportunity!" @theburnhamkids

PARKER BURNHAM

Nigel (MTF)

Parker was most recently seen as Jojo in *Seussical* at HCTS. Other favorite roles include: Eric in *Matilda* (HCTS), Winthrop in *The Music Man* (HCTS), Mayor of Munchkinland in *The Wizard of Oz* (SCERA), Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol* (HCTO), Chip in *Beauty and the Beast* (ACT), and Genie in *Aladdin Jr.* Parker is a member of Rise Up Children's Choir, and the Stars and On Stage choirs at HCTS. This 6th grader loves to read, sing, tap, play baseball, and ski. He is excited to perform with his brother/best friend, Blake. "Enjoy the show!" @theburnhamkids

ASHLEY GARDNER CARLSON

Director / Choreographer

Ashley is honored to be making her HCTO directing debut with *Matilda*. Ashley has been choreographing for HCTO for the last couple of seasons. You have seen her work on *The Little Mermaid*, *Newsies*, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Aside from directing, Ashley is a regular on our stage as well, and was last seen as Dyanne in *Million Dollar Quartet*. She considers HCTO a second home and is so excited to share *Matilda* with you. "Thank you to Linda, Anne and the Codys for their support and the opportunity to bring this story to life. To the cast and crew: it's been a privilege and break a leg!"

SEREN CARTER

Amanda (MWF)

Amanda Thrupp marks Seren's second role at HCTO. She has played Rosetta / Arista in *Peter Pan Jr.* at HCTO; various roles in



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A Christmas Carol at HCTS; Young Cosette in Center Stage Performing Arts Studio's *Les Misérables*; Jane Banks in Sandy Arts Guild's *Mary Poppins Jr.*; and, most recently, Young Elsa in Center Stage's *Frozen Jr.* She is a nationally award-winning dancer, taking first-place solo at The Dance Awards Las Vegas.

SAVANNAH COBB

Woman 3 (MWF)

Savannah is thrilled to be in her first show at HCTO. She recently performed in HCTS's production of *A Christmas Carol* from 2015–2018 and has participated with many community theatres across the valley. She is currently a senior at Riverton High School and is training in the MDT program there. She would like to dedicate this performance to her mom, who has supported Savannah's acting dreams ever since she was little.

KENZIE DAVIS

Miss Honey (TThS)

Kenzie is stoked to make her HCTO debut! She has been busy doing shows at her family's theater in Bear Lake, Pickleville Playhouse, but she is excited to have a new experience before the summer season starts. Some of her favorite roles have been: Ariel (*The Little Mermaid*), Gratilda (*Juanito Bandito* series), Tracy Turnblad (*Hairspray*), and Jane Porter (*Tarzan*). Kenzie graduated from USU with a degree in Family Studies and Psychology and now plans to start a Theater Academy for all the talented kiddos in Logan. She would like to thank her awesome family for always being her #1 fans!

DELAYNE BLUTH DAYTON

Music Director

DeLayne is thrilled to join the HCTO team behind the scenes as Music Director. DeLayne was last seen on this stage as Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*,

Miss Hannigan in *Annie* and M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias* (HCTS). Music Director credits: *Newsies*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Sister Act*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Oklahoma!*, and *West Side Story*. DeLayne is a BYU graduate with a degree in Music and Family Science. She loves her work as an actor in our local theaters, Director/Instructor at Utah COPA and being a wife and mom of 6 wonderful kids. "I love the arts! Thank you Ashley, Meagan, Hales, Swensons, and Hale family for letting me come play! I have loved every minute! Huge loves to my family and friends!"

OLIVIA DAYTON

Lavender (MWF)

Olivia is excited to return to the HCTO stage after playing July in *Annie*. She is a 9th grader and studies acting, voice, and dance at Utah COPA. Olivia loves to perform. Stage



Kenzie Davis

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performing credits include: *The Wizard of Oz*, Beilke in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *West Side Story*, *Shrek Jr.*, and *Legally Blonde Jr.* “Thank you to the Hale family and my friends and loved ones for supporting me!”

JEREMY EGAN

Man 1 / Doctor / Rudolpho / The Escapologist (MWF)

Jeremy is excited for his first show at HCTO. You may have seen him as Rudolpho in the recent production of *Matilda* at HCTS. He has traveled around performing at theaters such as: Playmill Theatre, Tuacahn, CenterPoint Legacy Theater, Pickleville Playhouse, The Grand, and many more, but this production is among his favorites. “Thank you to my family and partner in crime for supporting me. I love you.”

KELSEY FAIRCHILD

Woman 2 / The Acrobat (MWF)

This is Kelsey’s first show with HCTO and she is honored to be a part of such an amazing production. Kelsey is a freshman at The University of Utah and is majoring in Musical Theatre. She was born and raised in Sacramento, California and just moved to Utah to pursue her passion at The U. Some of her favorite roles include Laurey in *Oklahoma!*, Cosette in *Les Misérables*, and Kim McAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie*. She would like to thank her friends and family for their endless support.

LIBBY GARDINER

Hortensia (TThS)

Elisabeth (Libby) is thrilled to perform in one of her dream shows and has loved *Matilda* for many years. She returns to HCTO’s stage after recently finishing her third run in *A Christmas Carol*. Libby has



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enjoyed roles in theatres across the state. In addition to acting, singing and dancing in a theatrical setting, Libby is a seasoned dancer whose recent appearances include Odyssey Dance Theatre’s Thriller. Thanks Ashley, DeLayne, Meagan, the Swensons, the Hales, the cast and crew, and all her teachers at Utah COPA for this opportunity. Love to Dad, Mom, Hailey, Christian and her dog Jack.

KELSEY HARRISON

Woman 1 / Henchwoman (MWF)

Kelsey is excited to perform again on HCTO’s stage. Kelsey is a recent graduate of the BYU MDT program and just finished three years as the Dance Captain for the BYU Young Ambassadors, touring Brazil and China. Kelsey has recently been seen in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (HCTO), *Mamma Mia!* (Sundance Summer Theatre), *Company* (BYU), *Into the Woods* (BYU), *The*

Music Man (Sundance Summer Theatre), and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (Jackson Hole Playhouse).

AFTON GRACE HIGBEE

Hortensia (MWF)

Afton is thrilled to be back at HCTO where she played Annie (*Annie*), Adelle (*Jane Eyre*), and Young Cosette (*Les Misérables*). Most recently Afton performed at Tuacahn as Little Girl in Disney’s *When You Wish* and Marta/Brigitta understudy in *The Sound of Music*. Other favorite roles: Jane Banks (*Mary Poppins*), Caddie Grant (*Trail of Dreams*), Workhouse Kid/Street Urchin (*Oliver!*), and Millie in the film *The Christmas Apron*. Afton is a former OVCC member and studies Musical Theater and Dance at Utah COPA. Much gratitude to family, friends, teachers, and HCTO for their love and support!
@aftongracehigbee

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CADE HIXSON

Nigel (WTBs)

Cade (age 12) is ecstatic to be making his HCTO debut in *Matilda* with such an incredibly talented cast! Cade began performing at the age of six in *Les Misérables* and has been singing and dancing in productions ever since, including: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Newsies*, *Shrek the Musical*, *Seussical* and *Footloose*. Cade also dances with the BYU Young DanceMakers Company. Special thanks to the HCTO production team, Ashley, Meagan, and DeLayne for this opportunity... "it's all coming together now." Big love to his amazing family for their love, support and rides to rehearsal!

NATHAN HOLBROOK

Man 2 / Sergei (TBF)

Nathan is so excited to perform at HCTO in his third high-energy show! In the midst of singing and dancing with us, he is studying actuarial science and economics at BYU and works as a teaching assistant. Nathan also looks forward to serving as a Young Performing Missionary this summer in Nauvoo, IL. He wants to thank Ashley and DeLayne for pushing him to work so hard and to his family for their love and support!

AIMEE JOHNSON

Lavender (TBS)

Aimee is grateful to be back at HCTO! She was last seen on our stage in *Jane Eyre*. She has previously performed at HCTS in *Tuck Everlasting* and *Freaky Friday*. She was also seen in *Oklahoma!*, *Les Misérables*, *Ragtime*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, and *A Christmas Carol* at HCTWV. She has been in a number of films including *Little Women*, *He Knows My Name*, and *Singing with Angels*. Many thanks to the production staff for this opportunity!



Wade Robert Johnson

WADE ROBERT JOHNSON

Mr. Wormwood (TBS)

Wade is currently pursuing a BFA in Acting at UVU. Recent credits include *Terk* in *Tarzan* at HCTO, *Scuttle* in *The Little Mermaid* at HCTO, *Rooster* in *Annie* at HCTO, and *Moonface Martin* in *Anything Goes* at HCTO. Past directing credits include *Macbeth* at UVU, *This Is Our Youth* at UVU, *A Doll's House* at An Other Theater Company, and *Pure Imagination* at the Tuscan Suites and Casino's Copa Room in Las Vegas. A special thanks to Ashley Carlson for her superhuman work ethic and her dedication to storytelling.

YUNNIE KIM

Woman 1 / Henchwoman (TBS)

Yunnies is incredibly happy and grateful to be back at HCTO for another show! She was most recently seen here in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Bun Foo). She loves anything

involving the arts and loves to sing, dance, and do photography. Aside from performing, she does marketing and teaches hip hop (her favorite style of dance). Other shows Yunnice has done are *Beauty and the Beast*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Hairspray*. “Always embrace who you are! Enjoy the show!”

ANDY LOVERIDGE

Michael Wormwood / Cook (T1bs)

Andy is very excited to make his acting debut in HCTO’s *Matilda*. He is a 7th grader at Willowcreek Jr. High School and is working on a production there as well. When he’s not in school, he enjoys computers, friends, and spending time with his family. He wants to thank his Grandma, who has instilled in him a love of theater and encouraged him to try out for this production.

MARSHALL MADSEN

Miss Agatha Trunchbull (MWF)

Regional: *American In Paris* (Adam), *Tuck Everlasting* (Miles), *Big Fish* (Don Price), *Ghost: The Musical* (Carl Bruner). **Entertainment:** Joseph Wartnerchane, in association with Lagoon Entertainment and Disney, Presents: *Smoke and Mirrors* © (Trent); Disney’s Youth Education Series (YES!); *The Diamond Horseshoe Café* (Diamond Jim); *Frozen: Live! At the Hyperion* (Hans/Kristoff). **Touring:** *Constellations* (Roland). **Other Credits:** *Wait Until Dark* (Sam Hendrix), *Tarzan* (Clayton), *Peter Pan* (Slightly Soiled, 2003/2016), *Daddy Long Legs* (Jervis), *Peter and The Starcatcher* (Smee 2019, Slank 2017), *Hello Dolly!* (Barnaby Tucker), *Sister Act* (Ernie), *9 to 5* (Franklin Hart Jr.), *An Ideal Husband* (Arthur Goring).

SPENCER MANNING

Man 2 / Sergei (MWS)

Spencer is thrilled to be back at HCTO after last being seen in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Some of his favorite roles include Romeo



Marshall Madsen

(*Newsies*), Bert (*Mary Poppins*), and Gaston (*Beauty and the Beast*). He is currently training at Utah COPA as a member of the Principal MDT Company. He would like to thank HCTO and all his friends and family for supporting him! “Have fun at the show!!”

CLARA MCCARTER

Amanda (T1bs)

Clara is 9 years old and a 3rd grader at Orem Elementary. She started dancing at age 2, and has trained in jazz, ballet, tap, contemporary, lyrical, hip hop, and musical theater. Her previous roles include Molly in *Annie*, Young Cosette in *Les Misérables*, and Young Anna in *Frozen Jr*. This is her first performance with HCTO, and she is loving every minute of it! She’d like to thank her family, and her teachers who have helped her get to where she is today!



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Ben Parkes

the stage with her dog, Tag, and Adella in *The Little Mermaid*. She has loved every show she has been a part of here. She is so excited for the audience to experience this special production of *Matilda*. A huge thank you to her roommates, furr babies and her incredible family for always supporting her.

BEN PARKES

Mr. Wormwood (MWF)

Ben has been performing at HCTO since 2014, most recently in last season's *Charley's Aunt* (Spettigie) and *The Odd Couple* (Roy). Ben also played George in *Cash on Delivery* and Dussel in *The Diary of Anne Frank* at HCTO. Favorite roles include: Weisel (*Newsies*), Much (*Robin Hood*), Smeel (*Peter & the Starcatcher*), Nick (*Over the River and Through the Woods*), Joel (*Beau Jest*), and Forbriht (*Cash on Delivery*) at HCTWV and HCTS; John Adams (*1776*), and The Baker (*Into the Woods*). Ben works as an analyst for



Kelsey Plewe

The Walt Disney Company. He is much nicer in real life. Shout out to Luana and the boys for all the support!

KELSEY PLEWE

Matilda (T7Bs)

Kelsey feels right at home playing an inquisitive, book loving storyteller like Matilda. Aside from musical theater, Kelsey loves friends, puzzles, legos, traveling and lazy days by the pool. Favorite roles include Little Fan in *A Christmas Carol* and Molly in *Annie* both here at HCTO. Shout out to her family for embracing all things silly and imaginative. An enormous thank you to the Hales, Swensons, Ashley, DeLayne, Meagan and crew for helping this 10 year old write her own life story!



Scott Rollins

ASHER REYNOLDS

Tommy (MWF)

Asher is so excited to be a part of *Matilda* at HCTO! He was previously seen in *Matilda* at HCTS as Nigel and as Junior in *My Son Pinocchio*. Other favorite roles include Oliver in *Oliver!*, Michael Banks in *Mary Poppins*, Sebastian in *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* and Sam in *A Christmas Carol—Youth Edition*. He is a member of Rise Up children's choir. When not performing, this 8th grader loves to play tennis, be with friends, make music videos for his YouTube channel and travel the world with his family. "Thank you HCTO!" www.youtube.com/c/AsherReynolds

SCOTT ROLLINS

Miss Agatha Trunchbull (T7Bs)

Scott is excited to return to the HCTO stage where he was last seen as Mr. Allardyce in *Betty Blues Eyes*. Scott's favorite roles include



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Mia Stevenson



Brandalee Bluth Streeter

the Lion in *The Wizard of Oz* and Nicely Nicely in *Guys and Dolls*. Scott is the proud father of two amazing children, Taft and Blythe. When he is not performing, Scott works in Property Management and Real Estate. He thanks his amazing wife Alison for her tireless support and love.

EMILY RUNYAN

Woman 3 (TTS)

Emily is so excited to be a part of her first production at HCTO. She was last seen in a production of *Beauty and the Beast* at SCERA. She is currently studying elementary education with a minor in dance at Brigham Young University. When she is not at school or doing shows she works as a preschool teacher. Emily is so grateful for this opportunity to be a part of such an incredible show.

SETH SHERMAN

Man 3 / Henchman (MTBF)

Seth is thrilled to be a part of the cast of *Matilda*. Recent shows at HCTO include *Newsies* (Henry/Tumbler), *Tuck Everlasting* (Hugo), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *A Christmas Carol* (Peter Cratchit). Other favorite roles include *Peter Pan* with the HCTO Youth program, Jo Jo in *Seussical*, and Joe Harper in *Big River* (both at SCERA Shell). Seth has also won awards for performances on piano and harpsichord. Special thanks to all the friends, family, and directors who have helped Seth grow as a person and actor.

MALCOLM SMITH

Michael Wormwood / Cook (MWF)

Malcolm is excited to be a part of this show. He has played Ollie in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (SCERA) and was a part of the children's chorus for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Sundance Summer

Theatre. He loves skiing, origami, writing, coding and games. *Matilda* was the book that inspired him to be the reader he is today. "Many thanks, Roald Dahl."

MIA STEVENSON

Matilda (MWF)

This is Mia's first performance at HCTO and she is so excited to be a part of *Matilda!* She has previously had roles as Young Anna in *Frozen Jr.*, July in *Annie*, and Gavroche's Gang in *Les Misérables* at Center Stage. Mia is currently in a 6th grade Chinese Immersion class and loves to snowboard and swim. She wants to thank her brothers for taking over her chores!

BRANDALEE BLUTH STREETER

Miss Honey (MWF)

Brandalee is ecstatic to be a part of this show that is truly a dream come true. Performing credits include *Ragtime*, *Oliver!*, *Jekyll &*

Hyde, *Les Misérables*, *Annie*, *The Addams Family*, *Betty Blue Eyes*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *She Loves Me*. She has performed in NYC, HCTO, Las Vegas, HCTS, HCTWV, and BYU Young Ambassadors. Music directing credits: *Nonsense*, *Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *Peter Pan*, *Shrek*, and many youth productions. She teaches private voice at the Hale Center Academy and is a company director at Utah COPA. Brandalee's most favorite role is that of wife to Brad and mother to Jacob, Emma, Tobey, Madalee and Mabel! "I love you MORE!"

TANNER SUMENS

Man 1 / Doctor / Rudolpho / The Escapologist (TTS)

Tanner just played Young Scrooge here at HCTO. He has recently been seen in *Cinderella* as well as *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at HCTS. Other credits include Beadle in *Sweeney Todd*, Dusty in *Bandits!*, Cornelius



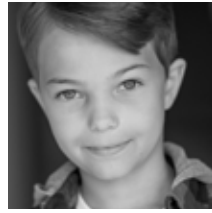
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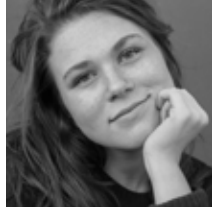
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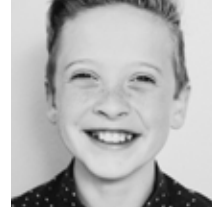
Savannah Cobb



Olivia Dayton



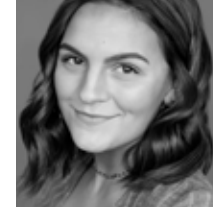
Jeremy Egan



Cade Hixson



Nathan Holbrook



Aimee Johnson



Yunnice Kim

Hackl in *Hello, Dolly!*, and Enjolras in *Les Misérables*. He's currently a teacher at Center Stage Performing Arts Studio.

GRANT WESTCOTT

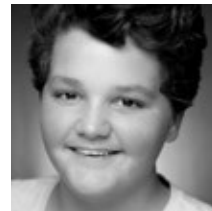
Bruce (WTBS)

Grant's theater debut was in Pre-K when his mother cast him as Christopher Robin since no 1st grade boy in the class would do it! Other Roles: 2019 Storyteller in KSL Live Broadcast for the *Golden Spike As One*; 2016 Child in HCTO's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*; 2015 Jo Jo in L.A.'s 3-D Theatricals *Seussical*, with Cathy Rigby as Cat in the Hat; 2014 Tiny Tim in HCTO's *A Christmas Carol*; 2013 Michael Banks in Tuacahn's *Mary Poppins U.S.* regional premiere. Grant is in One Voice Children's Choir and Kid's America. Grant is so excited to swing and scooter on the stage! @grant_westcott

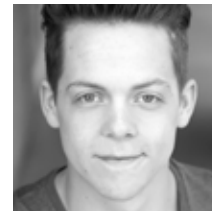
LUKE WIDDISON

Tommy (TBS)

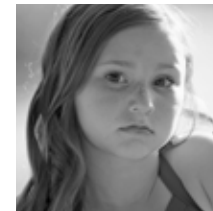
Luke is thrilled to return to the HCTO stage after portraying the Ghost of Christmas Past in *A Christmas Carol*. Some of his most recent musical theater credits include the title role in *Aladdin* at American Fork Jr. High, *Tommy Boy (Newsies)*, *Michael Banks (Mary Poppins)*, and *Micheal Darling (Peter Pan)*. He enjoys playing basketball, piano and cello, hanging out with his crazy big family of 12 and being a member of Rise Up children's choir.



Andy Loveridge



Spencer Manning



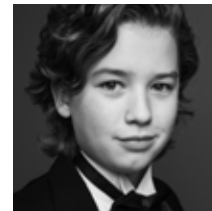
Clara McCarter



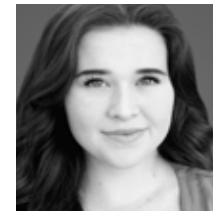
Shawnda Moss



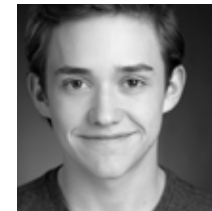
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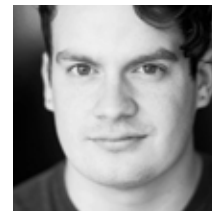
Emily Runyan



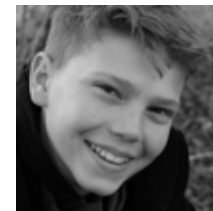
Seth Sherman



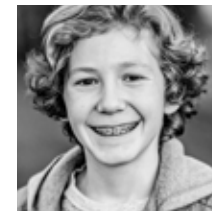
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Little Women

MUSICAL | Jun. 19 -THROUGH- Aug. 01



Over THE RIVER & Through THE Woods

COMEDY | Aug. 12 -THROUGH- Sep. 19



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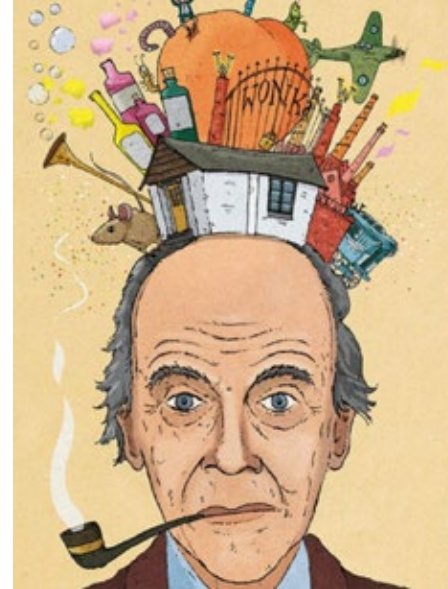
Roald Dahl is arguably the most famous children's author of the 20th century. In addition to *Matilda*, he captured children's imagination with *James and the Giant Peach*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *The Witches*, *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *The BFG*, *The Twits*, and *George's Marvellous Medicine*, as well as the movie *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Dahl seemed to tap effortlessly into the minds of young readers, creating unforgettable worlds about terrible, nasty adults and the quick-witted children that triumph over them. Dahl, who once said that "grown ups are complicated creatures, full of quirks and secrets," wrote from experience.

Although he was born in Wales, both of Dahl's parents were Norwegian immigrants.

After his father died when he was four, he was sent to a series of grim boarding schools, each one worse than the last. While at the first one, Llandaff Cathedral School in Cardiff, Dahl and his friends were fixated on a local sweet shop run by an elderly woman named Mrs. Pratchett. Here's how Dahl describes her in his book *Boy*:

She was a small skinny old hag with a moustache on her upper lip and a mouth as sour as a green gooseberry. She never smiled. She never welcomed us when we went in, and the only times she spoke were when she said things like, 'I'm watchin' you so keep yer thievin' fingers off them chocolates!' Or 'I don't want you in 'ere just to look around! Either you forks out or you gets out!'

When a schoolmate found a dead mouse under a floorboard, Dahl and his friends decided to enact revenge. While a friend distracted Mrs. Pratchett, he dropped the dead mouse in a jar of Gobstoppers. When she finally saw it, she screamed and dropped the glass jar, which shattered. Their victory was short lived, however. Mrs. Pratchett correctly identified the boys to the school's headmaster, who vigorously caned each boy on the backside. She gleefully watched the entire episode from a leather armchair, egging the headmaster on and demanding harder strokes.



After the caning, Mrs. Dahl removed her son from the school and enrolled him at a boarding school called St. Peter's. The headmaster, Mr. Francis, sold his mother on the institution by showing her faded postcards of tidy dormitories, ivy brick walls, and freshly set dining tables with cut flowers. None of this, Dahl soon discovered, existed. Mr. Francis turned out to be a "beastly cane-happy monster" who kept an entire collection of rods and canes for beating the boys. The school matron was a "mountainous-bosomed" terror who dropped soap shavings into the boys' mouths if they snored. They would often sprinkle sugar on the floor in the hall to hear her coming. "It made no difference whether she was twenty eight or sixty eight," Dahl wrote, "because to us a grown-up was a grown-up and all grown-ups were dangerous creatures."

Finally, Dahl attended the Repton School, which would prove to be the most terrifying school of all. The school was run by sadistic schoolmasters, but also by the "boazers," a group of upper-class boys who supervised younger boys and functioned as a secret police. Any infraction would be reported to



the headmasters, usually resulting in corporal punishment. Dahl was late to dinner once, and was assigned as a permanent toilet seat warmer for a boazer. Beatings and canings, administered by boazers, were frequent. "It is clear to me now, though it wasn't at the time," Dahl wrote, "that these boys had developed this curiously detached attitude towards these vile tortures to preserve their sanity. It was an essential defense mechanism."

There were two solaces in Roald Dahl's life, both of which you will probably recognize tonight. The first was a corpulent math teacher named Corker who hated math and refused to teach it. Instead, they played games, did crossword puzzles, and handled snakes. "That'll be a lot more fun than fiddling around with figures," he would tell the class, "I hate figures. Figures are probably the dreariest things on this earth." Corker was a bright and entertaining spot in an otherwise dismal world. Dahl's second solace was the library. He was a voracious reader, and particularly loved adventure stories and American crime novels. Literature would become the most valuable and freeing element of his life, giving him a voice when he felt voiceless. As he would later write in *Matilda*:

Matilda's strong young mind continued to grow, nurtured by the voices of all those authors who had sent their books out into the world like ships on the sea. These books gave Matilda a hopeful and comforting message: You are not alone.



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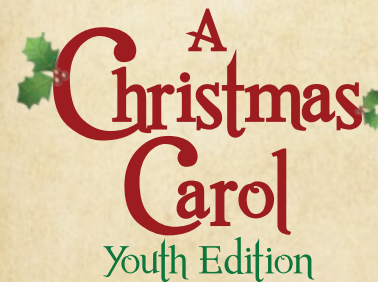
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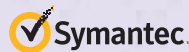
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