



## AUDITION INFO

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Center Stage Academy announces its 14th annual summer youth theatre production, *Matilda, Jr.*, directed by Jennifer Renfrow with production staff from Center Stage Academy. Auditions are open to all young people ages 9-18 in Warrensburg and the surrounding communities. Please review all the information provided in this packet. If you have further questions, please call/text 660-747-6133.

### AUDITION INFORMATION

**When:** **Saturday, May 15** 10:30-1:00 (estimated end time) Check-in begins at 10:00am (Auditionees will finish at different times and can call parents to pick them up.)

**Where:** **Center Stage Academy** 349 SE DD Highway Warrensburg, MO 64093

**Attire:** **Auditionees should dress for success in clothes that make them feel confident and enhance their individual personality. It's important to dress nicely and have a polished appearance so that directors know that you take the audition seriously. Masks will be required during the dance portion of the audition but during the individual audition you may remove your mask (directors and staff will be masked and positioned away from auditionees.)**

**Preparation:** All students should prepare an audition package as described below. Additionally, each child needs to bring a completed audition form (available for download.)

### Age Requirement

Nearly all roles will be cast from actors in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade (Fall 2021). However, auditions will be open to actors age 9 and up (at time of audition) for the role of Matilda and possibly other select roles. Those actors age 9-12 who are not cast in the mainstage production of *Matilda, Jr.* are highly encouraged to attend Camp Broadway which will perform *Junie B. Jones, Jr.*

### Camp Broadway (rising 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade)

Similar to our past junior casts, Camp Broadway will learn, rehearse and perform a full production of *Junie B. Jones, Jr.* but in just ONE WEEK (July 26-31)! All participants will be cast in the production of *Junie B. Jones, Jr.* and will get a chance to perform alongside our mainstage production on July 31 at the WHS Lecture Hall. Costumes will be minimal, however, the acting, singing and dancing will be spectacular! Students will learn about many facets of the theatre during camp while learning to take the stage and SHINE! To participate, simply register online. Students do not need to audition. But please register early so we can plan the best experience for our young performers. The rest of this packet will focus on auditions for *Matilda, Jr.*

### Audition Format

Upon arrival to the audition, each actor needs to check in, receive a number that should be pinned to their clothing, and have their photograph taken. Auditions will begin with the whole group learning and performing a short dance combination (dance experience not necessary). Then actors will perform their prepared song and monologue for the directors in number order. As soon as they are finished with songs/monologues, students are free to go.

## **Callbacks**

Callback auditions will be **Wednesday, May 19 at 7pm**. A callback is a list of students that the directors would like to hear read or sing again for specific parts. A callback list will be posted on our website by 9pm on Sunday, May 16. Only those performers listed on the call back need to attend this part of the audition. Remember, just because you are not called back does NOT mean you haven't been cast in the show. The callback is simply an opportunity for directors to have additional readings for specific roles with a select number of actors.

## **Additional Audition Information**

Auditions will be closed (meaning only children auditioning will be allowed in the audition room). Parents can wait in the lobby or can drop children off and pick them up at the time listed above.

As with all auditions, there will be some children who are not cast in the production. It is important to understand this before auditioning and for parents to help prepare their children for this possibility. We try to include as many actors as possible but logistically there is only room for a certain number of performers on the stage. It is our goal to cast the best actor for each role while considering the many factors that influence casting: singing (quality and range), acting (character, diction, timing, projection, etc.), dancing (character movement and skill), height, physical appearance in relationship to others being cast, connection to the audience, ability and willingness to take direction, respect for directors and other performers, and overall attitude.

## **PRODUCTION INFORMATION**

**NEW THIS YEAR!** We will be producing 2 separate shows, our mainstage production of *Matilda, Jr.* (grades 6 & up as of Fall 2021) and our Camp Broadway production of *Junie B. Jones, Jr.* (2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade as of Fall 2021). While each cast will receive the same high level of production quality that Center Stage provides our Camp Broadway production will be done with simple costuming. Performances will be July 30-August 1. The mainstage production will have 4 performances and Camp Broadway will have 1 performance. For more info and to register for Camp Broadway visit [centerstageacademy.org](http://centerstageacademy.org).

### **Performances**

July 30-August 1, 2021 at the WHS Lecture Hall Times TBA

### **Rehearsals for *Matilda, Jr.***

- July 18—Read Through and Music Rehearsal at Center Stage: 6pm
- July 19-23—Rehearsals at Center Stage: 10-4pm (all performers)
- July 26-Aug 1—Rehearsals/Performances at WHS Lecture Hall: Times will vary based on what scenes/songs need the most attention

During the first week of rehearsal (July 19-23) all actors are called for the whole rehearsal. In addition to rehearsing, actors will receive instruction in many aspects of theatre! This format provides the actors a broader view of what it takes to produce a show while simplifying the rehearsal process! As we move into TECH WEEK at the WHS Lecture Hall beginning on July 26, actors will be called for specific times. By this time, actors will have a clear understanding of what their role is and what parts of the show they are in. For example: *Revolting Children* will rehearse on stage from 10-noon, run-through with full cast 6-9pm.

Because the rehearsal process is so short, attendance is absolutely necessary at every rehearsal. On the audition form there is a place for you to put your known conflicts between these dates. If we know now, it is possible to accommodate minor conflicts. However, if we feel your conflicts will be too difficult to schedule around, you will not be cast in this production. Conflicts that come up after casting has been posted or rehearsals begin will not be considered in scheduling and you will be expected to be at the rehearsal.

## ***Production Fee***

Each cast member (regardless of part) is required to pay a production fee of \$250. This fee is used directly to offset the cost of show licensing, script rental, production staff, orchestration rental, costumes and technical elements of the production. The production fee also includes a show t-shirt for each cast member and 2 free tickets to the show. The production fee will be due in two payments. \$125 will be due by June 1 and \$125 due on July 1. Payments may be in the form of cash, check, Mastercard, or Visa and can be dropped off at Center Stage Academy or mailed to 349 SE DD Hwy, Warrensburg, MO 64093. *Those actors that were members of the James and the Giant Peach production canceled due to Covid will receive a \$25 credit towards your production fee for Matilda, Jr.*

## ***Casting***

The cast list will be posted at Center Stage Academy and on the Center Stage website on or before Monday, May 24, 2021. Please do not call the studio for casting information.

## ***Virtual Auditions***

If you are unable to attend auditions, you may submit a video audition of the required audition material. Videos must be received by Friday, May 14 at 11:59pm. If selected for callbacks, you will need to attend those in person.

## ***COVID-19 Information***

As the pandemic continues to impact our world, we understand that changes in our community (infection rate, state and county health mandates, etc.) may require us to make unforeseen adjustments to our production plans. As with our Safer Studio Policy at Center Stage, we will comply and enforce all safety measures to ensure the safest possible environment for our performers. Because it's impossible to know what the Covid climate will be in July, we can't say what those safety measures will be. We are hoping to have our performances mask-free, however we will assess the situation at that time.

## **AUDITION MATERIALS**

Actors should prepare a musical theatre audition package of your choice no more than 2 minutes in length. Song selections may be from *Matilda* but do not need to be.

Audition Package Suggestions:

- 1 song (32 bars) no more than 90 seconds
- 2 contrasting songs (16 bars each) totaling no more than 2 minutes
- 1 song selection and 1 monologue totaling no more than 2 minutes
- Monologue only- 90 seconds or less (keep in mind you are auditioning for a musical so if you choose not to sing you likely won't be considered for a singing role.)

You must provide your accompaniment on a digital device with a 1/8" headphone input (ipads, tablets, phones with a headphone input or adapter). Acapella auditions are not accepted. Note: If you are using a track off of YouTube, take a screen recording so you are not dependent on internet or signal strength.

For character descriptions, visit <https://www.mtishows.com/broadway-junior/audition-central> and select Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.