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MTV arts

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ROALD DAHL'S

Matilda

THE MUSICAL JR.

Book by
DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics by
TIM MINCHIN

September 15-17, 2023

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ROALD DAHL'S Matilda THE MUSICAL JR.

Music and Lyrics by TIM MINCHIN

Book by DENNIS KELLY

ROALD DAHL'S MATILDA THE MUSICAL JR.
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.MTIshows.com

DIRECTOR: *Bruce Jacklin*
PRODUCER: *Janis Stone*
PRODUCTION MANAGER: *Mary Harris*
STAGE MANAGER: *Serra Barrett*
MUSIC DIRECTOR: *Corey Strinka*
CHOREOGRAPHY: *Anthony Ingham*

Please be aware that theatrical smoke and fog, strobe lighting, and moving light effects will be used during this performance.

For those with sight disabilities, we have a PDF version of this program on our website at www.mtvarts.com/Matilda.pdf

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

An important message from The Knox Memorial

Thank you for supporting the performance and the audience!

- No food or drinks in the theater.
- Video and audio recordings of any kind are prohibited.
- All aisles MUST remain free and unobstructed.
- Silence all devices - no texting or talking on phones.

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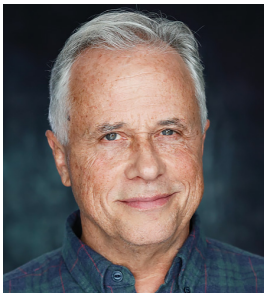
STATION OF THE YEAR

Director's Note



Sometimes when life gets tough, it is hard to find the joy. To watch this amazing cast find the exhilaration that comes from theater was an affirmation to all the adults on the production team. To watch the joy every day in our rehearsals, our laughter, and our friendships we knew we were creating something special. Our hope is that MATILDA gives you a sense of knowing that when things get tough there is the possibility to triumph over impossible odds.

Inspired by the twisted genius of Roald Dahl, MATILDA JR. is the edited version of the Tony Award-winning Roald Dahl's MATILDA THE MUSICAL. It is the captivating masterpiece that revels in the anarchy of childhood, the power of imagination, and the inspiring story of a girl who dreams of a better life. But beneath the lights, music, and the terror of the Trunchbull, there is a deeper truth that strikes us all: "Nobody else is going to put it right for me; nobody but me is going tochange my story." This show has served as a wonderful reminder to both our students and our production team alike that we have all the power that we need to change the world - and it lives right here within us now. If you want something to change, you have to be the one to change it.

Parents, thank you for your endless support of our program. Your child could be doing so many other things after school, and we are extremely grateful that they choose to be a part of the workshop and production. And to you, our patrons, who have joined us for the magic of theater. We hope that MATILDA connects with you, and that it reminds you of what a community can accomplish with the power of local, live theater.

This show is for all of the Matilda's in our community who make the small miracles happen. May we all strive to be ever more like you.

BRUCE JACKLIN has been a certified adjudicator for the OCTA (Ohio Community Theater Association) and AACT (American Association of Community Theater) for over 20 years. Mr. Jacklin has directed and acted in more than 170 productions in the last 35 years. This includes professional, summer stock, collegian and community theater productions. He has received numerous awards in acting and directing at both regional and state festivals from OCTA, AACTfest, Columbus Theater Roundtable and OTA festivals. Bruce was also in the film "Nietzsche Ate Here". The film premiered in Washington, D.C. and was featured in the 2013 Montreal International Film Festival. He won Best Supporting Actor at the San Francisco Actor's Film Festival and in 2014 he received the Red Cross Education Hero Award. Bruce is a member of AFTRA/SAG (American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, Screen Actors Guild). For his film and television work he is represented by PCG Talent in Columbus, Ohio and Docherty in Pittsburgh, Penn. Bruce is the artistic director for both MTVarts and The Alcove Theater productions.

You can catch him on stage at the Alcove Dinner Theater this fall reprising his role as Paul Sheldon in the stage version of Stephen Kings' classic MISERY.

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  - the singing actor
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  - Let's Pretend: Create Your Own Play
- Saturday with Shauna
  - Preschool Theatre
  - Let's Act: Theatre for Early Elementary
- DIY Masquerade - with Mary and Leah

Visit MTVarts.com to register

Cast of Characters

ERIC	Simon Ryals
TOMMY	Carter Skillman
AMANDA	Lyvia VanValkenburg
BRUCE	Isabella Oster
LAVENDER	Gabby Fuller
ALICE	Jillian Snow
HORTENSIA	Lark Wright
NIGEL	Zach Cramer
MATILDA	Kiersten Clinedinst
MR. WORMWOOD	Drew Caton
MRS. WORMWOOD	Reese Ferenbaugh
MICHAEL	Lizzie Shull
MRS. PHELPS	Madison Sichina
ESCAPOLOGIST	Devyn Hall
ACROBAT	Ellie Salvucci
COOK	Rosie Bernicken
MISS HONEY	Kiarah Smith
AGATHA TRUNCHBULL	Kale Oswalt
MECHANIC	Ainsley Sweeney
RULDOLPHO	Ashlynn Scott
SERGEI	Dorthea McCoy
RUSSIANS	Devyn Hall Amari McQuigg
PARENTS	Lanah Andrews Willow Barnard Izzy Cook McKinley Figurski Kailee Foreman Nora Gotschall Devyn Hall Kate Marhefka Dorthea McCoy Amari McQuigg Ellie Salvucci Anneliese Scott Ashlynn Scott Avery Sears Rosie Stemen
BIRTHDAY PARTY KIDS	Briggs Swallow Zach Cramer Gabby Fuller Isabella Oster Simon Ryals Carter Skillman Jillian Snow Lyvia VanValkenburg Lark Wright
LITTLE KIDS	Evelynn Brandenburg Rosie Bernicken Anastasia Camillus Jane Camillus Eleanor Cramer Eleanor Goodman Clara Hauenstein Jo Jo Lobdell Selah Oswalt Michelle Packard Sadie Ryals Josie Snyder Kamryn VanValkenburg Avery Wetzel
BIG KIDS	Lanah Andrews Willow Bernard Izzy Cook Sarah Clymer Ady DeCosky Eden Figurski McKinley Figurski Kailee Foreman Nora Gotschall Faith Major Kate Marhefka Dorthea McCoy Amari McQuigg Michelle Packard Ellie Salvucci Anneliese Scott Avery Sears Rosie Stemen Briggs Swallow Ainsley Sweeney

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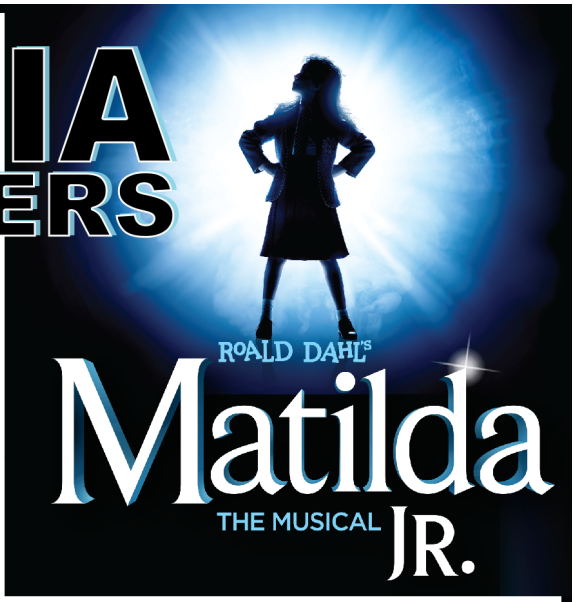

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Musical Numbers

Act One

"Miracle".....Birthday Party Kids, Parents
"Naughty".....Matilda
"Acrobat Story" .....Matilda, Escapologist, Acrobat
"School Song".....Big Kids
"The Hammer".....Trunchbull, Miss Honey, Little Kids
Reprise: "Naughty – Superglue".....Matilda
"The Chokey Chant".....Little Kids
"This Little Girl".....Miss Honey
"Bruce".....Little Kids, Big Kids, Trunchbull, Miss Honey

~ Intermission ~

Act Two

"When I Grow Up".....Little Kids, Big Kids, Miss Honey
"The Smell Of Rebellion".....Trunchbull, Big Kids
"Quiet".....Matilda
"Revolting Children".....Little Kids, Big Kids
Bows.....All

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www.MTVarts.com

Or sign up for our newsletter! Visit MTVarts.com and scroll to the bottom of any page - Click the "Join our mailing list" button to have our news emailed to you!

Production Team

Director.....Bruce Jacklin
Music Director.....Corey Strinka
Choreographer.....Anthony Ingham
Producer.....Janis Stone
Production Manager.....Mary Harris
Stage Manager.....Serra Barrett
Assistant Stage Managers.....Chris Cook, Christan Sears, Chloe Skillman
Apprentice Stage Manager.....Kyleigh Woods
Assistant Director.....Christopher Hartman

Technical Director.....Michael Sears
Set Designer.....Bruce Jacklin
Master Carpenters.....Michael Sears, Bill Szucs
Assistant Carpenter.....Roger McCoy
Swing Design & Builder.....Tony Montgomery
Scenic Painters.....Allison Smith, Ashlynn Scott, Dash DeJulius, Hayden Kirkman, Jenna Jurkowitz, Joaquin Wittig, Julia Matkovick, Kyleigh Woods, Charlee Clinedinst
Props Runner.....Tessa Corrigan

Costume Designer.....Leah Miller, Mary Harris
Seamtress.....Tish Roginski
Wig and Hair Design.....Ruth Frady
Wig and Hair Leads.....Norita Hissong, Mason Mickley
Wig and Hair Assistant.....Bella Doyle
Make Up Design.....Kerri Mahan

Lighting Designer.....Scott Swingle
Light Board Operator.....Jenna Jurkowitz

Spotlight Operators.....Hayden Kirkman
Julia Matkovick

Sound Engineering.....Alex Thompson
Microphone Assistant.....Joslin Frazer

C.R.E.W.S. Kids.....Ellie Andrews, Reagan Cline, Charlee Clinedinst, Lexi Curpley, Dash DeJulius, Brookelynn Finnell, Jenna Jurkowitz, Hayden Kirkman, Julia Matkovick, Aubrie McDowell, Joaquin Wittig, Kyleigh Woods

Ticketing.....Scott Swingle and the Mount Vernon Arts Consortium
Media Design.....Carrie Haver, Mark't
Playbill.....Megan Evans and the Mount Vernon Arts Consortium

House Manager.....Kirstin Fuller
Head Usher.....David Walsh
Ushers.....Friends of MTVarts

Workshop Directors.....Christan Sears, Caroline Pletcher
Footlights Staff.....Serra Barrett, Courtney DeCosky, Kylie Stadler, Rachel Furr
Crews Staff.....Mary Harris
Workshop Instructors.....Corey Strinka Anthony Ingham, Christopher Hartmann, Kerri Mahan, Megan Evans, Alex Thompson, Janis Stone
Workshop Assistant.....Chloe Skillman

Cast Members

ELLIE SALVUCCI (Acrobat; Big Kid; Parent) is a sophomore at Mount Vernon High School. She is excited to be part of another MTVarts production. Her first role with them was in 2018 as Molly in ANNIE JR. Her favorite roles since then include the Gang of Thieves in OLIVER!, and Brigitta von Trapp in THE SOUND OF MUSIC. She wants to thank the audience for coming out and supporting MTVarts!

ANNELIESE SCOTT (Big Kid; Parent) is a homeschooled 8th grader and is super excited to be in another MTVarts production. Previously she has been in numerous artsIQ productions, as well asperforming as a member of the ensemble in OUR TOWN and OLIVER! In her free time, she enjoys listening to audio books and playing with her sister. Anneliese is happy to be in MATILDA JR., and hopes you enjoy the show.

ASHLYNN SCOTT (Ruldolpho; Parent) is a homeschooled senior that has enjoyed being a part of the MTVarts program for many years. She has performed in many of the artsIQ shows, including as Elsa in FROZEN JR. and as Pinocchio in SHREK THE MUSICAL JR., and has also been in the productions OUR TOWN, THE SOUND OF MUSIC and OLIVER! as a member of the ensemble. She was most recently cast as Mary Poppins in a production of the musical at Weathervane Playhouse and as a member of the ensemble for SISTER ACT. She is very grateful for all the opportunities she has been given through MTVarts and all the amazing people she has met through the productions.

AVERY SEARS (Big Kid; Parent) is an 8th grader at Mount Vernon Middle School. She is thrilled to be performing in her sixth MTVarts production. She has been in ANNIE JR. (orphan,) WILLY WONKA KIDS (Oompa-Loompa,) FROZEN KIDS (Storyteller,) OLIVER! (ensemble,) SHREK JR (fairytale creature/Troll,) and now MATILDA JR. She has also performed in shows with Weathervane Playhouse in Newark and the Ohio Theater in Loudonville, Ohio. She loves singing in her middle school choir and with Tavaci School of Performing Arts here in Mount Vernon. She hopes that everyone enjoys the show!

LIZZIE SHULL (Michael) This is Lizzie's 5th show with MTVarts. She's just turned 15 and is a freshman at MVHS. She recently became a member of The Elites with Tavaci Performing Arts. She loves to sing and perform with everyone. She also loves playing Volleyball, attending her Church Youth Group, reading comics and Anime. She says "Thanks for Coming to See the Show!" (*Backwards!*)

MADISON SICHINA (Mrs. Phelps) is a 16 year old junior at Utica High School and is thrilled to be doing her 6th show with MTVarts! She is a member of the UHS drama club and she is also part of Tavaci here in Mount Vernon, where shre has been performing since 2015. Some of her favorite shows to be in at UHS and with MTVarts have been WILLY WONKA AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY (Charlie Bucket,) SISTER ACT (Sister Mary Patrick,) OLIVER! (Gang of Thieves,) SHREK JR. (Tinker Bell,) and THE LITTLE MERMAID (Ariel.) She enjoys reading, painting, and spending time with her friends! She would like to thank all of her absolutely wonderful friends for all of their love and support! Enjoy the show!

CARTER SKILLMAN (Tommy) This is Carters third show with artsIQ. Previous shows he has gotten the role of ensemble in FROZEN KIDS, Peter Pan in SHREK JR., Schwartz in A CHRISTMAS STORY, and now Tommy in MATILDA JR. He enjoys being around everyone in theater. In his free time, he likes to wrestle, play baseball, and hang out with friends. He would like to thank his family, especially his big sister who has been an amazing role model in theater. Also, he hopes you enjoy the show.

KIARAH SMITH (Miss Honey) This is Kiarah's 2nd show with artsIQ and is a sophomore at Licking Valley High School. She has been active in other community theaters for 10 years. She most recently played Wednesday (ADDAMS FAMILY) at LCP and Clarisse/Charon/Mrs. Dodds (PERCY JACKSON AND THE LIGHTNING THIEF) at her school. When she's free she devotes her time to singing, dancing, acting, and all things theatre. She wants to thank everyone for coming to the show and hopes you enjoy!

We applaud MTVarts for enriching our community through the power of live theatre and arts education.

Together. We are building healthy, smart, vibrant communities for all.

DELTA DENTAL®

Cast Members

JILLIAN SNOW (Alice) is thrilled to be part of her fifth artsIQ show! She has been a part of many shows in central Ohio, but she is always most at home here at the Memorial Theater. Some of her favorite roles have been Oliver Twist (OLIVER,) Marta Von Trapp (THE SOUND OF MUSIC,) Susan Waverly (WHITE CHRISTMAS,) and Jane Banks (MARY POPPINS.) In addition to acting, Jillian enjoys swimming and playing the trumpet and french horn in her school band. Please enjoy the show!

JOSIE SNYDER (Little Kid) is a fifth grader at Columbia Elementary she is excited to be apart of the MATILDA JR. cast. This is her forth performance with artsIQ. She previously played chorus in FROZEN KIDS, SHREK JR. and most recently SEUSSICAL JR. Josie has been in TaVaci Performing Arts for 8 years. She also enjoys being a 4-H member, and gymnastics. She would like to thank everyone from directors, volunteers, parents to supporters of mtvArts for making this show possible!

ROSIE STEMEN (Big Kid; Parent) is so excited to be back for another MTVarts show! Matilda Jr will be her 8th show with MTVarts. Her favorite productions have been OLIVER! and FROZEN KIDS in which she played Anna! Aside from all the fun of being on stage, Rosie loves to play her French Horn and volleyball. She is so happy you are here to see the work and joy that has gone in to this production of MATILDA JR.!

BRIGGS SWALLOW (Big Kid) is excited to be participating in his ninth production with MTVarts. He made his stage debut in WILLY WONKA (Ensemble) and has since been in the cast of SOUND OF MUSIC (Kurt,) OLIVER! (Gang of Thieves,) SHREK (Pig 2,) SEUSSICAL (Wickersham Brother,) ALL MY SONS (Burt,) OUR TOWN (Wally,) and A CHRISTMAS STORY (Ralphie.) Briggs is a seventh grader at Mount Vernon Middle School. He enjoys cooking, reading, tennis, robotics and coding, playing cello, and petting his dog. Briggs would like to thank you for coming, and tells you threateningly to enjoy the show.

AINSLEY SWEENEY (Mechanic; Big Kid) is an eighth grader at the MVMS. She has been preforming with MTVarts since third grade and has been part of two shows with the Mohican Community Theater. Some of her favorite shows are SEUSSICAL, 33 LITTLE PIGS, and THE CHRISTMAS CAROL. In her free time, Ainsley loves to bake, sew and read. She hopes everyone loves enjoys the show.

KAMRYN VANVALKENBURG (Little Kid) This is Kamryn's first show with artsIQ. She is excited to be part of the theater community in Mount Vernon and has previously held acting and singing roles in other youth drama productions. Along with acting, Kamryn enjoys playing piano, singing, and any activity she can find that involves music. She would like to invite you to sit back and enjoy the show!

LYVIA VANVALKENBURG (Amanda) This is Lyvia's first show with artsIQ. She has previously acted in other children's community theater shows. Along with acting and singing, Lyvia enjoys her dance classes at The Spotlight Center and playing bass guitar at church.

AVERY WETZEL (Little Kid) This is Avery's debut with artIQ. She is excited to use her passion for singing and dancing on the stage. Avery does gymnastics at Olympic Academy of Gymnastics. She hope to find a career in acrobatic arts some day.

LARK WRIGHT (Hortensia) This is Lark's second production with MTVarts. She previously performed in the ensemble of SEUSSICAL JR. She is 10 years old and attends St. Vincent de Paul School. She is grateful for the opportunity to learn more about dancing, singing, acting and being on stage. She loves making new friends at rehearsals. Lark wants to thank her parents and grandparents for taking her to rehearsals and her family and friends for cheering her on!

Footlights Workshop

C.R.E.W.S. Workshop

ELLIE ANDREWS is going into 5th grade and loves airplanes. This is her 2nd show with MTVarts. She was in the ensemble in FROZEN in 2021.

REAGAN CLINE is an 11 year old who is going into sixth grade at Mount Vernon Middle School. This is her first show and she is super excited about it.

CHARLEE CLINEDINST is a 4th grader at St. Vincent School. This will be her 4th show with MTVarts. Her roles have included Little Elsa in FROZEN KIDS, a Duloc Dancer in SHREK JR., Little Kangaroo in SEUSSICAL JR., and now backstage for SNOW WHITE. Charlee enjoys soccer, acting, and playing with her siblings. Enjoy the show!

LEXI CURPLEY is an 8th grader at Mount Vernon Middle School. This is her first time with MTVarts. Her favorite color is pink, and her favorite animal is a rabbit.

DASH DEJULIUS is a 7th grader at Mount Vernon Middle School. He enjoys being with his friends. This is his first of many adventures with MTVarts.

BROOKELYNN FINNELL likes to play softball. She also likes to dance and sing. In addition to these activities, she also likes to play video games.

JENNA JURKOWITZ is an 8th grader at Mount Vernon Middle School. This is her 7th production with MTVarts. Her favorite roles on stage include Olaf in FROZEN KIDS and JoJo in SEUSSICAL JR. She loves her MTVarts family and hopes you enjoy the show.

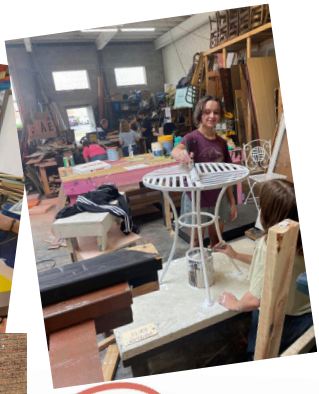
HAYDEN KIRKMAN is an 8th grader at Mount Vernon. She's been in theatre for a while, but she's fairly new to MTVarts. She enjoys many things, especially being with her friends and making them happy.

JULIA MATKOVICK is going into 7th grade at Mount Vernon Middle School. This is her 1st time with MTVarts. Her favorite things are dogs and dogs.

AUBRIE MCDOWELL is 11 years old and goes to Mount Vernon Middle School. She loves singing, dancing, and acting and is so excited to join MTVarts. She also loves to direct plays with her siblings and perform them in front of her parents.

JOAQUIN WITTIG is a 7th grader and this is his first performance with MTVarts. Joaquin enjoys creating digital animations, reading, and playing sports. Joaquin lives in Apple Valley.

KYLEIGH WOODS is going into 8th grade at Mount Vernon Middle School. This is her first production with MTVarts and is thrilled to live in a community that supports theatre and all of its beauty. Kyleigh enjoys reading Shakespeare and watching movies; her favorites being *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Breakfast Club.*



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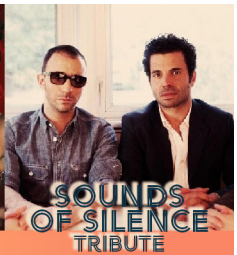

November 8

For more information, visit ccaofknoxcounty.com

Production Team

SERRA BARRETT (Stage Manager) is, as always, delighted to join MTVarts to Stage Manage the artsIQ Fall show! She started singing and acting as a young child, and has enjoyed performing many parts for the theater both onstage and backstage over the years. Some of her favorite roles have been Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn in THE MUSIC MAN, and Nanny/Nurse Maide in ANTIGONE. She has also greatly enjoyed working with artsIQ, most recently directing SEUSSICAL JR. Serra would like to thank her husband, Jeremy and their 3 beautiful children for their love and support.

MARY HARRIS (Co-Costumer/ Production Manager) is a graduate of The Ohio State University where she earned a degree in Arts Management. There she directed and performed in shows with Off the Lake Productions, assistant stage managed with the OSU Theatre Department, and stage managed shows for community theatre groups such as MadLab and Little Theatre Off Broadway. Most recently, she was seen onstage in MTVarts' production of SISTER ACT. She also directed a show for MTVarts' Night of One-Acts, costumed the artsIQ's SEUSSICAL JR., and staged managed OUR TOWN. When she's not doing theatre, Mary enjoys crafting and rock climbing.

CHRISTOPHER J. HARTMAN (Assistant Director) received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Ohio Northern University with a major in Musical Theatre. Christopher is studying with the Great Lakes Michael Chekhov Consortium to receive certification in the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique. He was most recently seen onstage in MTVarts' production of SISTER ACT, which he also assistant directed. He has also performed as Chris Keller in MTVarts' production of ALL MY SONS, George Gibbs in OUR TOWN, Kapila/Devadatta in HAYAVADANA, Romeo in Shakespeare's ROMEO AND JULIET, Etches in TITANIC THE MUSICAL, and he originated the role of Joe Rupp in Yianni Papadimos and Ben Chavez's musical, ELYSIUM: AN AMERICAN FABLE.

NORITA HISSONG (Wig and Hair Lead) has been contributing to Mount Vernon's community theater community for ten years. Her passions are paint, glitter, shoes, and of course, hair! She's the perfect fit for the wig department and hopes you'll enjoy the show.

ANTHONY INGHAM (Choreographer) This is Tony's 5th time choreographing in Mount Vernon, and his first time working with artsIQ. He previously choreographed SISTER ACT, OLIVER! and THE SOUND OF MUSIC for MTVarts, and LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS for the Alcove Dinner Theater. Tony has been dancing since he was 8 and attended various schools for training from Phil Black's Dance Studio in NYC to Carnegie Hall. He performed all over the country in the telethon circuit to various commercials and infomercials and was on tour for RENT for 6 months. Born in New York City and raised in New Jersey, Tony has been choreographing for 28 years.

KERRI MAHAN (Makeup Designer) is thrilled to work with artsIQ in another fabulous production. Kerri studied theater makeup in Seattle and has been sharing her knowledge and experience with MTVarts since 2017. She has designed and applied makeup for artsIQ productions of THE LION KING, WILLY WONKA, and SHREK, among others. When not on stage, Kerri enjoys teaching math to 5th graders at Pleasant Street Elementary School.

MASON MICKLEY (Wig and Hair Lead) is very excited to join the wig and hair team as the men's hairstylist for this wonderful show. When he's not on stage performing or experimenting with styling products, he's devouring enough coffee to make sleep seem like a humourous idea. He hopes you enjoy the show and remember to be excellent to each other and party on dudes!

LEAH MILLER (Co-Costumer) is the Director of Human Resources at Kenyon College. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Ashland University and a Masters of Science from LSU. Leah is excited to be costuming this wonderful group of performers! She assisted with costuming for SHREK JR. and FROZEN JR., and has previously been involved with several MTVarts productions. She is excited to share this experience with her daughter Lanah and is thankful for her husband, Chris's support.

CAROLINE PLETCHER (artIQ Workshop Director) graduated from Capital University with a BA in Mathematics in 2004. She currently teaches middle school math at Fredericktown. In 2012,

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Production Team

she earned her MA in Special Education from MVNU, and earned her Gifted Licensure from the University of Cincinnati in 2018. While in college, she ran track and now shares her love of the sport by coaching. Caroline has been acting with MTVarts since 2016 and helping out with artsIQ since her son decided to give Frozen Kids a try. "I always joke that I am in charge of nothing but can help with anything."

CHRISTAN SEARS (artIQ Workshop Director; Assistant Stage Manager) is a 5th grade teacher at Danville Local Schools. This is Christan's second show as part of the production team, but she is no stranger to MTVarts - Christan has always been an involved parent volunteer in many past artsIQ shows! She is extremely excited to be helping with this performance and working with all the kids in the cast, especially her daughter Avery. She loves being a part of the theater family here at MTVarts, and believes that arts education is essential for our younger actors/actresses to thrive. She hopes you enjoy the show and become a supporter in arts education for children here in Knox county.

MICHAEL SEARS (Technical Director; Master Carpenter) After Mike's daughter, Avery, was in an artsIQ production with MTVarts, he began helping as part of the stage crew and with set pieces for the productions of WILLY WONKA KIDS/JR., FROZEN KIDS/JR., OLIVER!, SHREK JR., and SISTER ACT. Mike says "*If you enjoy learning new things, taking on unique challenge, and being on a team with great people, then you should consider spending some time working with MTVarts.*"

CHLOE SKILLMAN (Assistant Stage Manager) is going to be a senior at The Ohio State University this year and is more than honored to have been able to perform with MTVarts in over a dozen amazing shows. She is so excited to turn in her character shoes for her Converse to help everyone put this show on stage from backstage so you can sit back and enjoy!

COREY STRINKA (Music Director) has been working as a middle and high school music teacher since 2008. Currently employed at Highland Local Schools, he directs the vocal music program and teaches piano, guitar, history of

rock and roll, and general music classes. He also serves as an accompanist at Kenyon College and has experience as a worship leader and piano instructor. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from Ohio Wesleyan University. Corey has served as an accompanist for numerous MTVarts summer productions, including SHREK, MARY POPPINS, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, and BYE BYE BIRDIE. Corey is excited to be a part of the team at MTVarts, and is thankful for the people who continually support the arts in our community. He lives in Mount Vernon with his wife, Juliet, and their three sons.

SCOTT SWINGLE (Lighting Designer) has been involved with many MTVarts productions in the past, most recently as Assistant Lighting Designer for SISTER ACT, and Lighting Designer for SHREK JR. and FROZEN JR. He works at the Mount Vernon Arts Consortium as Ticketing & Client Services Manager.

BILL SZUCS (Master Carpenter) has been helping build theater sets for about three years now. He enjoys the experience of working behind the scenes with such a talented group of people to help bring shows to life. Along with carpentry, Bill enjoys fishing and spending time with his loving wife and daughter.

Acknowledgements

MTVarts is blessed with dedicated volunteers who donate hours of work. We sincerely appreciate each and every one. Cast and crew, we hope you have enjoyed the beautiful chaos of your artistic experience, leaving your fingerprint on MATILDA JR. *and our community.*

Thank you to the following for your special assistance and contribution to MATILDA JR.!

Our heartfelt appreciation to those organizations that provided grants to MTVarts, including the Department of Development, Ohio Arts Council, Knox Community Foundation, Energy Cooperative Operation Round Up, and the Landers Foundation.

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