

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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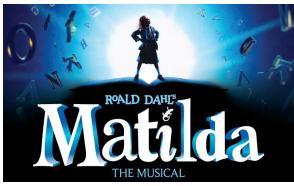
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Read like 'Matilda' and win tickets

Matilda Wormwood loves to read and she wants other kids to join in the fun. That's why she's issuing the "Matilda Reading Challenge" to young readers in Greater Cincinnati.

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is partnering with Broadway in Cincinnati for the challenge. All kids have to do is read three or more books by Roald Dahl between **Jan. 16—March 17** and have their reading "passport" signed by a parent or teacher. One lucky reader will win a family four-pack of tickets to a *Matilda the*



Musical performance April 4-16 at the Aronoff Center, a copy of the book *Matilda*, and gift cards from Busken Bakery and Joseph-Beth Booksellers. Ten runners-up will win a book signed by the lead actress in the musical.

"This musical is a tribute to those who love books, and we are proud to work with the Library to create a fun reading challenge," said Genevieve Holt, general manager of Broadway in Cincinnati.

Passports are available at all <u>41 Library locations</u>, the Aronoff Center ticket office or at **CincinnatiLibrary.org**. Completed passports dropped off at any Library location before March 17 will be entered to win the prize pack.

"We invite all children to discover the words and worlds of Roald Dahl with this reading challenge," said Kimber L. Fender, the Eva Jane Romaine Coombe Director of the Library.

Winner of 70 international awards including four Tony Awards ® and a record-breaking seven Olivier Awards ® including Best Musical, *Matilda the Musical* is based on the beloved novel by best-selling author Roald Dahl (*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*). It is the story of an extraordinary girl who dreams of a better life. Armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, Matilda dares to take a stand and change her destiny.

For details about the Matilda Reading Challenge, call 513-369-6900 or go to CincinnatiLibrary.org. *Matilda the Musical* will play the Aronoff Center April 4–16. For more information, visit BroadwayinCincinnati.com.

About The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is one of the oldest, largest, and busiest libraries in the United States, serving a population of over 800,000 with a collection of more than 9 million items. In support of its mission of connecting people with the world of ideas and information, the Library also offers a wide variety of services and more than 20,000 free programs each year . For more information, visit **CincinnatiLibrary.org**.