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Top Pick



JOHN CRITTENDEN PHOTO

PAIGE O'MALLEY as Little Red rehearses a dance number for the play which opens this weekend at the Hudson School.

Play has new twist on girl in red

By PATRICK VILLANOVA WW/HN STAFF WRITER

ne look at the Hudson Theater Ensemble's latest musical production, a comical rendition of "Little Red Riding Hood," and it becomes evident —this isn't your average fairy tale.

As a part of the theater company's Silly on Sixth Children's Series, the stylized and contemporary show opens Saturday at the Hudson School, 601 Park Ave., in Hoboken.

Starring Paige O'Malley as Little Red, the adaptation of the popular fairy tale features music, dancing and plenty of laughs for everyone.

"It's a zany and funny adaptation. It's very contemporary and very modern," said Florence Pape, who doubles as the theater's director of development and Little Red's glamorous grandmother. "What makes us hopefully distinct is that our shows are enjoyed by both the children and the grown-ups," Pape said. Set in Hoboken, the play

Set in Hoboken, the play follows Little Red who aspires to be a hip-hop dancer. Sporting a red "hoody" sweatshirt instead of the traditional hooded red cape, O'Malley's character also dons a pink tutu and tennis shoes.

Rather than a sinister wolf who plots to devour Little Red, the Silly on Sixth production features Brian Morgan as Teen Wolf, a vegetarian wolf who dreams of becoming an actor. In fact, the audience first meets Morgan's character while he is rehearsing as the Big Bad Wolf from The Three Little Pigs.

"The playwright, Kathy Ferman has a created a really fun cast of characters and there's not really a villain," said the play's director and choreographer Jeremy Williams. Established in 2004, the Silly on Sixth

If you go

WHO: Hudson Theater Ensemble's Silly on Sixth Children's Series

WHAT: "Little Red Riding Hood"

WHEN: Saturday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 17, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

WHERE: The Hudson School, 601 Park Ave., Hoboken.

DETAILS: Tickets are \$6 for children and \$10 for adults.

series offers many kids with their first glimpse of live theater

"Little Red Riding Hood" will be performed Saturday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., and again on Sunday Oct. 17 at 11 a.m. and 1



JOHN CRITTENDEN PHOTO

REHEARSING a scene from the show are Paige O'Malley as Little Red and Nora Martinez Debenedetto, who plays Mother Hood.

p.m. Tickets are \$6 for children and \$10 for adults.

"It's really accessible. If they can sit still for 45 minutes they'll love it," said Williams. "It's a really bright and colorful show."