

the Canadian
Champion

Arts & LIFE

Milton girl to perform in circus show

By Julie Slack
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Sophia Frigo is only 11 years old, but she may have found her life's calling.

The Milton youngster is one of the amateur performers in Saturday's Circus Revolution at the Milton Centre for the Arts' Mattamy Theatre at 7:30 p.m.

Produced by Zacada Entertainment, a Niagara-based company that brings cutting-edge circus acts to the stage, the show features acrobats, trapeze artists, contortionists and clowns. Sophia is thrilled to be a part of it.

"It feels great to be in the circus," Sophia said, noting she sees herself being part of it for the long haul. "The circus makes me feel happy and it's an amazing feeling when you're in the circus."

This is her second year performing with the circus, and Circus Revolution is the first show she's toured with. She practises with Zacada Circus School at its Stoney Creek facility four nights a week.

And Sophia is quick to point out that she's not next to elephants in her performances.

"It's not that kind of circus, it's more like Cirque du Soleil," she said. "I perform doing silk, hoop, hammock, trapeze, canes and tumbling."

Sophia was 18 months old when she started gymnastics. When she was nine, she came third at an international competition in Montreal. On the last day of competitions, the Grade 6 Holy Rosary Elementary School student was immediately engaged by the circus after she saw a performance by the National Circus School at a gymnastics competition.



Sophia Frigo of Milton is one of the amateur performers with Circus Revolution, which will be at the Mattamy Theatre on Saturday. Photo by Kien Tran

"She told me on the long drive home that she was finished with gymnastics and wanted to join the National Circus School," said her mom Jody Frigo. "I came across Zacada Circus School and she's been there every since." For all intents and purposes, Sophia "ran away and joined the circus," Frigo laughed, although Sophia still lives at home.

Circus Revolution tells the story of a group of circus performers, including one played by Sophia, who have been imprisoned by an oppressive dictator. The outlook looks grim for the prisoners, until they're freed by a heroic young clown and her trapeze artist companions. The story unfolds through a series of circus acts that fill the prisoners — and the au-

dience — with a sense of hope and freedom. "This is our first circus-style show at the centre for the arts," said Rob Mackay, manager, cultural services for the Town of Milton. "We always aim to bring unique and exciting productions to the stage, and I think Circus Revolution is exactly that."

Zacada Entertainment is a creative collaboration between three visionaries: Kosta Zakharenko and Christine Cadeau, former Cirque du Soleil performers and owners of Zacada Circus School, and David Fancy, professor at Brock University, playwright, producer and co-artistic director of neXt Company Theatre. They have drawn on their connections in the Canadian and international circus community to create performances that have wowed audiences across the country.

Circus Revolution features a number of professional circus artists who perform daring ground stunts and high-flying aerial acts. Sharing the stage with the professional performers are students of the Zacada Circus School, like Frigo. Performing alongside experienced artists is a rare opportunity for amateurs — including Sophia — who undergo a rigorous, nine-month audition and training process before taking part in the production.

"I'm going on my second year and I love it," Sophia added.

She's going to try out for the chance to attend a week-long training camp at the group's Montreal school in the coming weeks. And for the next several weeks, she'll tour with the show.

Tickets for Circus Revolution, which cost \$29 for adults, \$27 for students and seniors and \$15 for children, are available at the Chudleigh's Box Office or go to www.miltoncentre-forthearts.ca. High school students can take advantage of the eyeGo to the Arts program, which provides a limited number of discounted tickets at \$5.

Julie Slack can be reached at jslack@miltoncanadianchampion.com or on Twitter @miltonmusing.

Daily deals at

WagJag.com

Proudly Canadian

Thinking of Selling or Buying in 2014?

PATRICIA KOBERNICK
Sales Representative, CGA, PMP

RE/MAX
Real Estate Centre Inc., Brokerage
Independently Owned and Operated

OFF: 905 878 7777
DIR: 905 691 9824

pkobernick@remax.net
www.pkobernick.com

1A8L | Thursday November 6, 2014 | MILTON CANADIAN CHAMPION | www.insidehalton.com

THE APPLIANCE HOUSE Specialist AIR MILES Travel and More

547 Main St. E, Unit 16-17,
Milton 905-876-8988
www.appliancehouse.ca

*HST And Delivery Charges Are Extra

Hours:
Mon. to Thurs. 10am-6pm
Friday 10am-8pm
Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 12pm-5pm

4 Days only! • Nov. 6 - 9, 2014

SAVE THE TAX EVENT

when you purchase Eligible models on Whirlpool and Maytag appliances.



Offer is not valid with floor models or discontinued models. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer.