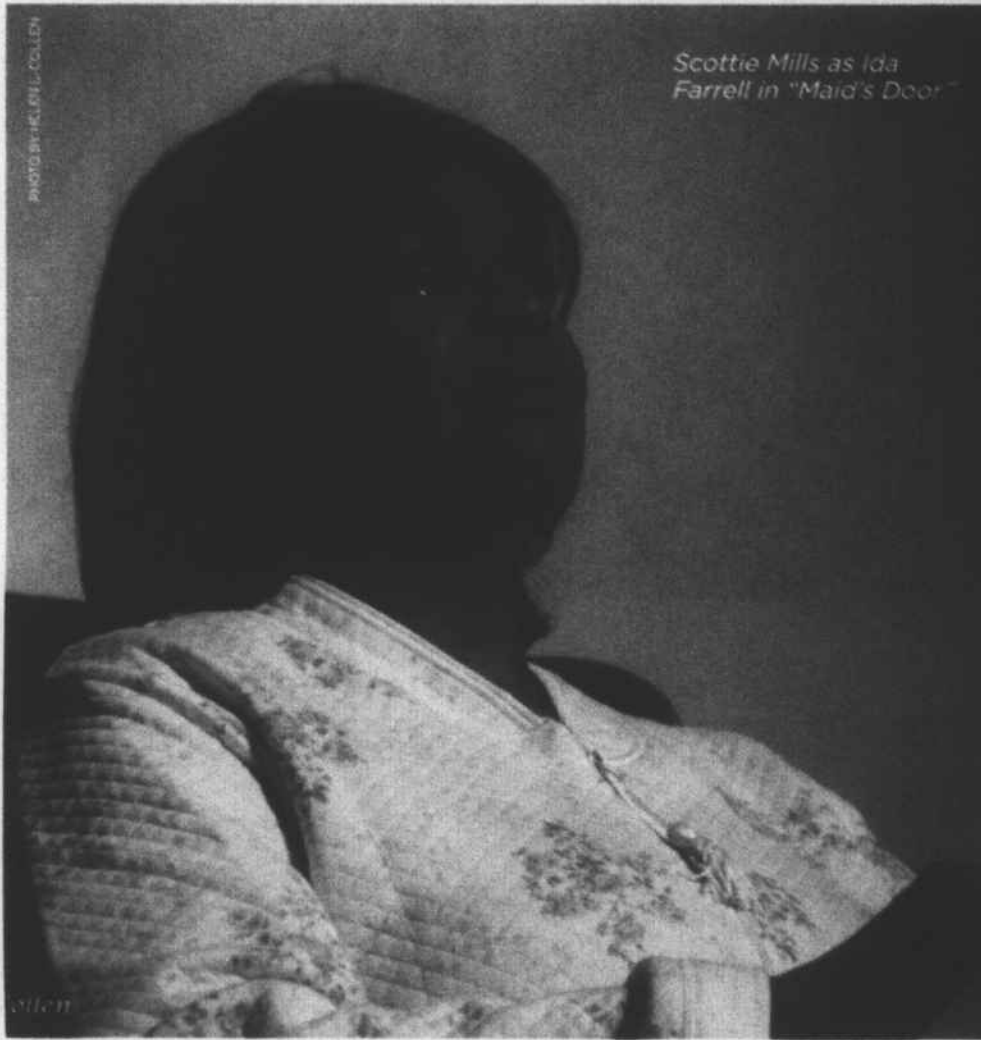


Maid's Door

Scottie Mills as Ida Farrell in "Maid's Door."



Maid's Door

Summit School - Loma Hopkins Theatre

Thurs, Aug. 6	8 p.m.
Fri. Aug. 7	8 p.m.
Sat. Aug. 8	3 p.m.
Sat. Aug. 8	8 p.m.

\$41



Melissa Joyner as Betty with Nate James, who plays Betty's husband, Case.

A former maid moves on up but is faced with past wounds that have long festered in "Maid's Door," a powerful drama from New York's Billie Holiday Theatre.

Ida Farrell was like many black women of her era: she worked as a domestic in the homes of rich white families in order to make ends meet and support her family. But now Ida's working days are over and her mental health is failing. It is now time for her adult children to care for her, and that is exactly what her daughter Betty does, moving her mother into her new Upper West Side apartment.

The dwelling is in the kind of tony buildings that Ida spent her life working in as a maid. Now, she is among the privileged few, a transition that causes her to revisit her bittersweet past and the broken dreams that have haunted her. Betty is steadfast in helping her mother battle her demons, stopping at nothing to restore her well-being and preserve her legacy.

Writers Guild Award winner and Emmy nominee Cheryl L. Davis wrote "Maid's Door." She says it is semi-autobiographical.

"In high school, my family moved into an Upper West Side apartment, and I was intrigued with the fact that the kitchen had a second entrance door," Davis said. "My

grandmother, who had been a maid for a family that lived only blocks away, explained to me that my prized second door was in fact a 'Maid's Door.' I immediately knew there was a story waiting to be told."

Princeton educated, Davis is a former writer for the daytime drama "As the World Turns." Her play "The Color of Justice," about school desegregation, was commissioned by Theatreworks/USA, while "Winnie the Pooh KIDS," another of her plays, is licensed by the Disney Theatrical Group. Her credits also include the stage production "Cover Girls," an adaptation of the Bishop T. D. Jakes' novel.

Jackie Alexander, the accomplished artistic director of The Billie Holiday Theatre, directs. The cast features Joan T. Anderson, Nicola d'Alessandro, Nate James, Melissa Joyner, Scottie Mills and Kimberlee Monroe. The creative team includes Patrice Andrew Davidson (Set Designer), Helen L. Collen (Costume Designer) and Avan (Lighting Designer). ■