



## **Lois Grandi -- Founding Artistic Director**

Lois Grandi is the founder and Artistic Director of Playhouse West and the Playhouse West Academy, directing most of Playhouse West's 58 productions. She is the recipient of the Bay Area Critic's Circle Awards for Best Director of a Musical in both 2003 and 2002 for her productions of *The Boy Friend* and *Whispers on the Wind*. *The Boy Friend* also won the Critic's Circle Award for Best musical production in 2003. She appeared on the Playhouse West stage as Melinda Metz in Michael Weller's *What the Night is For* and before that as Edna in *Light Sensitive* for which she also received the Bay Area Critic's Circle Award for Best Actress.

Lois is the recipient of numerous Dean Goodman Choice Awards. In 1998, The Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County recognized her for her contribution to the arts in this region. Other directing credits include regional productions at The California Conservatory Theatre, Columbia Actors' Repertory, and CitiArts Theatre Concord and national productions of *The Music Man* with Bert Parks, *The Merry Widow* with Patrice Munsel, and *Peter Pan* with Ruta Lee. Her first New York appearance was at the age of 17 in *The Boy Friend*. In the Broadway touring productions, she had successive roles as Laurey in *Oklahoma!* Opposite Peter Palmer, Louise in *Carousel* with John Raitt and Jan Clayton, Tiger Lil in *Peter Pan* with Sandy Duncan, and Leisl in *The Sound of Music*.