

CAROLINE ALEXANDER LEWIS
Education & Engagement Strategist
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Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.
William Butler Yeats

Career Summary

Caroline Lewis is an independent consultant who is passionate about effective education and engagement. She enjoys designing programs and initiatives that are transformative, scalable and replicable. Ms. Lewis' aligns action plans with mission and vision statements and builds capacity, promotes innovation, and inspires leadership in diverse individuals and institutions.

Employment

THE CLEO INSTITUTE - Miami, Florida

2010 on-going, Miami FL

Founder & Senior Advisor

2018 on-going

Founder & Executive Director

2010-2018

The CLEO Institute is a non-profit organization that works with scientists, teachers, students, elected officials, business and community leaders, and the public at large, to promote a climate ready future. CLEO is recognized for promoting climate leadership and engagement opportunities, driving climate action through education.

- Spearheading initiatives and outreach to thousands of participants, locally, regionally and nationally.
- Working with schools, colleges, cities and Counties to co-host CLEO initiatives and expand reach.
- Serving on scores of panels and presenting at conferences re: effective public engagement strategies.
- Shaping basic and advanced training efforts to simplify climate science, seriousness and solutions.
- Defining and growing the scope of work of the CLEO Speakers Network, Teachers Network, GenCLEO Youth Movement, Mayors and Municipalities Round Tables, Frontline Community Empowerment, and other interdisciplinary and intergenerational targets. See website www.CLEOInstitute.org

CONSULTING SERVICES

2010 on-going

Serve as independent consultant for individuals, teams, and institutions, facilitating trainings and workshops to advance leadership, strategic planning, effective teaching, program development, interdisciplinary engagement, climate literacy, climate action, and climate justice. Short term and/or longer-term opportunities are considered.

THE CUSHMAN SCHOOL - Miami, Florida

High School Director

2016-2019

As the 2016 founding Director of Cushman High School, Lewis worked with community partners and a stellar faculty to provide a unique vision for a rigorous, creative, character-based and civic engagement-focused high school education. With her guidance, the curriculum is anchored by interdisciplinary core competencies that include an annual, mandatory *Society and Me* Challenge Seminar. As a result, she helped shape a novel vision for high schools. Managed operations and stakeholders.

FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN, Director of Education

2002-2010, Coral Gables, FL

A globally recognized botanic garden, Fairchild was eager to better engage learners of all ages. Working with scientists, horticulturists and event staff, helped grow the education department's staff, budgets, goals and programs. In fewer than eight years, increased outreach 800%, annually engaging more than 70,000 K-12 students and teachers and countless adult learners.

- Created the Fairchild Challenge program to engage diverse pK-12 students and teachers in a variety of creative, competitive interdisciplinary challenge options to promote and provoke environmental awareness, scholarship and stewardship.
- Refined, evaluated and expanded the Fairchild Challenge as a replicable program model, linking public gardens, schools and communities. Led Fairchild Challenge workshops for potential satellite sites, training educators from 45 institutions, nationally and internationally.
- Spearheaded fundraising efforts to expand programs, partnering with scientists on several NSF grants.
- Delivered keynote addresses and presentations to local, national and international audiences.

RANSOM EVERGLADES UPPER SCHOOL

1991-2002, Miami, FL

Ransom Everglades is a highly ranked, academically rigorous school with strong athletic, fine arts and technology programs. There is virtually 100% matriculation to four-year colleges.

Director/Principal: 1999-2002

- Directed Grades 9-12 college preparatory program; 540 students; 75 faculty/staff.
- Led the administrative team, managed curricular budgets, and supervised committees.
- Implemented leadership workshop pre-requisite for all students interested in running for office
- Promoted teacher professional development, evaluations and self-evaluations.

Academic Dean/Science Teacher: 1991-1999

- Served as Academic Dean for the ninth, tenth and then eleventh grade classes.
- Created the curriculum for and taught Biology, Animal Behavior and BioEthics (Grades 9-12).

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

FIELDSTON ETHICAL CULTURE SCHOOL, Riverdale, NY – Science Teacher

TRINITY SCHOOL, New York, New York – Science Teacher, Form Master/Dean

RANSOM EVERGLADES MIDDLE SCHOOL, Miami, FL – Science Teacher, Coach

HOLY NAME CONVENT SCHOOL, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad – Science Teacher; English/Arithmetic Teacher

EXTENSIVE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL - Spent seven months trekking through Europe, India, Nepal, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand.

Education

M.S. Educational Leadership - Barry University, Miami, Florida

B.Ed. Certification Grades 6-12: Sciences; Environmental Science - University of Toronto, Ontario

B.Sc. Biology (major); Chemistry, French (minors) - McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario

RECOGNITION, APPOINTMENTS & ACTIVITIES

- Membership in International Women’s Forum, 2021
- Reitmeister-Abess Center Environmental Stewardship Award, 2020
- Presenter: Charting an SDG 4.7 roadmap, Columbia University and the Brooking Institution, 2020
- Panelist re: community climate engagement at Everglades Coalition Conference, 2020
- Presenter on Climate Justice, Sant La Fellows Leadership Lab, Little Haiti, Miami, 2020
- Championing GenCLEO Youth Movement 2018-2020
- Presenter and Interviewer, Miami International Book Fair Author Jonathan Safran Foer, 2019
- Featured in National Geographic’s Documentary: *From Paris to Pittsburg*, 2019
- Advisory Committee: [Keeping Current](#): A Miami Challenge Project of Van Alen Institute, 2017-19
- Presenter, Annual Empowering Capable Climate Communicators, University of Miami, 2011 – 2019
- Co-Coordinator and Speaker, Climate Equity Solutions Summit to inform RCAP 2.0 in SE Florida, 2017
- Named one of 31 individuals Making A Difference in the South, Time Magazine, 2018
- Featured Speaker, Miami March for Science, 2017
- Global Changemaker Award Recipient, Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce, 2017
- Lead, CLEO’s K-12 Teacher Prof Development, Miami, Fl. *Climate Across The Curriculum*, 2015-2017
- EPA’s National Environmental Education Advisory Council, 2012-2015
- Author: *Can we Make the Teaching Profession Noble Again?* USA Today Magazine, 2015
- Author: *Just Back off and LET US TEACH*, a book for effective teachers/those who champion them, 2015
- Panelist, NYU/Cornell’s Climate Change Implications for EE: Framing Perspectives Workshop, 2014
- Panelist, Climate Impacts Collaborative Workshop, Washington DC, 2013
- Panelist, SE Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit, Ft Lauderdale, FL , 2013
- Host and Keynote Speaker, Trinidad & Tobago Climate Resilience Conference, Port-of-Spain, 2013
- Recognized as one of eleven White House Community Climate Resilience “Champions of Change”, 2013
- Invited Participant, White House Summit on Climate and Energy, Washington, DC., 2013
- Invited participant at White House Summit on Women & the Environment, Washington, DC., 2012
- Board Member, American Public Garden Association , 2009-2014
- Speaker on Effective Teaching, Florida Council of Independent Schools’ Annual Conference, 2011
- Keynote: The Power of Teaching, Faculty Professional Development Workshop, Miami-Dade County, 2011
- Participant, NSF RCN’s Tropical Forests in a Changing World: Education-Communication Network, 2009-11
- Advisory Council member, Maritime and Science Technology (MAST) Academy Miami, FL 2006-2011
- Miami Dade County Public Schools Executive Board: Science Curriculum & Instruction, 2007-2009
- Collaborator, CICLOS and ECOS: NSF funded programs, Costa Rica 2004-2008

- **United States Coalition for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, NY 2004**