

BIOGRAPHY - CAROLINE ALEXANDER LEWIS

Educator, Author, Independent Consultant & Founder: The Fairchild Challenge & The CLEO Institute

Brief Bio: Caroline Lewis, Founder & Senior Advisor, The CLEO Institute

Ms. Lewis is an education and engagement strategist. She founded the CLEO Institute in 2010 to help mobilize the masses in support of climate action. Recognizing the urgency of the climate data, Lewis shaped CLEO's programs to allow multiple access points for diverse learners, building climate literacy and informed advocacy, top down and bottom up, simultaneously. Lewis' leadership roles and consultancy helped shape education at Ransom Everglades Upper School, Cushman High School, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, and several other institutions. She has been widely recognized for her work.

Full Bio: Caroline Lewis

Caroline Lewis is an independent consultant who is passionate about effective education, civic engagement and social and climate justice. She designs initiatives that are transformative, scalable and replicable. Ms. Lewis aligns action plans with vision statements as she builds capacity, promotes innovation, scales impact, and inspires leadership in a diverse range of individuals and institutions.

Additionally, as Founder of The CLEO Institute, Lewis promotes climate literacy, climate justice, and support for bold action. She is currently CLEO's Senior Advisor, working with a stellar team to advance climate action as the urgent imperative it is. Lewis, a science teacher and high school principal, joined the staff at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in 2002 where she created the Fairchild Challenge. This interdisciplinary environmental education program still annually engages tens of thousands of students in Miami and around the world. As the 2016 founding Director of Cushman High School, Lewis provided a unique vision for a rigorous, creative, character-based and civic engagement-focused high school education.

Her board positions and service roles include: the National Environmental Education Advisory Council; American Public Garden Association; Miami-Dade Executive Board for Science Curriculum & Instruction; the White House Summits on Climate and Energy and Women & the Environment; the Conservation Fund's Advisory Panel on Children and nature; Congressman Curbelo's Climate Advisory Team; VAI-Changing The Current Advisory Council; Miami-Dade County Living With Water Committee, and others.

In 2013, Caroline Lewis was nationally recognized as a White House Climate Resilience Champion of Change. In 2015, she authored *Just Back Off* and *LET US TEACH* – a book for effective teachers and those who champion them. In 2017, she was a featured Speaker at the Miami March for Science and The People's Climate March, Miami, and the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce recognized her as a Global Change Maker. In 2018, Lewis was named by Time Magazine as one of 31 individuals making a difference in the South. In 2019, Lewis was briefly featured in National Geographic's Documentary: *From Paris to Pittsburg* and she was named Reitmeister-Abess Center Environmental Stewardship Award recipient in 2020. In 2021, Lewis was invited to join The International Women's Forum/Florida.

Born and raised in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Caroline Lewis now lives in Miami, Florida with her husband, John.