

Lois Conley

Lois D. Conley, has dedicated many years toward researching African-American history, with particular emphasis on the Underground Railroad and Westward Expansion. Conley was a consultant to the National Park Services study which documented the trails of hundreds of enslaved Blacks that used it to secure their freedom via the Underground Railroad. She has also



lectured across the nation at various schools, churches, universities, and has conducted tours to Black historic sites.

Conley consulted for the Royal Tropical Museum in Amsterdam for its exhibition on slavery. She has visited and studied museums in Mexico, Great Britain, Canada, and throughout the United States. Conley was a member of the Neighborhood Leadership Team for St. Louis' 5th Ward Sustainable Neighborhood Project, has served on grant review panels for the Missouri Arts Council, St. Louis Regional Arts Commission and United Way, and was a founding member of the St. Louis Mid-Size Arts Collaborative.

Conley has been honored by numerous organizations including the Missouri Humanities Council, Top Ladies of Distinction, the Harambee Institute, Elijah Lovejoy Society, National Council of Negro Women, the YWCA of Metropolitan St. Louis, the St. Louis Argus, St. Louis Gateway, Mound City Bar Association, Classic, Greater St. Louis Community Empowerment Foundation, J.U.S.T.I.C.E., Grand Center, The Royal Vagabonds. She is a member of the 2006 class of Leadership St. Louis.

Currently, Conley serves on the Advisory Committee for the Divided City Project, Center for the Humanities at Washington University; co-chairs the Fairgrounds/Grand Metro Link Station Working Group for the Brickline Greenway project, and is an organizing member of the Regional Justice Coalition (RJC-STL).

A graduate of Saint Louis University, Conley earned her bachelor's degree in Communications and master's degree in Education. She also earned a Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies from the University of Missouri-St. Louis as an E. Desmond Lee Scholar.

Ms. Conley grew up in St. Louis' Millcreek Neighborhood, graduated from Vashon High School, and is a life-long member of Greater Mount Carmel Baptist Church.

