

Lauranett L. Lee, Ph.D. Public History Consultant and Visiting Lecturer, University of Richmond

Dr. Lauranett L. Lee is a public historian specializing, teaching, advocating and collaborating with diverse community and academic audiences. From 2001 – 2016 she held the position of Founding Curator of African American history at the Virginia Historical Society, (now the Virginia Museum of History and Culture). In 2011, she worked with a team of colleagues at VHS to launch a genealogical tool called *Unknown No Longer: A Database of Virginia Slave Names*. In 2008, Dr. Lee

published *Making the American Dream Work: A Cultural History of African-Americans in Hopewell, Virginia,* an oral history project commissioned by the Hopewell City Council. She serves on several boards and is engaged as a consultant to various cultural and community entities. In 2017, Lee became a Community Trustbuilding Fellow, a program under the auspices of Initiatives of Change – an international organization which focuses of truth, racial healing and transformation. Also in 2017, Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney appointed Lee to the Monument Avenue Commission. In 2018 President Ronald Crutcher named her co-chair of the University of Richmond's Presidential Commission on University History and Identity. Subsequently, Dr. Lee directed the Institutional History Research team to explore the subjects of enslavement, race and segregation. The final reports were released in the spring of 2021.