

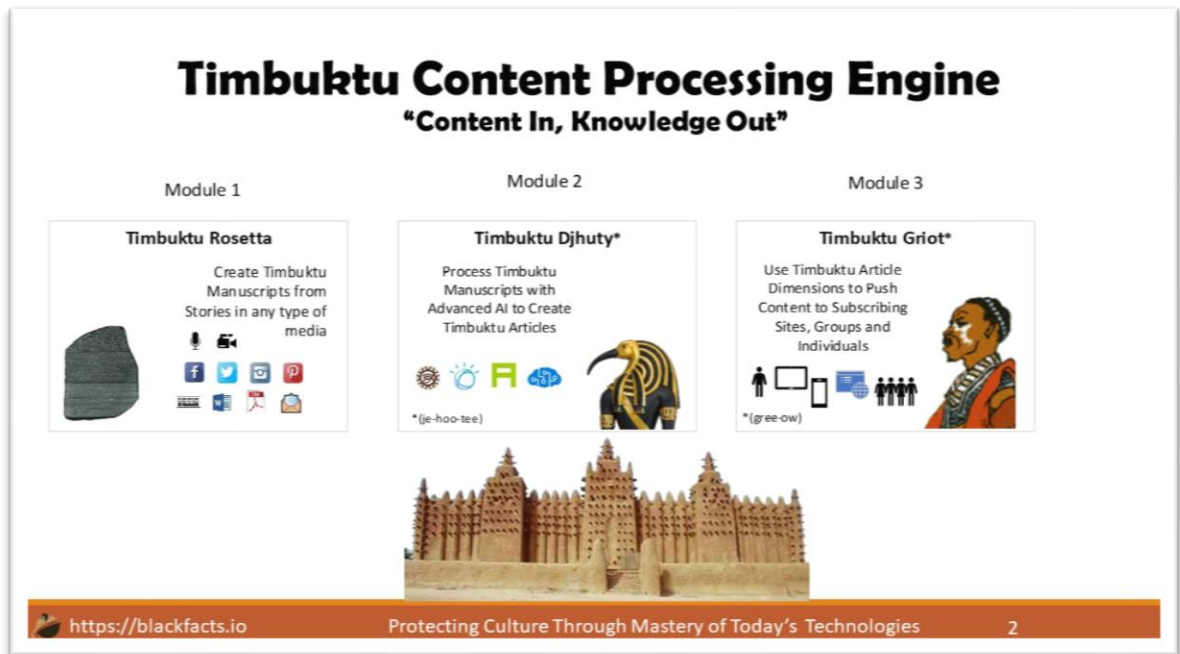
Timbuktu, the Online Black History Content Management Engine

Protecting the Future of Black History, using Technology that WE Created, Control and Own



Learning Objectives:

1. Introduce educators to BlackFacts.com, launched in 1997 by Black Technologists as the Internet's first Black History search engine, that today features over 1 million Black History and global news articles and over 1000 original Black History videos, including Black History videos for every day of the year.
2. Introduce educators to the Timbuktu Content Management Engine architected and built by a Black MIT alumnus, which pulls Black History and News content from across the globe and uses advanced AI engines to cross-reference the content as an automated and scalable platform serving millions of Black History facts every month.



3. Have educators learn and experience the process of submitting curated or authored content to Timbuktu in the form of online links or personally authored content.
4. Have educators see their submitted Black History content displayed on the BlackFacts site and BlackFacts Affiliate sites.



5. Learn the processes for suggesting new features for the BlackFacts site and ways to collaborate with the BlackFacts team.

Category: General

Curriculum issues and pedagogical approaches:

A perennial challenge in teaching Black History has been not being in control of our narratives, but modern computing technology has changed that forever by making it possible for people across the Diaspora to share first-hand stories and research to a global audience via online articles, written documents, audio and video that can be cross indexed to build collections and to provide search capability to the general public.

This content can then be leveraged by educators and used with any pedagogical approach that suits them.

Since 1997, the BlackFacts team has collected and distributed Black historical and news content to a global online audience at <https://blackfacts.com>.

We invite educators, journalists, and other modern-day griots to use our platform to ensure that our narratives remain available to the globally connected diaspora for all future generations.

Workshop Structure:

Introduction (5:00)

Ken Granderson, the architect and author of Timbuktu, will describe the history, primary objectives, major components and future ideas for the platform.

Content (40:00)

Attendees will learn about the BlackFacts.com website and content submission process and will submit content to BlackFacts to be approved in real-time and published on the public BlackFacts site and a BlackFacts affiliate site.

The BlackFacts Foundation and its work getting BlackFacts 'Diversity Schoolhouse' ed-tech platform into schools across the USA will also be discussed.

Questions and Answers (15:00)

The workshop will conclude with an open Q&A to discuss any topics the attendees are interested in discussing.

Workshop Technical Requirements:

1. Wi-Fi Internet Connection available for Presenter and Attendees
2. Projector for Presenter
3. Electricity available for Presenter and Attendees
4. Attendees are encouraged to bring a laptop or tablet
5. Attendees are encouraged to prepare online links to historical or current news stories relevant to Black History, as well as self-authored documents in PDF, DOC, DOCX or text formats