



**Commissioner of
Education's African
American History Task
Force**

Introduction

The African and African American History in Florida:

- What does African American History mean to you?
- Why is it important to you?
- What is Black History Month?
- Why should we incorporate the history in Florida schools?
- Name 15 African or African American History makers (do not include athletes (they are important too!) but not in this exercise)



Overview

The required instruction mandate (section 1003.42(2)(h), Florida Statutes) to teach African American history was passed in 1994, yet educators often struggle with instruction due to lack of knowledge or guidance on what and how to teach the subject matter.

The Commissioner's African American History Task Force offers supports for educators and districts through their Exemplary Districts program and by providing resources, lesson plans, and professional development through workshops. Currently, 11 Florida school districts have received a designation of Exemplary from the Task Force.

This session will focus on:

- resources,
- strategies, and
- opportunities;

for the educational enterprise in Florida to engage in sharing the history and contributions of African Americans to the State of Florida and this nation.



CURRENT LEGISLATION: FLORIDA STATUTE 1003.42 (2)(h)

The statute that is the guiding mission of the State of Florida's Task Force on African American History.

PUBLIC K-12 EDUCATION Title XLVIII

K-20 EDUCATION CODE

(2) Members of the instructional staff of the public schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the highest standards for professionalism and historic accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the following:

(h) The history of African Americans, including the history of African peoples before the political conflicts that led to the development of slavery, the passage to America, the enslavement experience, abolition, and the contributions of African Americans to society.

Mission

The State of Florida's African American History Task Force is an advocate for Florida's school districts, teacher education training centers, and the community at large, in implementing the teaching of the history of African peoples and the contributions of African Americans to society. The Task Force works to ensure awareness of the requirements, identify and recommend needed state education leadership action, assist in adoption of instructional materials by the state, and build supporting partnerships.



GOALS

- **Goal 1:** Promoting awareness, understanding, and the infusing of the required instruction legislation that addresses the African and African American experience into the curriculum of Florida's schools.
- **Goal 2:** Development of instructional guidelines, standardized framework, and supplemental materials /resources that include the African and African American experience.
- **Goal 3:** Provide pre- and in-service training for implementation of the required instruction using various technologies and materials.
- **Goal 4:** Make recommendations to the Commissioner of Education and the appropriate Florida Department of Education leaders that support the full implementation of the required instruction mandate.

AAHTF-WEBSITE

<https://afroamfl.org/>

THE SITE INCLUDES LINKS TO

• Educator Resources

- [Instructional Standards Guide](#)
- [CPALMS](#)
- [Video Resources](#)
- [African American Museums](#)
- [Florida Civil Rights Hall of Fame](#)
- [The HistoryMakers](#)
- [Blackfacts](#)
- [Florida DOE](#)
- [Black History Month Resources](#)
- [Lesson Plan](#)
- [Museum Virtual Tours](#)

• Student Resources

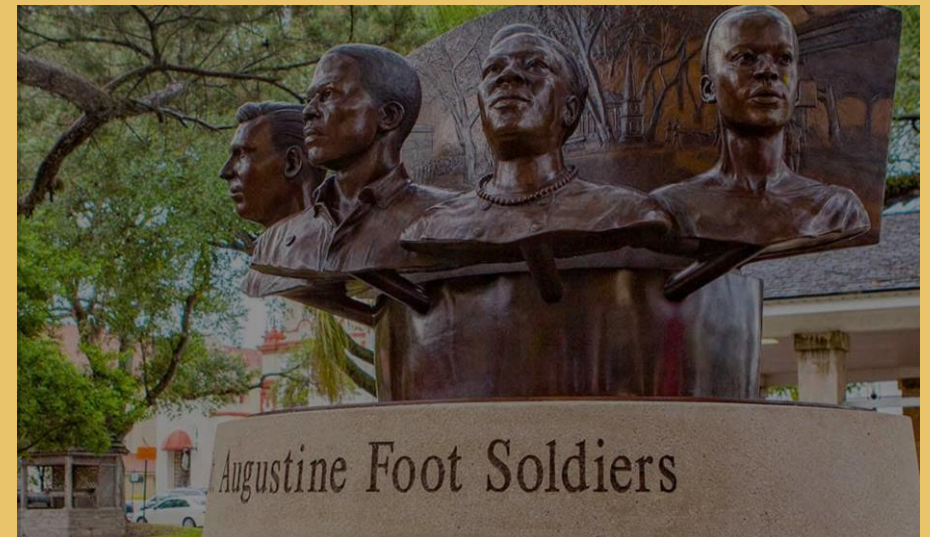
- [306 African American History](#)
- [African American Museums](#)
- [Florida Memory Project](#)
- [Black History & Culture – Google Cultural Institute](#)
- [The HistoryMakers](#)
- [Blackfacts](#)
- [Museum Virtual Tours](#)

• Exemplary Status

- [Exemplary School Districts](#)
- [Criteria for Being Identified as an Exemplary School District](#)



American Beach Museum



How to celebrate

List some ways you can celebrate African American History. Here are a few examples:

- Discover [African American artists](#)
- Read [African American authors](#)
- Listen to [African American musicians](#)
- Learn important moments of [African American history](#)





Conclusion

Questions & Answers





Additional Resources

<https://www.cpalms.org/>

<https://afroamfl.org/florida-black-history-facts/video-resources/>

<https://www.aahtfevents.com/>

<https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/billsummaries/2020/html/2171>

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