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FUND BLACK TECH

A C&I FILMS ORIGINAL



In 2022, just

1%

**of all venture capital funding went to
Black-founded companies—**

an estimated \$2.3 billion of a total \$215.9 billion.

LENGTH: TEN 42-MINUTE
EPISODES (Season 1)

GENRE: DOCUSERIES

BUDGET: \$3M

SHOOT: Q2 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

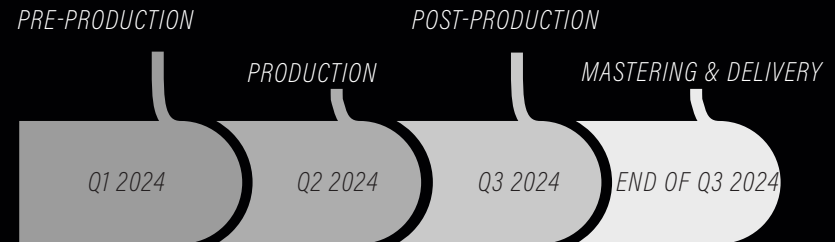
Fund Black Tech seeks to find what is keeping the future Jay-Z or Barack Obama from emerging in tech circles and the public sphere. People know the names Elon Musk and Steve Jobs because they have been covered ad nauseam on television, and the world has seen the fruits of their creations every day. But, humanity has also been greatly enriched by Black minds, which are kept from helping to create the technological revolution that is currently remaking the world.

The story of Black innovation in technology has been pivotal in the past and when given the opportunity, Fund Black Tech will illuminate these stories for a broad audience to learn about and to show the tech world the vast untapped resource that sits in the Black community. This is a fight for social justice of the highest order, not just for the financial rewards of the tech world, which is a modern-day gold rush, which will have seismic changes through generations of communities involved in it. But, the right to contribute to the betterment of the human race which all great minds and creative people ultimately strive for in their work and in their lives.



TIMELINE:

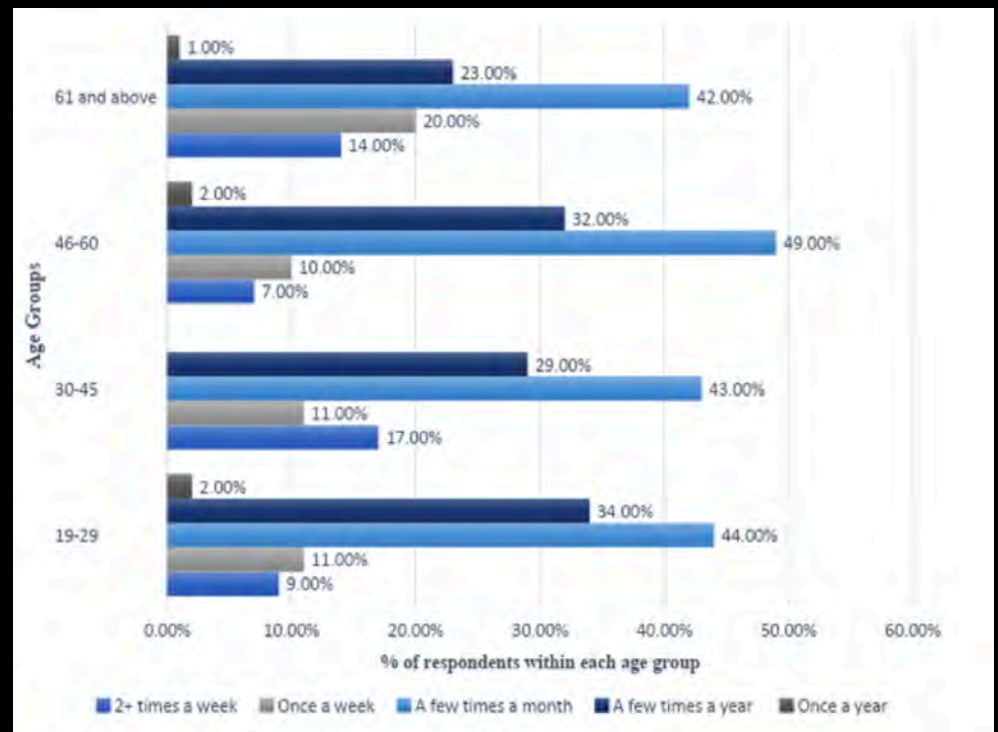
Throughout the course of 2021 and 2022, the team filmed fifteen one-hour interviews with thought-leaders, young entrepreneurs, and leaders in the VC world. This footage, along with new interviews, will be used in Season One of Fund Black Tech.



AUDIENCE:

Over 70% of the population watches documentaries at least a few times a month, with over 25% watching them at least once a week. We believe this docuseries will have a wide reach, particularly in the 25 to 45 age group.

Frequency of watching documentaries across all ages



Breaking Barriers Raises the Tides of Progress

Jackie Robinson's historic breakthrough into Major League Baseball in 1947 marked a transformative moment in sports, shattering racial barriers and challenging deeply rooted prejudices. Today, the journey of Black tech founders striving to penetrate the tech sector and secure funding echoes a similar struggle for inclusion and equal opportunities.

Robinson's entry into Major League Baseball not only transcended racial barriers but also revolutionized the way the sport was played. His exceptional talent and resilience on the field brought a new level of dynamism and skill to the game, challenging conventional norms. Similarly, fostering increased funding for Black tech founders has the potential to transform the fabric of society by encouraging more innovation within the tech sector. Just as Robinson's impact extended beyond the baseball diamond, supporting and investing in a diverse array of tech entrepreneurs can lead to fresh perspectives, novel ideas, and groundbreaking solutions to societal challenges. The infusion of diverse voices and experiences into the tech landscape promises to enhance creativity, drive innovation, and ultimately contribute to the betterment of society as a whole.



The Team



Joshua Otis Miller *Director, EP, Writer*

Since its inception, Founder and CEO Joshua Otis Miller has been the guiding voice for C&I Films. His vision and passion for storytelling has translated to building a successful production arm of C&I, with a full array of RED and Arri Cameras to use as the tools to transform his vision into reality. He works directly with his teams in New York City, Los Angeles, Fort Lauderdale, and Washington D.C. to help elevate the quality of their work beyond expectation.

With Joshua's leadership, C&I is investing more resources to finance, produce, and distribute original television and film productions of their own design through C&I Films. Having written, produced, and directed every film in its library, Joshua's relentless pursuit of a moving, authentic story has pushed C&I Films to be a leader in producing exceptional content.



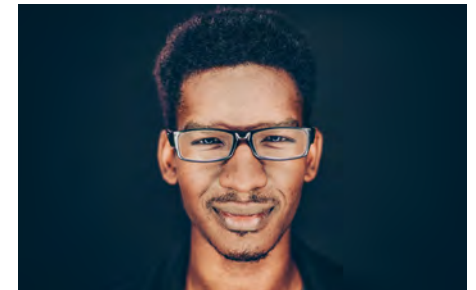
Rony Abovitz *Executive Producer*

Rony Abovitz is a technology founder, pioneer, inventor, visionary leader and strategic advisor with a diverse background in computer-assisted surgery, surgical robotics, AI, computer graphics/visualization, sensing, advanced systems, media/animation, spatial audio, and spatial computing/XR. He has a strong intellectual property background, having built multi-thousand patent portfolios in his start-ups.

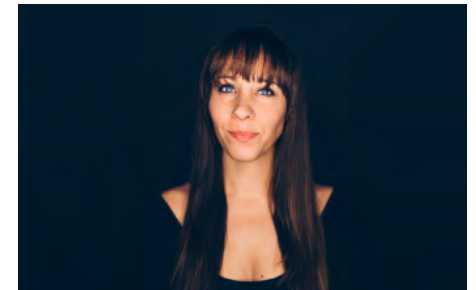
Rony, who is also passionate about building a connected, creative, and collective world of human experience to make a difference both now and in the future, is currently working on his next new venture which he plans to launch in 2021 and was recently selected to join The Boston Consulting Group, Inc. as a Senior Advisor to leaders from around the world. He is a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, a 2x World Economic Forum Technology Pioneer, and has spoken and lectured at universities and technology conferences around the world.



Beth Bryant *Producer*



Joseph Miller *Producer*



Amy Miller *Producer*

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Season Overview



Episode 1

Introducing the
Characters



Episode 2

History of Black
Entrepreneurship



Episode 3

Black Women
in Tech



Episode 4

Young
Entrepreneurs



Episode 5

CEO
Roundtable



Episode 6

How Successful
Entrepreneurs Get
Funded



Episode 7

Pattern Matching
and Racism



Episode 8

Black Entrepreneurs
Abroad



Episode 9

Allies



Episode 10

Perspectives of
the Future

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Episode Summary



Episode 1

Introducing the Characters

In this episode, we get a brief overview of funding for Black founders, with interviews of Black entrepreneurs who have faced success, or are on the road to it, and the obstacles that they have faced.



Episode 2

History of Black Entrepreneurship

In this episode, the characters discuss the roots of black entrepreneurship in America, from the days of slavery to the Reconstruction Era to how Jim Crow affected Black business growth. The massacre on Black Wall Street and the systemic racism it was reflective of is discussed in detail.



Episode 3

Black Women in Tech

In this episode, the characters discuss the issues and barriers unique to Black women in business, particularly in tech. From hair as part of identity and perception, to cultural depictions of Black women, the women of Fund Black Tech discuss their experiences.



Episode 4

Young Entrepreneurs

In this episode, we talk with entrepreneurs who have not yet "arrived", young entrepreneurs who are making their mark, whether coming through incubator programs, or relentlessly persevering to get into the room.



Episode 5

CEO Roundtable

In this episode, we talk with CEOs for a frank discussion on successes and failures in elevating Black voices, and how, in their opinion, founders with great ideas can position themselves to build a business that get attention.



Episode 6

How Successful Entrepreneurs Get Funded

In this episode, the characters who have seen success use hindsight to reflect on how they were able to get funding. We see how successful Black entrepreneurs charted a course to getting into the room, and how they were able to get their ideas funded.

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Episode Summary



Episode 7

Pattern Matching and Racism

In this episode, the characters do a systematic breakdown of the big question of "Why". We all know it is happening, but how do the systems of racism in America define who gets funded and who does not.



Episode 8

Black Entrepreneurs Abroad

In this episode, we look beyond America to see the issues Black founders in Caribbean, African, and other nations face or avoid. At times, the similarities to America are obvious, while at other times, the journey is much different.



Episode 9

Allies

In this episode, the characters discuss when and how white peers and mentors can impact the journey of Black entrepreneurs, for better or for worse. White CEOs and venture capitalists tell stories of their failures and successes in elevating Black founders.



Episode 10

Perspectives of the Future

In this episode, the characters look ahead to the future of funding Black tech founders. From the rise of VC firms focusing on funding Black founders by Black-led funds to discussing whether movements like Black Lives Matter are creating any change in perspective, and results.

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Future Series

While the primary focus of the series is on the unique journeys and experiences of Black innovators and founders, it is worth acknowledging the shared struggles and triumphs found in other underrepresented groups. The women and Hispanic founders, for instance, also have compelling narratives filled with both challenges and victories. These stories could be explored in potential spin-offs of the series, offering further insights into the diverse dynamics within the entrepreneurial landscape.

× FUND WOMEN TECH

Women-founded startups raised **1.9%** of all VC funds in 2022

× FUND LATIN TECH

Although more than 10% of all Latino/a-owned businesses were in technology fields, they received **less than 1%** percent of all VC funding in 2021

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**Extended Series Trailer and Series
Opening:**

<https://c-ifilms.com/fbt-preview/>

contact@c-istudios.com