

AWESOME BLACK

The Awesome Black Foundation
seeks 3-5 Board Directors (voluntary)

About the Awesome Black Foundation

The Awesome Black Foundation (ABF), launching in 2025, aims to empower First Nations creators by providing resources, opportunities, and support that enable them to thrive in the creative industries. The Foundation aims to foster cultural growth, preserve First Nations stories, and promote diverse creative expressions through strategic initiatives and collaborations. The foundation is the charitable arm of Awesome Black Studio, a creative consultancy and studio dedicated to reshaping contemporary culture through a First Nations lens. Both modes of operation were founded by Travis De Vries.

ABF'S Key Objectives are as follows:

Platform – Provide industry and mainstream visibility for First Nations creators, platforming and celebrating culture, ideas, innovation and impact.

Preserve – Support projects that preserve traditional knowledge, languages, and stories, while encouraging contemporary interpretations of First Nations culture.

Empower – Provide financial and professional support to First Nations creators, enabling them to pursue their creative visions and develop their craft.

Collaborate – Strengthen relationships with community, artists, creators and partners to amplify the work of the Foundation and the artists it supports.

The Foundation's Activities

ABF will launch and facilitate the following Activities:

- The Awesome Black Awards – An annual event celebrating and platforming contemporary First Nations culture, design and vision.
- Grants and Scholarships – Financial support to First Nations creatives through an annual grants and scholarships program aimed at fostering the development of new creative works. Each year, the Foundation will open submissions for grants supporting the creation of new publishable works in either book or recorded form.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

Collectively, the Awesome Black Foundation's Directors must provide effective planning and oversight of ABF's strategic direction and opportunities, organisational risk, financial position, performance of staff.

Each Board Director is required to volunteer approximately 1–2 hours per fortnight to ABF and attend all Board meetings which occur 4 times a year, primarily online. Directors may also be required to join and lead sub-committees.

Directors are expected to be able to commit to a minimum term of 18 months to their role on the Board and must comply with the organisation's constitution.

ABF Board Directors can be located anywhere Australia-wide. The positions are voluntary.

Who We're Looking For

We are looking for highly motivated arts, culture and corporate leaders as well as emerging leaders at this important juncture in establishing the Awesome Black Foundation. ABF seeks to fill the following roles:

- Chairperson
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Ordinary Members (2)

ABF has identified the following skills and experience as priorities:

- Financial management and planning
 - Philanthropic relationships and corporate sponsorships
 - Business development strategy
 - Foundations and charities governance
 - Cultural and community engagement
- Applicants should be strongly aligned with the Foundation's Key Objectives.

The Foundation's Board will maintain a minimum 50% First Nations representation.

How to apply

Applications are due by 11:59pm Sunday November 24 and can be addressed to:
Travis De Vries

Please include a cover letter (maximum 1 page) and CV (maximum 2 pages) outlining which role/s you are best aligned with, your experience and relevance for the role. Applications can be emailed to travis@awesomeblack.org with the subject line 'ABF Board Director application'.

We encourage applications from people of diverse experiences, skills and backgrounds, and understand that one applicant may not tick all boxes. If you need assistance or have an accessibility requirement, please contact Travis De Vries.

Awesome Black Studio and the Awesome Black Foundation acknowledge the traditional owners across the lands on which we live and work.