
BLACKTECHSTARTUP EDUCATION

Black Capital Map: Verified Funds, Angel Networks and Founder Access Points

Build a verified capital pipeline from Black-led and inclusion-focused investors without confusing a venture fund with an angel collective, investor-training network, accelerator, prize program or application that is currently closed.

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Black capital is a lane—not the entire fundraising market

This map exists because relationships and access matter, but a Black founder should not shrink the fundraising universe to investors carrying a Black label. Build the best-fit investor list across the entire market, then deliberately include Black-led funds, Black angel networks and inclusion-focused firms that understand markets, customers and founder experiences other investors may overlook. The test is still thesis fit, stage, geography, economics and conviction.

Use four labels so you never confuse access with a check: DIRECT INVESTOR means the organization currently describes itself as investing capital into companies; ANGEL COLLECTIVE means individual investors coordinate access and deals; ACCESS NETWORK means it builds investor relationships, education or pathways but is not itself a standing venture fund; PROGRAM/WATCH means a prize, accelerator or investor with a closed/unclear current intake that belongs on the relationship list, not in the “open pitch” column. Every record below was checked against current public information on Aug. 18, 2026, but founders should re-verify before outreach.

Direct investors with explicit founder-access routes

Harlem Capital — DIRECT INVESTOR. Current criteria say \$1M–\$2.5M investments in pre-seed and seed rounds, no product or revenue requirement, at least one full-time founder, a \$1B+ market and a 10%+ ownership target. Its February 2026 positioning says “All Winners Welcome,” so do not describe the current fund as Black-founder-only. Use its pitch page and show why your company fits the stated early-stage economics.

Kapor Capital — DIRECT INVESTOR. Kapor says it invests in tech-driven early-stage companies that close gaps of access, opportunity or outcome for low-income communities and communities of color in the U.S.; it has a live pitch form and says founders from all backgrounds can fit, especially historically underrepresented founders. The company must be more than an idea: its current criteria say the product should be built/deployed and the startup should be early stage.

Fearless Fund — DIRECT INVESTOR. Its current venture page says it considers pre-seed, seed and Series A companies, wants proof of concept and preferably an MVP with traction, caps the initial investment at \$3M and seeks at least 10% ownership. Its public mission centers under-resourced entrepreneurs including women-of-color-led companies. Separate this current venture activity from old headlines about a grant contest; founders should read the live investment criteria, not assume the entire platform disappeared.

More Black-led and inclusion-focused direct investors to map

Collab Capital — DIRECT INVESTOR. Fund II closed at \$75M in 2025 and says it will invest exclusively at Seed and Series A in economic mobility, healthcare access and community infrastructure. The firm disclosed planned initial deployment of roughly \$1M–\$2M into about 30 Fund II companies, with follow-on reserves. This is a fit-driven sector thesis, not an identity-only screen.

MaC Venture Capital — DIRECT INVESTOR. MaC describes itself as an early-stage, primarily seed investor with more than \$500M under management and current check sizes of roughly \$1M–\$4M. Its thesis is broad—cultural behavior, technological change and emerging trends—so a Black founder should pitch the market insight and company, not assume demographic identity alone creates fit.

Slauson & Co. — DIRECT INVESTOR. The firm states pre-seed and seed, U.S.-based, and backs founders using lived experience as a competitive advantage. Its Friends & Family program is an additional early access path when a cohort is open. Treat the venture fund and accelerator as two different routes.

Sixty8 Capital — DIRECT INVESTOR. Current site language describes a seed-stage, industry-agnostic fund backing undercapitalized founders across tech, tech-enabled and direct-to-consumer companies, with a founder contact path. “Undercapitalized” is broader than Black-only; use the thesis and your company’s fit.

Lightship Capital — DIRECT INVESTOR. Its current site has an active funding application and describes a strategy built around entrepreneurs and emerging ecosystems; its investment material emphasizes underrepresented founders and early-stage companies. If you are post-product and can show evidence of market demand, verify the current stage and sector criteria on the live application before pitching.

Cake Ventures — DIRECT INVESTOR. This Black woman-led pre-seed/seed firm explicitly invests around demographic change: aging and longevity, women’s spending power, the shift toward a majority-minority market, and deskless work. This is a useful example of a Black-led fund where the strongest pitch is the market thesis your company captures—not the founder’s identity by itself.

Add specialist and earliest-stage funds rather than chasing only famous names

Impact America Fund — DIRECT INVESTOR. The firm announced a \$112M Fund III and says it plans to invest in 30 new companies from Seed through Series A. Its investment lens is impact plus venture-scale returns, including products that improve economic agency for communities that markets often underserve. Read the current research and portfolio before pitching so your impact claim is tied to a business model, not a slogan.

Precursor Ventures — DIRECT INVESTOR. This Black-led generalist is valuable because it publishes unusually clear criteria and accepts direct startup submissions. It says it invests in pre-seed and seed rounds of \$500K or more, typically writes \$250K–\$500K checks, focuses primarily on North America and will consider a founder through a mutual connection or its online form. That makes it a useful example of why “no warm intro” does not always mean “no access.”

New Voices Fund — DIRECT INVESTOR. Its current thesis focuses on category-defining consumer brands/services and the commerce infrastructure supporting a more diverse “new general market.” This is a specialized consumer/commerce lane, not a generic tech fund, so only add it if the business model fits.

Jumpstart Nova Fund II — DIRECT INVESTOR. The current official site describes Fund II as a seed healthcare fund backing exceptional healthcare founders. Do not copy the historic Fund I description and automatically call Fund II Black-founder-only; the current Fund II page does not state that

restriction. Healthcare founders should verify current sector, stage and submission route directly.

Use closed or changing investors correctly

Backstage Capital — PROGRAM/WATCH for new pitches today. Backstage remains an important underrepresented-founder investor with a large portfolio, but its current FAQ says funding applications are closed. The FAQ also says the majority of its historical investments were around \$100K and its thesis targets scalable companies led by women, people of color and/or LGBTQ+ founders. Put Backstage in your relationship/watch column, subscribe for updates, and do not build this month's raise around a form that is not accepting applications.

Black Star Fund and other funds in fundraising or transition require the same discipline: if the public site says a new fund is fundraising, do not translate that into “currently writing checks from that fund” unless recent investment activity or the firm confirms it. Starfire Ventures is another 2026 example of a brand/fund transition from the Serena Ventures ecosystem; founders should verify the current fund, stage and submission path rather than relying on a two-year-old directory record. A trustworthy capital map records uncertainty instead of filling it with assumptions.

Separate angel capital from venture-fund capital

BAG Collective / Black Angel Group — ANGEL COLLECTIVE. Its current public material describes a global community of Black tech operators and angel investors that brings intellectual, social and financial capital to high-growth startups. Treat it as a coordinated angel network, not a single institutional fund with one published check-size policy. Your route is relationship, community and deal fit.

For every angel group, ask whether investors commit individually, through a syndicate or through a pooled vehicle; typical stage; minimum round progress; lead requirements; geography; and whether a founder can submit directly. Those mechanics change how you should approach the group and how long a close may take.

Do not call investor-training and ecosystem organizations “VC funds”

HBCUvc — ACCESS NETWORK. Its current mission is to increase Black participation in venture and angel investing and strengthen capital networks. As of Aug. 18, 2026, its VC Fellowship application window is open Aug. 3–23 for HBCU-affiliated graduate students seeking venture careers. That is powerful infrastructure, but it is not the same thing as HBCUvc promising a startup investment check. Founders should use the community to build authentic investor relationships while respecting the organization's actual role.

BLCK VC and similar investor-development ecosystems belong in the same access layer. They can increase the number, skill and connectivity of Black investors and provide founder proximity to the venture ecosystem, but your CRM should label them NETWORK unless a specific fund or syndicate is the party making the investment. This single distinction prevents a huge amount of wasted founder outreach.

Track prizes and founder programs by current cycle

Black Ambition — PROGRAM/WATCH in 2026. Its official “Deeper Bet” update says it will not host a national prize competition in 2026 and is instead focusing on its 157 portfolio companies, including deeper support and follow-on capital for existing companies. Do not send founders to an old “apply for the \$1M prize” article as if a national 2026 competition is open.

BGV Foundation / Black Girl Ventures — PROGRAM. Its current site shows active founder programming and 2026 events, including Pull Up & Pitch opportunities, while individual fellowship application windows have specific dates. For example, the 2026 Emerging Leaders Fellowship application window ran Feb. 16–Mar. 13. Program status can change month by month, so record the exact opportunity, city/eligibility and deadline instead of writing “BGV funding is open.” This is the standard the entire Black Tech Startup capital directory should follow.

Build a 25-target capital pipeline with evidence fields

Create a sheet with these columns: organization; type label; Black-led/inclusion note; stage; sector; geography; public check range; lead/follow behavior if stated; ownership target if stated; product/revenue requirement; current application status; direct pitch URL; partner most relevant to the company; portfolio conflicts; warm connector; founder reference; last verified date; next action. Use “not publicly stated” instead of importing an old database estimate as fact.

Divide 25 targets into eight Tier 1 investors with strong current fit, eight Tier 2 investors worth relationship-building, and nine connectors/networks/programs that can create introductions or future access. A concentrated, researched 25 is more useful than a copied spreadsheet of 500 names. Guide 65 teaches the relationship strategy; this guide is the verification and resource layer.

Use a seven-day Black-capital mapping sprint

Day 1: write your stage, round size, sector, geography, traction and capital type in one paragraph. Day 2: verify 10 direct investors against their own sites. Day 3: add 10 more from portfolio adjacency—investors who already back companies near your buyer, technology or market. Day 4: add five

angel/network/program routes and map people you already know into the list. Day 5: read at least three portfolios and remove conflicts or obvious misfits. Day 6: talk to two founders about investor behavior. Day 7: send five highly tailored contacts or introduction requests and schedule the next five.

Re-verify the live pitch page immediately before outreach. Investor theses, funds, check sizes and application windows move. A capital map becomes valuable when it is maintained like operational data, not published once as content. That maintenance discipline can become one of Black Tech Startup's highest-value services to founders.

Research behind this guide

Use the primary and authoritative sources below to verify current rules, prices, eligibility and program details before acting. Terms can change.

Harlem Capital — Pitch / Current Criteria



Harlem Capital — 2026 All Winners Welcome



Kapor Capital — How We Invest



Kapor Capital — Pitch Us



Fearless Fund — Venture Criteria



Collab Capital — Fund II



MaC Venture Capital — About



Slauson & Co. — Investment Stage



Sixty8 Capital



Lightship Capital



Cake Ventures



Impact America Fund — Fund III



Precursor Ventures — Investment Criteria



Precursor Ventures — Startup Submission



New Voices Fund



Jumpstart Nova — Fund II



Backstage Capital — FAQ / Application Status



BAG Collective



HBCUvc



HBCUvc — VC Fellowship



Black Ambition — 2026 Deeper Bet



BGV Foundation



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