



Black Dot Incubating Entrepreneurial Success

Posted by [Staff](#) / 24 - Jan - 2019

Seattle, WA - It is 5:45 pm on Monday evening and Curtiss Calhoun is bounding around Black Dot Underground on South Jackson Street preparing for Building Black Wall Street Mastermind Mondays. Calhoun is the Community Manger for Black Dot, a coworking space catering to African American entrepreneurs mostly in the tech and creative space.

Mastermind Mondays is a two hour networking session held every Monday at Black Dot, Seattles first African American coworking and incubator space launched in 2015, and provides a weekly place to connect motivated entrepreneurs with the idea of them to be inspired and help to solve each others challenges and as well open doors to opportunities.

According to Calhoun, Mastermind Mondays has been a consistent platform for those seeking a little entrepreneurial fellowship.

We get a lot of people just starting up as well as Black people who might have just relocated to the Seattle area and are seeking a sense of community, both business and cultural, they find that here at Mastermind Mondays. says Calhoun

These days in Seattle you can hardly throw a stone without hitting a new coworking outfit. Lets be honest they are everywhere and as the population density increases and the population in Seattle rises we can only expect more.

What sets Black Dot apart though is their service offering. No I am not talking about free Wifi and a hot cup of joe, which is standard at all coworking locations. Black Dot works with their entrepreneur members to help them find access to grants and loans to help take their business to the next level.

Black Dot has a partnership with Mercy Corp IDA (Individual Development Account) Grant program in which a member deposits \$500 into an escrow and then agrees to take a business development course to teach core business fundamentals such as accounting, sales, marketing, business and regulatory laws among others. Upon successful completion of the course, the Mercy Corp gives the entrepreneur a \$4000 grant for business development.

Black Dot is also a key partner of the ELEVATE Direct Impact Initiative. The ELEVATE DID Initiative is about leveraging the power of collective dollars in our community to directly impact and financially empower African-American owned businesses in the Greater Seattle area. Community members contribute and with their collective contribution DID issues zero interest loans ranging from \$2000 to \$3000 to eligible

small businesses that applied and submitted successful business plans.

These programs are just some of many that differentiates Black Dot from other coworking outfits. Other initiatives like Mastermind Mondays are an example of the support network that Black Dot is extending to the community well beyond just a place to send mails and hold meetings.

So if you find yourself free on a Monday evening and seeking to network with good vibes and like minds, make your way down to Black Dot and check in on Mastermind Monday's and make sure and tell Curtiss hello!

Upcoming Events

D.I.D. Initiative Team
01/29/2019 @ 6pm
Black Dot 1437 S Jackson St
[Facebook](#)

01/31/2019 @ 6pm
Black Dot 1437 S Jackson St
[Facebook](#)
[Eventbrite](#)

Jenefeness Tucker
02/07/2019 @ 6pm
Black Dot 1437 S Jackson St
Mercy Corp IDA Grant Info Session
02/12/2019 @ 6pm
Black Dot 1437 S Jackson St
[Facebook](#)
[Eventbrite](#)

03/07/2019 @ 6pm
Black Dot 1437 S Jackson St
Black Dot Mastermind Mondays
Every Monday @ 6pm
Black Dot 1437 S Jackson St
[Eventbrite](#)