

PRESS RELEASE



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BLACK FASHION WORLD FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH CRAVATH, SWAINE & MOORE LLP TO LAUNCH GROUNDBREAKING ACCESS MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM FOR BLACK FASHION ENTREPRENEURS

New York, NY – The Black Fashion World Foundation (BFWF) is thrilled to announce the inception of its latest initiative, **ACCESS: A Black Fashion-preneur’s Gateway to Advantage**, a trailblazing membership program designed to provide Black fashion professionals with critical resources to thrive in today’s competitive industry. The program, developed in partnership with **Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP**, which generously provided pro bono legal structuring, **ACCESS** aims to reshape the future for Black fashion entrepreneurs by offering unprecedented support and services.

This innovative program, set to roll out over the next six months to a year, will deliver a robust suite of benefits, including exclusive health plans, legal services, vendor discounts, and financial aid for training, health, and legal emergencies and, in the time, housing assistance — essential resources that have historically been out of reach for many Black professionals in the fashion industry. **ACCESS** is poised to level the playing field by addressing systemic barriers and creating a community of well-supported Black fashion entrepreneurs.

The program is uniquely crafted to meet the specific needs of its members, with offerings that will be **tailor-made** based on the feedback from **focus group sessions** hosted with Black fashion professionals. The sessions will ensure that **ACCESS** provides practical solutions that truly, meet the everyday challenges Black fashion-preneurs face.

"We acknowledge the roadblocks that Black fashion entrepreneurs face, and it's our mission to dismantle these barriers," stated Carla Nelson, Creator, President & CEO of the Black Fashion World Foundation. "Access is more than a program; it's an empowerment tool, designed to level the playing field and foster a community of well-supported and adequately resourced Black fashion professionals."

Currently, in Open Enrollment season, the timing for **ACCESS** could not be better. A **recent Forbes article** reports that 29% of small businesses operate without any insurance. A survey conducted by **Next Insurance** revealed that 90% of small business owners are not confident that they have adequate coverage. **ACCESS** aims to directly address these gaps, helping Black fashion entrepreneurs safeguard their businesses and their well-being.

The Black Fashion World Foundation invites organizations seeking partnership opportunities to collaborate in advancing the careers of Black fashion entrepreneurs. Both partners and individuals interested in joining the program can register at www.blackfashionworld.org/access. We are actively accepting donations to help expand and support the vibrant community. To donate or learn more, visit www.blackfashionworld.org/access.

The Black Fashion World Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to bridging the gap for Black fashion professionals. Through mentorships, scholarships, and groundbreaking initiatives like **ACCESS**, BFWF is committed to creating an inclusive and equitable fashion industry where Black fashion and related industry business owners participate and excel.

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