

Access to entrepreneurial capability

We recognise that confidence is a barrier for many entrepreneurs and a unique focus of our accelerators is on building peer networks with like-minded individuals, as well as access to mentors and expert role models to create accessible capacity building support.

Access to funding

Another barrier for entrepreneurs growing their business is access to funding, with that in mind we've delivered dedicated investment-readiness programs through partnerships with Lloyds Bank, Cornerstone Partners and supported our community to access COVID-19 support grants facilitated by UnLtd and funded by The National Lottery Community Fund.

Access to space

Despite many businesses shifting to working in a digital environment, access to physical space in the early-stages of an entrepreneur's journey can be pivotal to providing community and making the journey less lonely, which is why we established a strategic partnership with WeWork to provide 100 diverse founders with co-working facilities.



**Barclays
Black
Founder
Accelerator**

Foundervine partnered with Barclays Eagle Labs, to offer black founders a 12-week immersive accelerator program to grow and scale their pre-seed businesses. Eagle Labs connects the UK's entrepreneurial ecosystem to drive digital skills development to help grow the economy through innovation and change.

Designed to champion black-led businesses through a series of masterclasses and one-to-one mentoring, the program has so far helped over 65 founders accelerate their startups, and be mentored and supported by a network of over 100 experts in sales, marketing, law, technology, business and investment.

"We hope by giving the founders access to the knowledge and expertise we can help accelerate their growth and unlock the potential that we know is waiting."

Liz Boadi, Ecosystem Manager
at Barclays Eagle Labs



Barclays Black Founder Alumni:



Audrey
Limery

Audrey is the CEO and founder of Kweevo, a tech startup that provides Analytics Dashboards via a SaaS model to help businesses get more value out of their data, and boost revenue and growth:

“As a solo Black Female Founder in the UK, I often felt isolated, particularly while building a tech start-up during the pandemic. One intangible and invaluable benefit I received from Barclays Black Founder Accelerator (BFA) was the access to an incredible community of founders, leaders, experts, mentors and coaches.

For me, the cherry on the cake was attending Demo Day, where only 16 Founders were selected to introduce their business: pitching Kweevo in front of a public audience and investors such as Nick Jenkins was a remarkable and rewarding experience.

At Kweevo, we are now getting ready to fundraise and also launch a major feature - Kweevo API - in June 2022, one year after the official launch of our platform. Another brilliant milestone was our nomination at the Black Tech Achievement Awards 2022 where Kweevo ended as a finalist in the “App of the Year” category, and I won the “Innovation Champion” category with Kweevo. The amount of traction we are getting since BFA is truly amazing, and we intend to continue to grow and scale as much as possible. We currently have some exciting things on our roadmap, and we cannot wait to share them with everyone!”



Paul
Watts

Paul is the founder of Lenuity, a peer to peer secure lending platform, that focuses on helping individuals and institutions provide mortgages to their customers when selling property:

“I am a strong believer in the power of financial education and frustrated by the side effects of placing little importance on a subject that affects every aspect of modern living.

When referring to the top 1% financially most people have images of celebrities come to mind, the reality is to be in the top 1% in the UK is to have £60,000 in total assets in any form. That means that you can be in the top 1% and still can't afford to buy a flat in London.

So what does that make the 99%? Otherwise known as normal people or the average Joe, well I would say, poor & suffering.

I think everybody who doesn't want to live like normal people should have a keen interest in finance. My favourite entrepreneurs are people who create opportunities for others to be financially comfortable doing what they love to do. That's why my mission is to help create jobs, provide homes and opportunities to build wealth by unlocking the excluded economy. I am doing my best and always looking for help along the way.”