

Voting While Black

by Ken Granderson



Technology for Civic Impact: Bringing AI and Gamification to the Polls

Voting While Black is a groundbreaking project designed to mobilize Black voters through artificial intelligence, gamification, and voice recognition, engaging Black men across the nation in a historic call to action.

Overview

Voting While Black was created to answer a critical question: *How do we inspire Black men to actively engage in the electoral process?* Our platform combines generative AI, instant voice recognition, and gamification to drive grassroots civic engagement campaigns that empower local organizers with nationwide impact.

Voting While Black was originally proposed to the Black Futures Lab, which unfortunately chose to fund more traditional, narrowly-focused initiatives. By overlooking this project, Black Futures Lab missed the opportunity to support a vision capable of mobilizing millions, not just thousands, and of making a meaningful contribution to the historic 2024 election.

Simply put, *Voting While Black* uses technology to inspire voting and amplify voices—on a scale that matters.

Application Features

- 1. Gamified Civic Engagement:** Users participate in friendly competitions, encouraging Black fraternities, community groups, and local organizers to “out-vote” one another. Leaderboards and team competitions drive turnout and build a sense of pride.
- 2. AI-Driven Campaign Management:** Our conversational AI guides grassroots organizations through creating and managing campaigns like voter registration drives, door-knocking initiatives, and candidate fundraisers.
- 3. Real-Time Voter Interaction:** Through voice recognition, users can access voter registration tools and look up information in real-time, creating an accessible and immediate user experience.

A Missed Opportunity

By choosing not to support this project, Black Futures Lab overlooked a potential game-changer for the 2024 election cycle. Their focus on traditional, small-scale voter registration drives missed the unique impact that *Voting While Black* could bring. This decision highlights the need for a broader vision—one that understands the power of technology to bring civic engagement to a whole new level.



Impact and Vision

Voting While Black is built for scale, designed to reach Black men across the country, not just those in a single city or state. This platform's technical foundation opens new doors for engaging voters and keeping them informed on issues that matter. Beyond 2024, *Voting While Black*'s structure could empower a generation of new voters, setting a higher standard for civic participation and engagement.

Opportunities for Investors

1. **Massive Civic Potential:** Through AI and gamification, *Voting While Black* can reach millions, creating a real, measurable impact in communities across the country.
2. **Adaptable Model for Broader Applications:** While the focus here is on voting, the same tech can drive any competitive, community-centered project, expanding the platform's impact into other civic and business domains.
3. **A Lasting Legacy:** *Voting While Black* is more than an app; it's a step toward establishing a scalable, tech-driven approach to civic participation, ensuring that overlooked voices are amplified, today and in future elections.

Funding Goals

- **Startup Funding:** To bring *Voting While Black* to full functionality, \$1 million is needed to develop, test, and launch the platform nationwide. This funding will support AI-driven voter tools, gamification, and cross-platform functionality for users everywhere.
- **Sustained Operations:** Post-launch, a small team and operational budget of \$250,000 annually will support the platform's growth and impact.

Current Status

The *Voting While Black* proof of concept is live at <https://votingwhileblack.us>, currently offering limited voter record lookup for users in New York and North Carolina. With the necessary funding, this platform can grow into a national tool, allowing organizers and community leaders to mobilize Black men to vote and participate in democracy.

*Thank you for considering *Voting While Black*, a bold and innovative vision for expanding Black civic engagement.*

