

THE BLACK LAW NETWORK 1 YEAR IMPACT MAGAZINE

2024-25



NOVEMBER 2025

BLACKLAWNETWORK.COM



INTRODUCTION FROM OUR FOUNDER

“1 year ago I launched The Black Law Network (BLN).

A community founded with the intention of providing space, support, and connections to aspiring lawyers of Afro-Caribbean heritage.

Because I was tired of going into assessment centres, internships, and constantly being the only person in the room.

That didn’t feel like an accomplishment to me

It made me feel like a tick-box. When I first began dreaming up the Black Law Network as a Year 13 student, I had one vision in mind — to build the network I wish I’d had: a community where Black aspiring lawyers could thrive, feel seen, and access real opportunities.

One year later, that dream has evolved into a growing national movement of over 700 members. Together, we’ve proven that representation isn’t just about visibility — it’s about agency, confidence, and collective power.

This report celebrates our first year of impact: the milestones, partnerships, and people who made it happen.”



LEADERSHIP TEAM



ISAAC
Linkedin Lead



CHIAMAKA
Head of Social Media



CHASE
Head of Memberships



GRACE
Head of Programmes



KISMAT
TikTok Lead



NANA
Diversity Lead



EARLGI
Founder & CEO



DEBORAH ZOE
Chair Person



ANTHONY
Vice Chair Person & Secretary



TOLU
Treasurer



DANIELLA
Outreach Lead



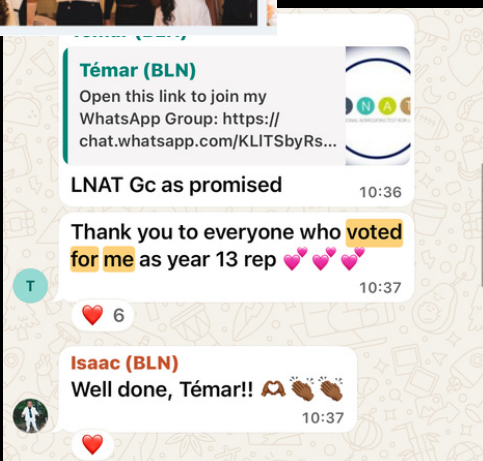
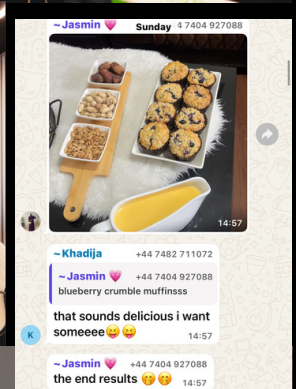
HILLARY
Enrichment Lead

OUR MEMBERS



OUR WHY

THE HEART OF BLN: OUR MEMBERS



Members Spotlight



Congratulations to our members, Ann, Joyanne and Grace for securing work experience with CMS!



Ann - BLN Member



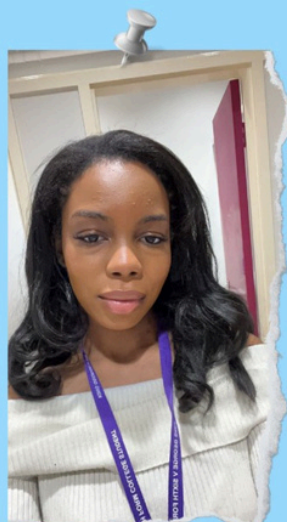
My application process was not that hard, just two questions really helping me delve deeper into why I wanted the work experience and why I wanted to study law. I encourage everyone to apply to this programme because CMS are really open to widening the access to law, as well as the fact that everyone has the skills and motivations to get into this programme. My top advice would be to describe what interests you and what drives you. Give examples/evidence of how you've managed to explore that interest. Talk about why you want to apply and what skills you hope to improve/develop. In the work experience section, you can add any experience, even if it seems irrelevant, as long as it has transferable skills that can apply to law.

P.S. Don't be afraid to brag! make yourself look as good as possible.

HOW HAS BLN SUPPORTED YOU?

BLN has helped me overall with a great sense of community, the feeling of knowing that I'm not alone, and I've got a support group helping me with school applications or just life. In this case I used some of the general tips for work

Grace - BLN Member



I am so excited to have been accepted onto the CMS Connect programme! I'm especially looking forward to gaining insight into corporate and commercial law. To anyone thinking of applying next year: Tailor the application questions to CMS - include specific values, the CMS's clients etc.

HOW HAS BLN SUPPORTED YOU?

Tyra has helped a lot, giving multiple programmes, helping with WEX, that stuff. Earligi has helped: whenever I needed advice to apply for a programme, she helped. Then the seminars are good as well. Then the wisdom Wednesday today for video interviews was really helpful

Joyanna - BLN Member



The application process for CMS was really straightforward and supportive. It felt like they genuinely wanted to get to know me rather than just assess me. I'm excited to see, firsthand, what a career in law looks like day to day, connect with current lawyers, use this opportunity to ask questions, and build confidence. To anyone thinking about applying next year, my advice is to just go for it! Do some research about the law firm, and most importantly, believe in your potential!

HOW HAS BLN SUPPORTED YOU?

Seeing others share their journeys and achievements gave me the confidence to go for opportunities I might have otherwise talked myself out of. It's amazing to feel part of a community that really gets it and wants to see you win.

There's 811 of us now 🙌






**We Are
Celebrating**

800

Members

BLN 2025 EVENTS

LAW UNLOCKED: DIVERSE PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS WITH DENTONS X BLN

 **TUESDAY 18TH
FEBRUARY**
 **12:00 - 13:00
PM**
 **ONLINE ZOOM**

JOIN US

FOR AN INSIGHTFUL SESSION
FEATURING A GLOBAL LAW
FIRM AND A PANEL OF THEIR
REPRESENTATIVES



Ayo
Adesida
I AM THE
HOST



BLN x FLADGATE
Black Law Conference
SOLD OUT 9 OCT 2025

 "Celebrating Black
History Month and the 1
year anniversary of The
Black Law Network
with power and pride" 

**A-LEVEL
REVISION
WORKSHOP**

 **MONDAY 21ST
APRIL**
 **16:00 - 19:00
PM**
 **ONLINE (TEAMS)**



**AQA & OCR LAW
AQA SOCIOLOGY
AQA & OCR ENGLISH
LITERATURE
AQA PSYCHOLOGY
AQA & EDEXCEL HISTORY
EDEXCEL POLITICS
EDEXCEL & AQA BUSINESS**



Going from a LinkedIn Zero TO A LINKEDIN HERO

 **NOV
24TH**
 **18:00PM**

**FEAT. AYO
ADESIDA**

JOIN US

FOR A CHANCE TO
LEARN ALL THE TIPS AND
TRICKS TO SUCCEED ON
LINKEDIN



RAISING THE BAR: BLACK WOMEN IN LAW & LEADERSHIP

 **MONDAY 24TH
MARCH**
 **19:00 - 20:30
PM**
 **ONLINE (TEAMS)**



THE FUTURE LAWYER'S PLAYBOOK: COMMERCIAL AWARENESS EDITION WITH LITTLELAW

 **THURSDAY
30TH
JANUARY**
 **16:00 - 17:00
PM**
 **ONLINE GOOGLE
MEET**

JOIN US

FOR AN EXCITING WORKSHOP
INTO COMMERCIAL
AWARENESS WITH A TOP LAW
NEWSLETTER



FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP WITH BLN X WEALTHBRITE

 **TUESDAY 16TH
SEPTEMBER**
 **19:00 - 20:00
PM**
 **ONLINE (ZOOM)**

JOIN US

FOR AN INSIGHTFUL SESSION
FEATURING A GLOBAL LAW FIRM
AND A PANEL OF THEIR
REPRESENTATIVES



**BLN x DWF LAW &
LEARN MASTERCLASS
(FOR SIXTH FORMERS &
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS)**



**WORKSHOP 1: SIXTH
FORM & SOLICITOR
APPRENTICE EDITION**
 **6:00 - 7:30
PM**
 **TUESDAY 23RD
SEPTEMBER**

**WORKSHOP 2: UNIVERSITY
& VACATION SCHEME
EDITION**
 **6:00 - 7:30
PM**
 **TUESDAY 30TH
SEPTEMBER**



 **LIVE CASE STUDY
SPOTTING APPLICATION
MISTAKES
AI & DEI @ DWF
PANEL SPEAKERS**

A photograph of a young Black couple smiling and posing for a photo. The woman is on the left, wearing a dark maroon top, and the man is on the right, wearing a light orange button-down shirt. The man has his arm around the woman's shoulder. The background is slightly blurred, showing an indoor setting with warm lighting.

SCHILLINGS

LAW DEBATE NIGHT X SCHILLINGS

2025

The Black Law Network (BLN)
 2,441 followers
 4mo • Edited • 🌐

hosted our first in-person event and it popped d
 ...mo

Debate Night Carousel • 7 pages



You and 53 others 15 comments • 8 rep

Schillings
 12,146 followers
 3mo • 🌐

What's the best route into law: university or an apprenticeship?
 ...more



You and 71 others 4 comments • 8 reposts

Love Comment Repost Send

Solicitor Apprentice at Schillings | Treasurer...
 4mo • Edited • 🌐

Yesterday we ran our first event! 🥳

It was a really insightful evening where we ...more



1ST EVENT
 = SOLD
 OUT IN 30
 MINUTES

"FASCINATING DEBATE ON CHOOSING
 UNI VS APPRENTICESHIP"



The Law Debate Night at Schillings brought together members of The Black Law Network for an engaging and thought-provoking discussion on one of the most relevant topics for aspiring lawyers: apprenticeship versus university pathways. Participants showcased their knowledge, reasoning, and persuasive skills as they debated the merits and challenges of each route into the legal profession. The evening highlighted the diversity of experience and perspective within the network, fostering a space where members could critically examine the choices shaping their futures while sharpening their advocacy skills.

After the debates, the night transitioned into a relaxed networking session complete with pizza and conversation, allowing attendees to connect, share experiences, and build relationships. This combination of intellectual challenge and community bonding perfectly captured the essence of The Black Law Network, empowering members to grow, learn, and celebrate one another's achievements. The event not only offered insight into career pathways but also strengthened the sense of unity and shared purpose that drives the network forward.







FLADGATE

BLACK. LAW CONFERENCE

2025



The Law Conference reminded us that progress is not achieved in isolation but through the bridges we build between generations, experiences, and perspectives. As future and current legal professionals came together, conversations sparked collaboration, mentorship, and a shared commitment to transforming the face of law. The stories, insights, and ambitions exchanged throughout the day reflected a powerful truth, that the future of Black excellence in the legal sphere is one of unity, resilience, and purpose. By connecting today's changemakers with tomorrow's leaders, The Black Law Network continues to create pathways that ensure our community not only thrives but leads with integrity and vision.

**BUILDING
BRIDGES FOR
TOMORROW**

CELEBRATING

Each Other



Voices in Action

At our annual Law Conference, members and guest speakers came together to explore the role of Black voices in shaping the future of the legal profession. The discussions were thought-provoking, empowering, and rooted in a shared commitment to justice and representation. Each conversation reflected the strength of our community and the brilliance of its emerging leaders. Through dialogue and unity, we continue to define what it means to be heard in law.

Honouring Our Legacy



Honouring Our Legacy

The Black History Month Law Conference served as a reminder of the trailblazers who paved the way for us. Through powerful conversations and shared experiences, we reflected on the intersection of law, identity, and justice. The event celebrated both history and progress, inspiring us to continue pushing boundaries. Each moment was a tribute to the legacy of Black excellence in the legal field.



Unity in Celebration

Beyond the panels and presentations, what truly stood out was the sense of community that filled every room. Members connected, collaborated, and celebrated one another's achievements with genuine pride. These moments of laughter, mentorship, and solidarity captured the essence of what The Black Law Network stands for. Together, we are more than a network — we are a family shaping the future of law.

BLACK EXCELLENCE



CREATING IMPACT

Abdulbazid Yusuf • 1st
 Founder of Law Lovers | Aspiring S
 1mo • Edited •

BLN x Fladgate Black Law Conferen

had a wonderful and insightful evening



You and 30 others 18 comme

Celebrate **Comment** **Repo**

Grace Obasohan • 1st
 Penultimate English Undergraduate @ Univer
 4w • Edited •

"If you want to go fast, go alone. But if you want
 far, go together"



You and 132 others 18 comments • 12 r

VISIBLE IMPACT

OUR MEMBERS ARE STEPPING
 CONFIDENTLY INTO THEIR CAREERS.

fl **Fladgate LLP**
 12,557 followers
 3w •

We recently hosted a Black Law Conference in
 collaboration with the **The Black Law Network (BLN)**.
 The event was in celebration of Black History ...more



You and 123 others 9 comments • 13 reposts

SAY MY NAME



AUGUST CAMPAIGN

2025

[@the.black.law.net](#)

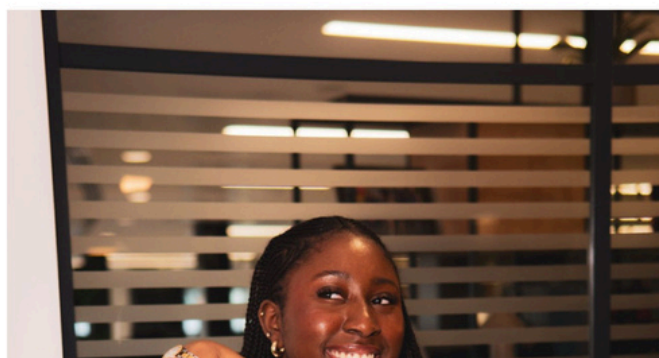
asked to tell stand up, say our full names and breakdown what it means. Until that day, I had never fully grasped the significance of the multiple names I bear - that my introduction to the world can hold so much power.

My name reminds me of the goodness and blessing of God in my life. It also reminds me of the richness of both my Yoruba and Edo culture (for those that don't know I'm half Yoruba and Edo- a crucial part of my identity I only found out about in Year 10).

Many know me as Grace, often telling me they feel blessed when they say my name. These past few years, I've resonated more with my Yoruba name - it reminds me of Gods goodness over my life, and that he continues to stay good and faithful.

What does your name mean, and how does it resonate with you ?

#SAYMYNAME The Black Law Network (BLN)



SAY MY NAME

"A CHANCE TO CELEBRATE THE STORY, CULTURE AND MEANING BEHIND YOUR NAME."

parents thought I was going to be a boy 😊... (I don't know how I would've coped because I love being a girl.) After my parents found out my gender, they were stuck on names to give me. They wanted something unique, and then my older cousin (who I consider my sister) came up with my name—Honorina, derived from my grandma's name, Honorine.

My name means "to honour." I've received countless compliments on it, but I've also heard more mispronunciations than I can count. Still, that just shows how much it stands out.

My surname, Diangituka, comes from my Congolese heritage. Surprisingly enough, it doesn't have a listed meaning but approximately 228 people bear this surname, and I'm proud to be amongst them.

I want to thank **The Black Law Network (BLN)** and their **#SAYMYNAME** campaign for enabling me to share a part of me that I don't usually speak on.

#SayMyName #HonorinaDiangituka #Identity #MyNameMatters #BlackLawNetwork #Storytelling #Family



Grace Ige • 1st

Year 13 | Student at Riverside Sixth Form | Aspiring...
3mo • Edited • 📍

Hello network!

This isn't one of my usual posts, but I thought I'd bring a different perspective to the **#SAYMYNAME** campaign.

My name is Grace Ifeoluwa Ige. The name Ifeoluwa originates from the Yoruba culture and means love of God or God's love. However, I go by the name Grace.

And no my name isn't difficult to pronounce, it doesn't hold much cultural significance and it isn't as eccentric or unheard of in comparison to the other names out there however, it still holds a special place in my heart.

Grace within Christianity means unmerited favour, mercy and forgiveness and God's grace is the reason that we are saved despite our sinful human nature but it can also mean elegance and beauty. Having this name has been a part of my identity for my whole life as it has taught me to be forgiving, to love others and to show mercy to others just like Jesus has done for me!

Although on the surface level, the name Grace seems like the name of a person you've probably met in your lifetime or the name of a prayer you say before eating your food or after a church service, to me it has been

CITY CENTURY AWARD

BEST THIRD PARTY COLLABORATION
NOMINEE

2025



“WE DID IT JOE”

This was exactly how we felt when our LinkedIn Lead, Isaac Kamidiara, read out our nomination email—mid-pitching for an upcoming event! 🥹

The Black Law Network (BLN) has been nominated for a City Century Award! 🏆

One of these days, Isaac might actually give me a heart attack with these surprises 😊

Shocked. Happy. Surprised. Delighted. Excited.

We felt everything—but most of all, grateful.

We're incredibly thankful to City Century for nominating us for Best Third Party Collaboration, alongside so many stellar organisations, including our amazing BLN partners LittleLaw and Wealthbrite.

Solicitor Apprenticeships are a crucial pathway—they make law accessible to those who might not otherwise have the opportunity.

As a law student, I can say firsthand how financial barriers deeply impact the journey. City Century's work in this space has been nothing short of phenomenal.

A massive congratulations to our very own Treasurer, Tolu Ayeni, for being nominated for Solicitor Apprentice: Paving It Forward!

We're so excited for what promises to be an incredible evening!

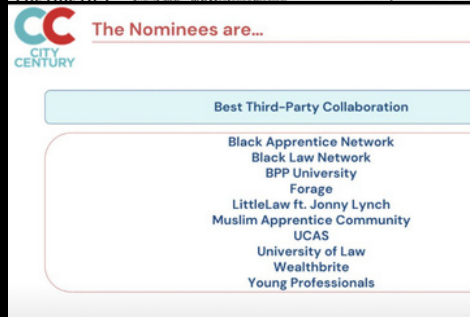
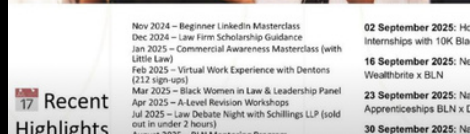
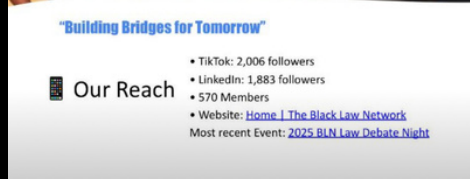
Huge thanks to City Century, Patrick McCann, Joanna Hughes, Lila Vialat, and Joanne Gubbay for the recognition—and to our powerhouse leadership team:

Carley, Grace, Chiamaka, Jane, Anthony, Nana, Isaac, Tolu, Tyra, Chase, Deborah (Zoe), Faysal—you've all been phenomenal this year!

Let's keep pushing boundaries. 🚀

Check out our nicely edited announcement video here 📺:

<https://lnkd.in/eyzHySZr>





BLN 2025 MENTORING PROGRAMME

"THE WAIT IS FINALLY OVER..."

We have finally launched our 2025 Mentoring Programme and we just want to say a HUGE thank you to our incredible mentors for this year:

Anuoluwapo Yeku, Jemimah Kalule, Erika Frimpong, Helena Neverovska-Wedderburn, Folakemi Adeola,, Witney A., Abdulbazid Y., Sharon Anene and Godgift Imafidon!

We're so excited to see them partner with their mentees over the coming months, sharing wisdom, guidance, and support as their mentees navigate their journeys into law. 🙌

A MASSIVE well done to our Head of Programmes, Grace Obasohan, for bringing this programme to life.

We can't wait to see the relationships that grow from it and the impact it will have on our community.

We're really out here building bridges. 🤝



Sharon Anene



Whitney Aiguokhian



Jemimah Kalule



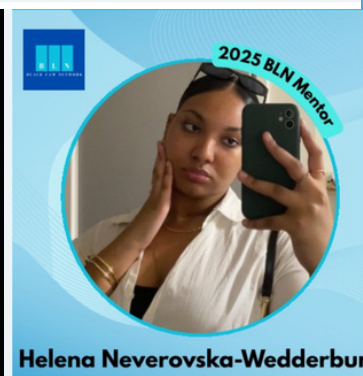
Folakemi Adeola



Erika Frimpong



Abdulbazid Yusuf



Helena Neverovska-Wedderburn



Anuoluwapo Yeku



Godgift Imafidon



MILESTONES



MEMORIES

JAN 2025

Partnered with LittleLaw to host a commercial awareness masterclass

FEB 2025

partnered with Dentons for our First Law Masterclass, Law Unlocked

MARCH 2025

Celebrated International Womens Month with a Black Women in Law and Leadership Panel

APRIL 2025

Held A level Revision Work Shops

JULY 2025

Partnered with Schillings to host Law Debate Night

SEP 2025

Partnered with Wealthbrite, Cambridg, Fladgate, DWF and 10 K Black Interns

Nominated for City Century Awards, Best Third Party Collaboration

OCT 2025

Celebrated 1 year anniversary & Black History Month

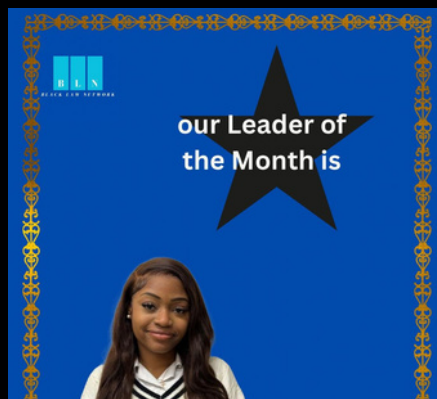
NOV 2025

Nominated for Women and Divesty in Law Awards, Diversity Initiative of the Year

800 Members

OUR LEADERS OF THE MONTH

This Year



BLN Socials



ON CAMPUS



University of
Roehampton

Law Fair

SHAPING FUTURES

BLN 2025 REPRESENTATIVES

dgate



“THE ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN! 🗳️👤”

We're SO excited to officially announce the results for our Year Group Representatives!

Congratulations to our newly elected representatives:

★ Year 12 Rep: Janine Ngotho

★ Year 13 Rep: Témar Nelson

★ First Year Rep: Miles Francis

★ Co-Penultimate Year Reps: Witney A. & Sharon Anene

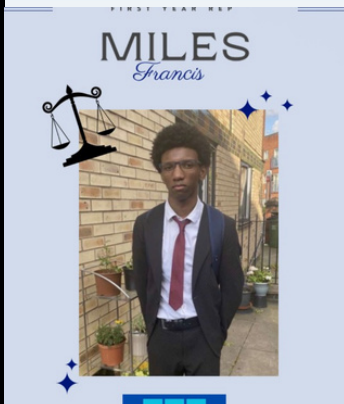
★ Solicitor Apprentice Rep: Latifa Hussein Ali

These passionate members will be the voice of their year groups, making sure your ideas and experiences are heard loud and clear.

A MASSIVE thank you to everyone who put themselves forward and to everyone who voted. You've made BLN stronger, and we appreciate you more than you know. 🙌👏

Stay tuned to see what our new reps cook up with the wider team, for their year groups!

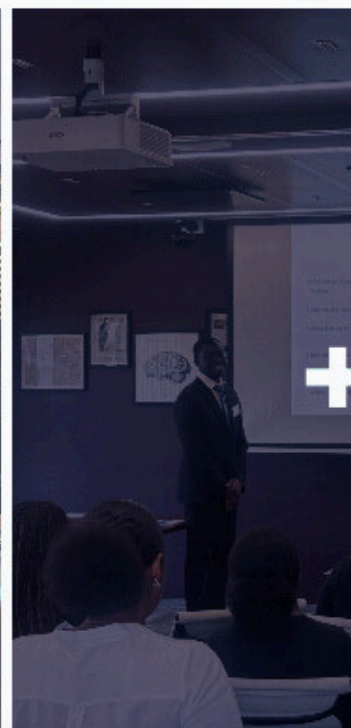
BLN to the world (and beyond!! ❤️)



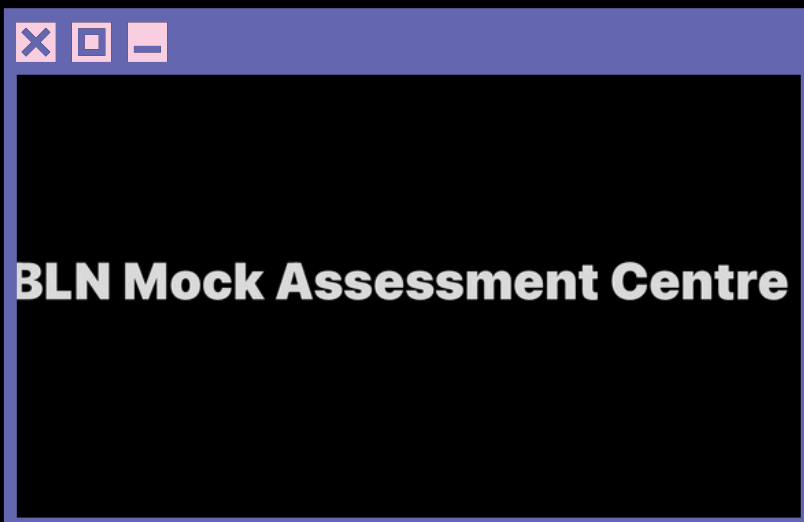
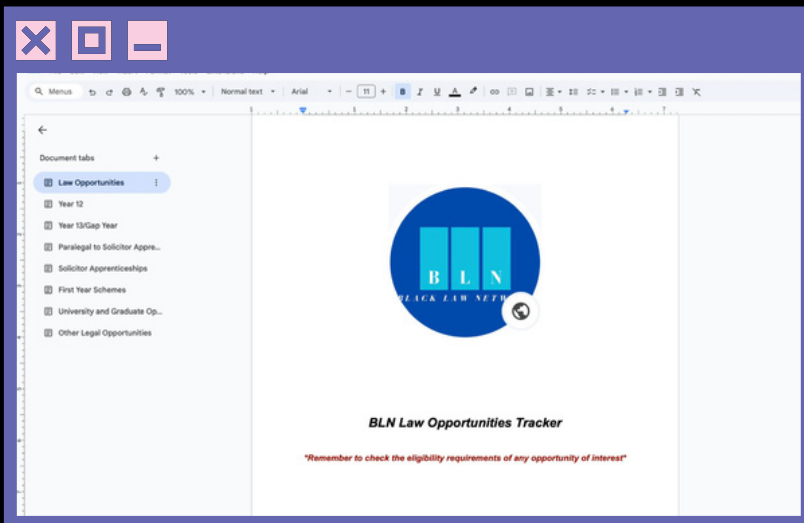
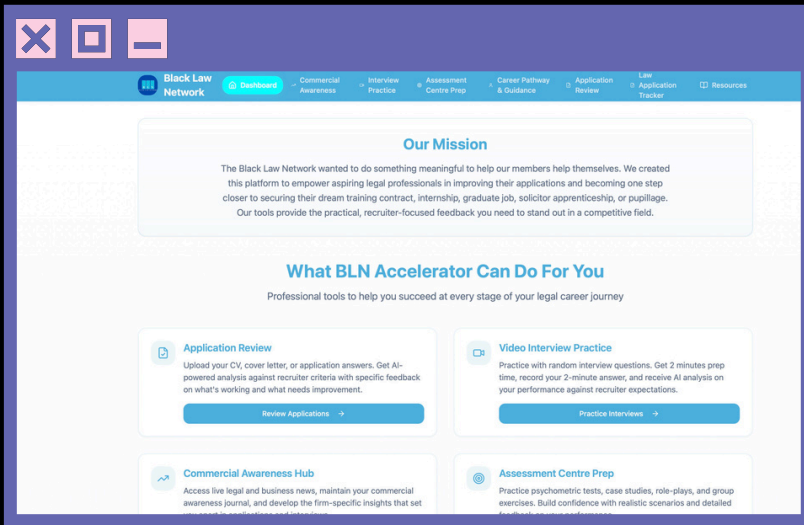
COMING SOON

EVENTS AND RESOURCES

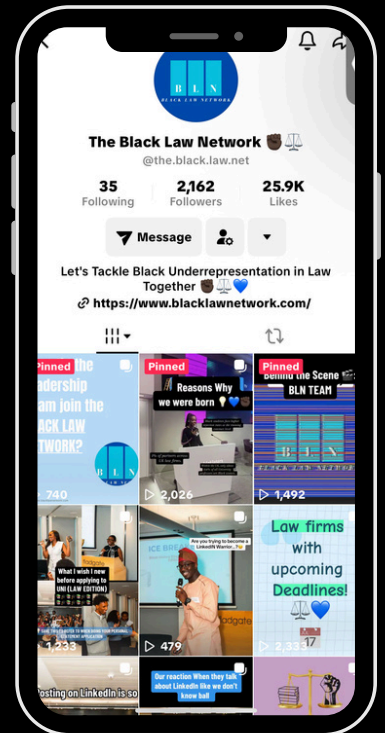
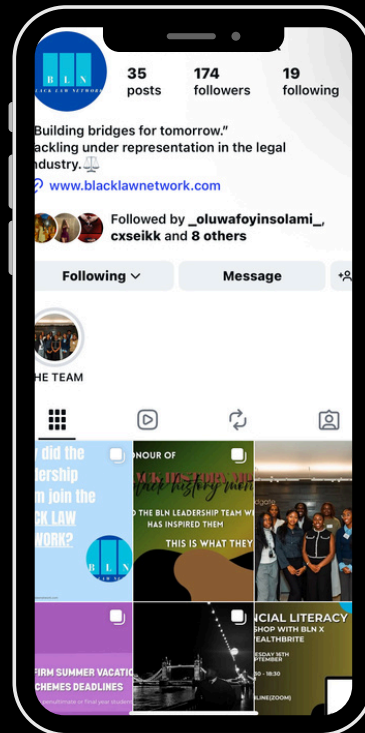
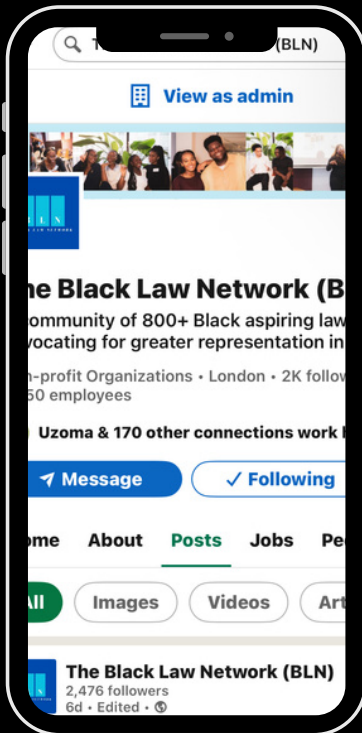
2026



PENDING



OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



THE FUTURE OF LAW IS *HERE*

