

## **Colorado News Collaborative — Board of Directors Member**

Position: Member of the Board of Directors

Length of Term: 2 Years (3 consecutive term limit)

Reports to: Board of Directors Executive Committee

Status: Volunteer, non-compensated

The Colorado News Collaborative (COLab) is an independent, nonprofit, statewide journalism coalition, media resource hub and ideas lab designed to support an informed and engaged civil society through collaboration, community engagement, and sustainable local news. Our networks and projects unite Colorado journalists of all delivery formats, business models, and geographies with allies and supporters to navigate the future of local news and accountability journalism in our state.

COLab comprises more than 40 news organizations and media partners across Colorado, representing print, broadcast and digital media in urban and rural parts of the state. In addition, COLab is bringing together a diverse set of community leaders, funders, academics and journalists to work together to provide backbone support for a rapidly changing industry and to be a place to experiment with innovative solutions for stronger community engagement, economic sustainability and innovative approaches to deepening journalism.

### **Qualifications**

This is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about COLab's mission to serve a democratic society and who has a track record of innovative thinking toward the future. Selected board members will reflect the state's full diversity and have a range of passions and experience. Members' accomplishments will allow them to attract other well-qualified, high-performing, diverse board members. Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- A passion to protect and promote democracy by empowering the public with reliable local news, information and community connection
- The ability to view the activities of an organization from a broad perspective and think creatively about how to prepare for the future
- Savvy diplomatic skills and a natural affinity for cultivating relationships and persuading, convening, facilitating and building consensus among diverse individuals
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility and civic involvement

### **Leadership, governance and oversight**

While day-to-day operations are led by COLab's Executive Director (ED), the Board-ED relationship is a partnership, and the appropriate involvement of the Board is both critical and expected. Specific board member responsibilities include:

- Serving as a trusted advisor as the ED develops and implements COLab's strategic plan
- Serving as an active advocate and ambassador for COLab
- Leveraging connections, networks, and resources to help COLab fully achieve its mission
- Giving a meaningful personal financial contribution to COLab
- Helping identify personal connections that can benefit the organization's fundraising and reputational standing
- Preparing for, attending, and conscientiously participating in board meetings
- Reviewing outcomes and metrics created for evaluating COLab's impacts
- Approving COLab's annual budget, audit reports, and material business decisions
- Being informed of, and ensuring that COLab meets all legal and fiduciary responsibilities
- Contributing to an annual performance evaluation of the ED
- Assisting the ED and board chair in identifying and recruiting other board members
- Partnering with the ED and other board members to ensure that board resolutions are carried out
- Serving on at least one committee or task force and taking on special assignments when needed
- Ensuring COLab's commitment to a diverse board and staff that reflects the communities COLab and its partner media serve

### **Fundraising**

COLab Board Members will consider COLab a philanthropic priority and make annual gifts that reflect that priority. So that COLab can credibly solicit contributions from foundations, organizations, and individuals, COLab expects to have 100 percent of board members make an annual contribution that is commensurate with their capacity.

### **Board terms/participation**

COLab's board members will serve a two-year term to be eligible for re-appointment for two additional terms. Board meetings will be held monthly and committee meetings will be held in addition to full board meetings. Board members will not attempt to influence editorial work of the COLab or its newsroom partners.

COLab's Board of Directors serve on a volunteer basis, without remuneration, except for administrative support, travel, and accommodation costs in relation to board members' duties.

To learn more about what COLab is up to, visit: [colabnews.co](http://colabnews.co)

To learn more about this leadership opportunity, visit: <https://bit.ly/COLab-Recruitment>

To nominate yourself or someone you know for consideration, visit: <http://bit.ly/COLab-Leaders>

**Nominations received by COB on Friday, September 25 will receive priority review.**