

Kick-Start 2026 Mentorships

Laser-focus your priorities for 2026 with an industry mentor.

The Details

In partnership with LINA, Other Labs has 6 spaces for newsrooms to do a quick-round re-set with mentor advice.

This is a limited opportunity to get a helicopter view of your organisation, informed by industry knowledge, to help identify effective ways to spend your time coming into the new year.

- ✓ **SWOT analysis with Other Labs**

To ensure you're focused on the right priorities for your business, we'll facilitate a 3-hour business lab.

- ✓ **Industry Expert Mentors**

Each news organisation will be teamed up with a leading industry mentor.

- ✓ **3 x Mentoring Sessions**

Following the SWOT analysis, we provide 3 x 1 hour sessions with your mentor.

- ✓ **A cohort of like-minded folk**

We facilitate collaboration to provide new perspectives and support.

The total time commitment is 6 hours, flexible to your schedule, offered at a subsidised rate of \$600+ GST for LINA members.



The Mentors



Belle Kwan is a former journalist who led digital transformation and product growth at Polaris Media. She now splits her time between managing multicultural marketing agency Jia Collective, leading Polaron Connect and mentoring.



Olivia McDonnell is a media strategist and former Managing Director at Private Media and SmartCompany, with a background spanning The Sydney Morning Herald, Crikey and The Economist. She specialises in building sustainable, reader-first strategies for independent media.



Nicolette Logue is an editorial, product and strategic leader. Formerly, she was the Director and Senior Managing Editor at LinkedIn News, and has a background in journalism as an editor at The Huffington Post, 9 News, The Australian and more.

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Other Labs



Other Labs, founded by Jenni Ryall, is a future-facing program and advisory lab built on a foundation of experimentation, collaboration and impact. It aims to shape the future of media, independent publishing and the creator economy from the inside out.

Other Labs develops independent journalists into media companies, drives new ways of working and thinking for legacy media and runs industry-wide programs for experimentation in new methods such as AI, revenue diversification and product mindset.

Working with major funders, Other Labs connects publishers to financial and growth opportunities across the market, ensuring measurable impact is achieved for both the publishers and the funders. Other Labs is focused on building a community of like-minded future shapers, who are looking forward and excited about the next generation of media.

Jenni Ryall, Director – a recognised leader in content, product, and innovation – brings deep expertise and an unrivalled network across the new media ecosystem. She has led regional scaled programs, multi-million dollar investment funds for the news ecosystem, strategic projects and large-scale transformations.

Jenni has worked on global-leading innovation strategies with Google, Meta, International Fund for Public Interest Media, Fiji Sun, Daylight, NZME, Missing Perspectives, The Guardian, Nine, Mashable, TEGNA, Pedestrian Group and more.

Previously, she worked in News Partnerships at Meta across Australia and New Zealand, growing the creator ecosystem and building support models for digital-first newsrooms. She has held executive leadership roles including VP of Content Strategy & Platforms at Mashable and VP of Digital Content at TEGNA in the U.S.



Eira Martens-Edwards, Program Lead – is a leader in newsroom innovation and programs globally. She has worked with media leaders across the globe at Deutsche Welle Akademie, the International Federation of Journalists and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Welcome to Other Labs. This is just the beginning.

