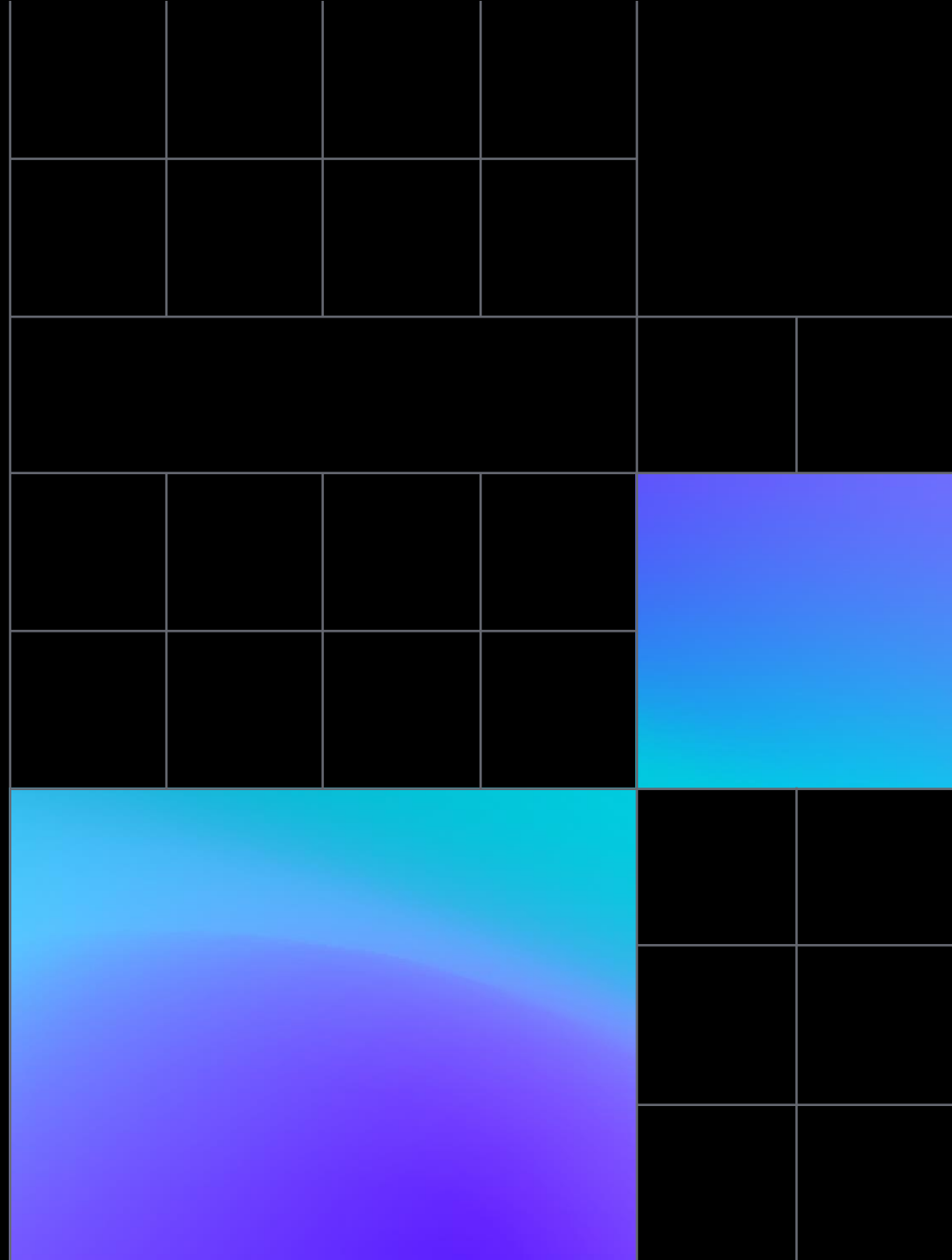
AWS community builders

Introduction the AWS Community Builders Program

Håkon Eriksen Drange
AWS Community Builder



What is CB Program about?

A community for people who;

1. Build on AWS
2. Share what they learn



Who is it for?

Open worldwide

Anyone passionate about building on AWS

Beginner to expert

Level 100 Level 400

Accuracy and community engagement matter more than technical depth.

Blogs, talks, open source, videos, streams and social posts

Who are they?



Thomas Tran

@thomasvantran

Norway
Community Builder since 2026



Erlend Ekern

@erlend

Norway
Community Builder since 2025



Lars Magelssen

@larma

Norway
Community Builder since 2026



Meraj Kashi

@merajk

Norway
Community Builder since 2025



Håkon Eriksen Drange

@haakon

Norway
Community Builder since 2025
User Group Leader



Karl Mathias Moberg

@kmoberg

Senior Cloud Architect
Norway



aws community
HERO

Anders Bjørnestad [AWS Hero]

@andersb

Norway
AWS Hero since 2018
User Group Leader



aws community
HERO

Anton Babenko

@antonbabenko

Terraform AWS fanatic / Creator of Compliance.tf
Norway
AWS Hero since 2019
User Group Leader

Categories and focus areas

01 AI Engineering

02 Machine Learning

03 Serverless

04 Containers

05 Data

06 Dev Tools

07 Front-End & Mobile

08 Networking & CDN

09 Security

10 Cloud Operations

Your personal development



Learning with other builders

Confidence to share your expertise

Faster learning

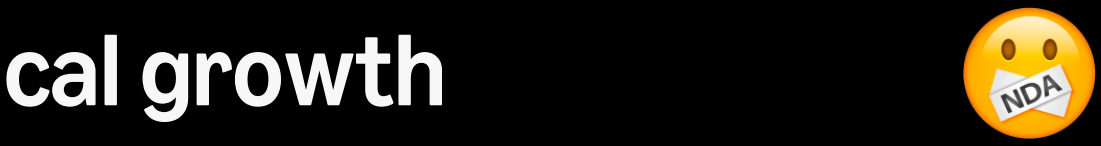
Access and peers accelerate your skills.

A wider network

Thousands of builders worldwide.

Visibility and career momentum
Builders become speakers, authors or Heroes.

Opportunities for technical growth



Join us in 10 minutes for **Every Builder Ships: Scaling Agentic Engineering with Kiro at the Bundesliga** with Christian Bonzelet, AWS DevTools Hero

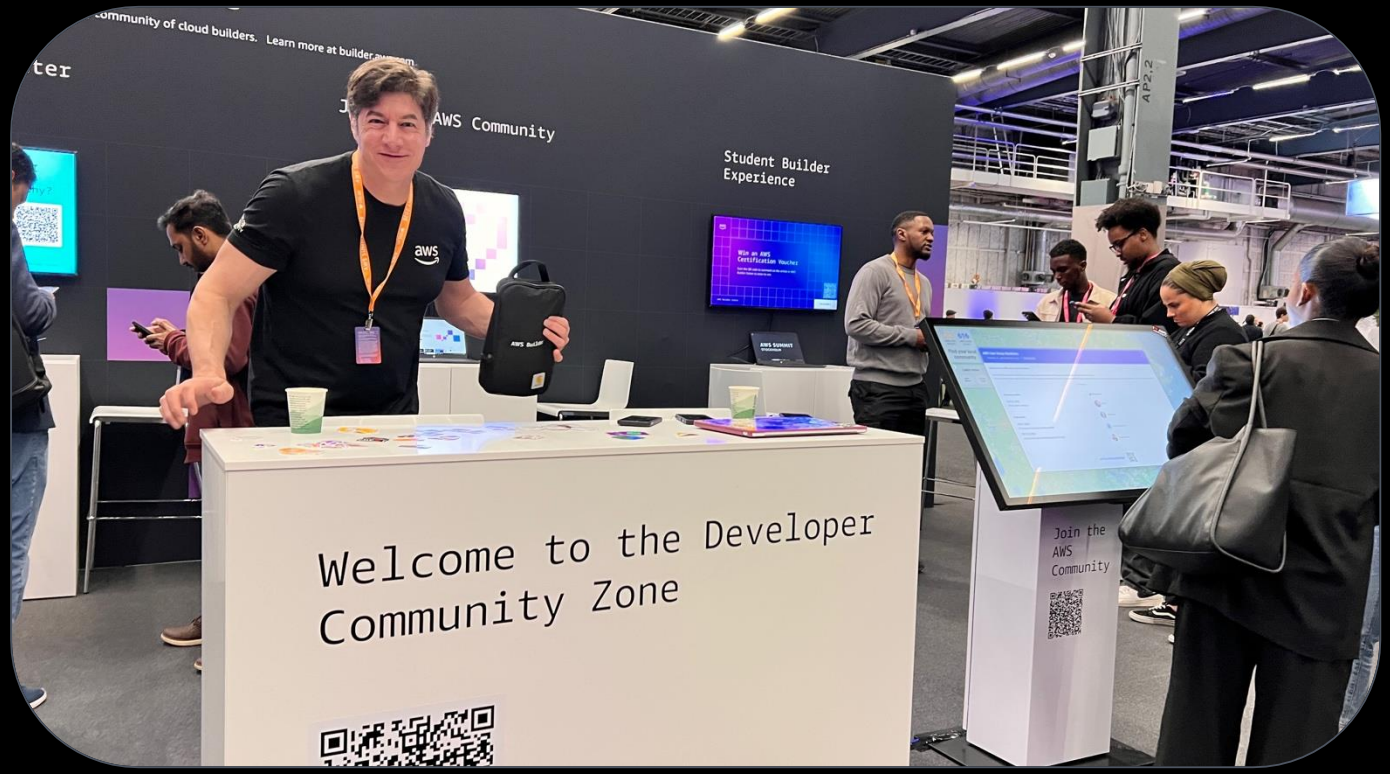
Join us for an interactive session focused on AgentCore payments

Join us in 10 minutes for **[NDA] **** for AWS Services** with ** **, Principal SA and ****, Senior Security Engineer

[NDA] We are excited to announce the ** ** **CLI Beta** interest intake is now open!

Join the [NDA] AWS ** ** Beta Open 10/1-10/30

Speaking and content opportunities



Exclusive Calls for Papers for AWS Summits and re:Invent

A safe first stage

Start small with support from the community.

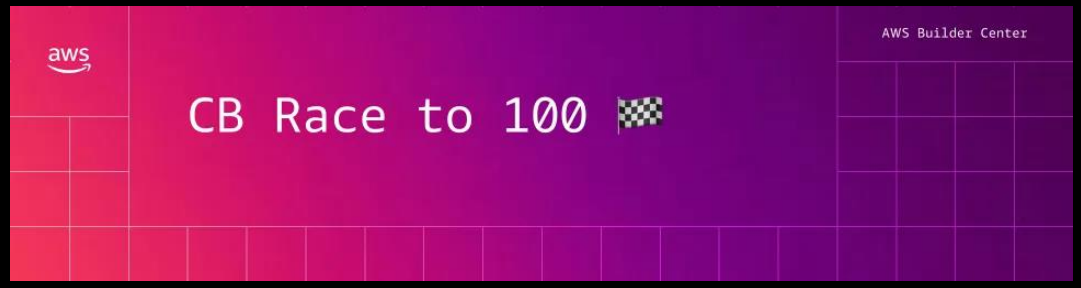
Help with your content

Mentorship for talks, demos and blog posts.

A wider audience

Meetups, Community Days and summits.
The community amplifies your work.

Encouragement and incentives for sharing





- AWS Builder Center Profile
- Publish article(s) on Builder Center
- Unlock badges
- Be active on Builder Center
- Unique swag + AWS Service Credits



Additional benefits

$500

AWS credits with each renewal

AWS Service Team briefings on upcoming launches, feedback, beta testing, roadmaps [NDA]

AWS Skill Builder license
AWS Certification vouchers

Expert access

AWS experts and early access to features and services

Events and travel

Up to 100% off AWS re:Invent pass
CB lounge @ re:Invent
All Builders Welcome Grant

Recognition

Directory listing, annual swag

My experience as an AWS Community Builder

1. Learn and keep on growing
2. Share what I learn
3. Get to know more awesome people

(and unique swag, of course)



Opportunities for knowledge sharing

- Try to help and share in the local Oslo community
- Sopra Steria
- AWS User Group Oslo
- Applied for AWS CB Jan 2025



Opportunities for knowledge sharing

- Spring 2026: Call for Paper to AWS Stockholm Summit



Opportunities for knowledge sharing

- Summer 2026: Call for Paper to AWS re:Invent in Las Vegas

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# AWS RE:INVENT 2026

2026 re:Invent

Community (COM) Track CFP
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Awesome people and supportive community



Recognition and support

🏆 Meet the Nominees: EMEA re:Invent Community Mixer Awards 2026

We are very proud to announce this year's nominees for the **EMEA re:Invent Mixer Awards**!

Every year, our community across Europe, the Middle East and Africa does incredible things. People run meetups after work, build open-source tools, travel to share what they know on stage, and make sure everyone feels welcome at the table. The Mixer Awards are our way of saying **thank you** and shining a light on the people who make this community what it is.

This year, you showed up in a big way. 🙌

From Cape Town to Oslo, Damascus to Nantes, Dubai to Lviv, the nominations show just how far our community reaches.

AWS CB EMEA Awards nominees

🛠️ AWS Builder of the Year

2 of 5 from Norway

Håkon Eriksen Drange 🇳🇴

AWS Community Builder · AWS User Group Oslo

Håkon built a **Christmas elf idea platform with Amazon Bedrock**, a fun and creative use of generative AI. He has turned the project into a learning resource for others, sharing practical lessons on using agents to generate creative content.

Anton Babenko 🇳🇴

AWS Hero

Anton creates **widely used open-source tools** that have set the standard for infrastructure as code on AWS, used by builders and teams around the world every day. Beyond the code, he generously mentors builders across the community, helping them adopt best practices and grow their skills with confidence.

AWS CB EMEA Awards nominees

⭐ Rising Star of the Year

1 of 4 from Norway

Håkon Eriksen Drange 🇳🇴

AWS Community Builder · AWS User Group Oslo

In less than two years, Håkon went from speaking at local meetups in Norway to the **AWS Summit Stockholm** stage and now **re:Invent 2026 (COM325)**. He joined the AWS User Group Oslo organizer team, helped find sponsors and venues, co-organized a Nordic meetup the evening before the Stockholm Summit, and inspired three colleagues to join the Community Builders program.

👥 Community Leader of the Year

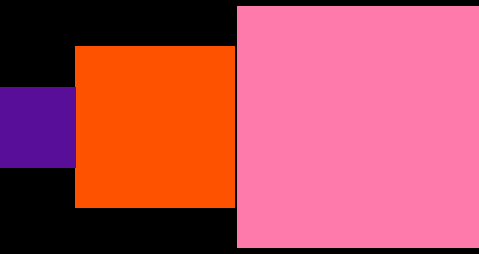
1 of 8 from Norway

Anders Bjørnestad 🇳🇴

AWS Hero · AWS User Group Norway

Anders organizes user groups across **Norway and Sweden**, bringing AWS Partners into the community to grow AWS impact across the Nordics, and regularly presents at AWS Summits.

Sounds interesting?



Application criterias

One year

Renew annually
to continue

Stay active throughout
your term

Create and share

Keep contributing throughout the year.

Develop your content

Grow toward advanced levels
as you renew, from 100 to 400.

Engage globally

Builder calls, mentoring and Slack.
English is the primary language.

Application criterias

2

blog posts/articles

Quality over quantity.

1

more contribution

A talk, open-source project or video.

$20



Start prototyping

builder.aws.com/community/community-builders

How to apply

Annual application window: typically early January, open for about two weeks

01

Prepare

Gather links to your contributions.

02

Choose your focus

Describe your interest area and knowledge sharing.

03

Explain why

Explain why you want to join.

04

Submit

Keep building while you wait.

Tips to stand out

Real contributions.
Consistent effort.

A blog or lightning talk
this month is a start.

Submit what you already do
Small contributions count.

Be specific
Explain your focus and goals.

Show consistency
Keep sharing beyond a single project.

Explain your impact
Who did you help, how, and what was the result?

Frequently asked questions

Do I need to be an expert?

No. All levels are welcome.

Accuracy and engagement matter.

Does it cost anything?

No. The program is free.

Credits and a free certification are benefits.

How long does it last?

One year, renewable annually.

When can I apply?

Typically early January.

The window lasts about two weeks.

What if I'm not accepted?

Keep creating and reapply.

Use the next annual application cycle.

Is this the AWS Heroes program?

No. Heroes is separate and invite-only.

Builders can grow into Heroes.

Q & A



BUILDER.AWS.COM/COMMUNITY/COMMUNITY-BUILDERS

Thank you

