

# SARA BLINN

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## Objective:

Self-motivated Software Developer with full-stack training and creative background in communication, fine arts and design looking for an opportunity to join a new team. Demonstrates strong work ethic and an eagerness to continue to learn and develop skills from experience, continued self-education, and learning from peers and senior team members. Open to in-office, remote, and hybrid work environments.

## Education and Certifications:

**The Software Guild**, Full-Stack Software Development Bootcamp - Java, 2022 → view badges at: [sblinn.github.io/#skills](https://sblinn.github.io/#skills)

- Trained with experienced engineers as instructors and mentors, gaining practical experience in planning, designing, building from user requirements, testing, debugging, and participating in code reviews.
- Built end-to-end projects using popular frameworks, tools, technologies and libraries, such as: Spring, SQL and database management systems, utilizing Git for version control and workflow management, implementing internal and external APIs.
- Expanded on knowledge of important object-oriented programming concepts, design patterns and principles, methodologies, and best practices for organization and efficiency, including: Agile, SOLID design principles, MVC pattern.

**Gustavus Adolphus College**, Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, 2018

**Gustavus Adolphus College**, Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts, 2018

## Technical Skills:

- |                                   |                                    |  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| • Java                            | • REST                             | • Technical and Visual Design                |
| • Python                          | • AJAX                             | • Data / Class Modeling                      |
| • JavaScript / jQuery             | • Thymeleaf                        | • Testing and Debugging                      |
| • HTML / CSS / Bootstrap          | • SQL / MySQL                      | • Agile Development                          |
| • Spring (Dependency Injection)   | ◦ Data Manipulation Language (DML) | • Test-Driven Development                    |
| • Spring Boot                     | ◦ Data Definition Language (DDL)   | • Microsoft Office                           |
| • Spring JDBC and JPA / Hibernate | • Git (Version Control)            | • Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign |

## Technical Projects: (see portfolio at [sblinn.github.io](https://sblinn.github.io) for more projects with links to code on github)

### Customer Relationship Manager (CRM)

- Collaborated with a small team to build and deploy a custom CRM for an upcoming startup business based in Ohio.
  - Remodeled and updated existing persistence implementations from JDBC to Hibernate ORM, to meet requirements.
  - Implemented additional employee resource management features such as: the ability to track employee information, creation and management of employee user login and authentication using custom Spring Security implementation, and utilize authorization levels to allow employee users to be granted access to specific client information and controls.

### User Login Authentication → view code: [github.com/sblinn/user-authentication-spring-security](https://github.com/sblinn/user-authentication-spring-security)

- Implemented Spring Security authentication and logging features to build a simple server-side rendered user creation and login service.

### Hero Sightings Web Application → view code: [github.com/sblinn/superhero-sightings-fs-web-app](https://github.com/sblinn/superhero-sightings-fs-web-app)

- Modeled and built web application, with server-side rendered user interface, which allows users to input and save data when reporting sightings of local superheroes and implements Google Maps API to display a dynamic map of recent sightings from user input coordinates.
  - Designed Entity Relationship Diagrams and wireframes for planning and modeling phases.
  - Architected MySQL database in 2nd Normal Form and scripted aggregate queries utilized by data access objects (DAO) implementations.
  - Wrote 100+ JUnit tests for DAO methods and performed regression testing following updates.

### Weather Web Application → view code: [github.com/sblinn/weather-web-app](https://github.com/sblinn/weather-web-app)

- jQuery web application using AJAX calls to OpenWeather API to obtain and display weather data for a user input zip code.

### Virtual Vending Machine → view code: [github.com/sblinn/vending-machine-web-service](https://github.com/sblinn/vending-machine-web-service)

- Javascript virtual vending machine web application using AJAX to send and retrieve data from a server managed by the Software Guild.

## Experience:

J.Crew, Edina, MN

*Sales Associate | Dec. 2018 - present*

- Fulfill multiple roles and responsibilities as a flexible, reliable, well-informed and productive team member, able to learn new technology and processes and multitask in sales, merchandising, training and administrative duties.
- Fostered and maintained strong customer relationships—which has led to many becoming regular shoppers, quoting excellent customer experience.
- Support and coach 30+ team members on systems and processes, including enterprise applications and tools.
- Bolstered team communication by establishing and maintaining a contact list for existing team members.

J.Crew, Edina, MN

*Assistant Manager (temp) | Sept. 2020 - Aug. 2021*

- Supported team by accepting and quickly adapting to additional team leadership and store management responsibilities during a time of instability resulting from COVID-19 pandemic.
- Analyzed and reported sales data and customer feedback (using Qlik, Dayforce and Microsoft POS) to the corporate team.
- Demonstrated understanding leadership: Learned and balanced the strengths and preferences of each team member, maximizing team productivity and ensuring a positive work experience.
- Encouraged team communication and provided positive feedback and incentives for achieving goals and completing tasks.

Freelance Graphic Design & Photography | 2016 - 2019

- Consulted with clients to communicate details for events and services provided independently or in collaboration with another photographer and designer.
- Accomplished projects in a timely manner, with time for any potential adjustments or additional requests following client review and feedback.

Caregiver for Family Member | Aug. 2018 - July 2020

- Provided part-time—and eventually, full-time—care for a terminally ill loved one following college graduation.
- Balanced caregiving with employment and self-education in software development.