

# SARA BLINN

EMAIL: [sarakblinn@gmail.com](mailto:sarakblinn@gmail.com) | [LINKEDIN.com/in/sarablinn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/sarablinn) | [sblinn.github.io](https://sblinn.github.io)

## 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***, Oct. 2022
- **Gustavus Adolphus College, *B.A. Spanish***, May 2018
- **Gustavus Adolphus College, *B.A. Fine Arts***, May 2018

## Top Competencies & Functional Skills:

Problem solving, creative thinking, team collaboration, team communication, openness to giving and receiving constructive feedback, learning from and teaching others, organization, customer service, positivity and empathy.

## Technical Skills:

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

## Technical Projects: (see portfolio link for more)

### Customer Relationship Manager (CRM)

- Volunteered to collaborate with a small team to build and deploy a 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 implementation of Spring Security, and utilize authorization levels to allow employee users to be granted access to specific client information and controls.

### Hero Sightings Web Application

- Modeled and built full-stack Java web application with server-side rendered user interface, based on user requirements for a web application that would allow visitors to input and save data for locations, organizations, entities, abilities and report the date, time and location of sightings of these entities.
  - Entity Relationship Diagrams and wireframes created for planning and modeling phases.
- Architected MySQL database in 2nd Normal Form and scripted queries utilized by JDBC in data access object (DAO) implementations and utilized Spring Boot and Thymeleaf template engine to integrate the data model and the view layer.
- Tested server-side code using 100+ written JUnit tests for DAO methods.
- Implemented Google Maps JavaScript API to display a dynamic map of recent sighting locations from user input coordinates.

### Weather Web Application

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

## Experience:

The Software Guild, Remote / Minneapolis, MN

*Apprentice Full-Stack Software Developer | Oct 2021 - Oct. 2022*

- Trained and reviewed code with experienced engineers in an apprenticeship program for full-stack Java development, which provides apprentices with experience planning, building, testing and debugging software applications from user requirements.
- Gained technical experience 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, etc.
- 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.

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.