

**Education**

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), 2010  
B.F.A. with emphasis in Fiber/Material Studies, and Fashion Design  
Recipient of 2010 Roads Travel Grant, and Annual Leadership Recognition

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**Selected Professional Experience****Cake Designer** 2010-Present

Harris Teeter Inc., Wilmington, NC

*Specialty grocer with full custom service deli and bakery*

Hired as cake decorator and deli clerk. Design and decorate custom cake and dessert orders, and self-serve celebration cakes; develop and produce ideas for character cupcakes.

- Played key role in updating store design standards
- Bring fresh ideas to the department for higher-end decorating and organizational policies without raising costs.
- Often excel customers' expectations for custom cake designs
- Improved rate of return customers and made the store a place to buy wedding cakes
- Self-motivated learning of new decorating techniques

**Designer Entrepreneur** 2007-Present

Belindabilly

*Independent fashion label for misses petites*

Started the business as an online-only fashion boutique and have expanded to sell garments through consignment and wholesale at small boutiques, art sales, and showing on the runway. Through market research, I have found a niche in handcrafted, eco-friendly fashions. My responsibilities include website design and maintenance, accounting, production schedule management, manufacturing of samples, product sourcing, marketing and B2B sales. Categories of design include evening gowns and sportswear.

- Produce innovative designs by sourcing fair-trade and organic fabrics, as well as new and experimental materials
- Create signature pieces that customers could recognize season to season
- Determine best design practices based on market research
- Coordinate efficient production schedule based on market deadlines
- Create competitive website utilizing of XHTML, HTML5, CSS, and implemented updates based on cutting-edge design, and trends specifically in the fashion market
- Developed branding artwork for printed fabric, hangtags, and garment labels

**Communications Assistant** 2010

Arts Alliance Illinois, Chicago, IL

*Non-profit "watchdog" for the arts and arts education in Illinois advancing widespread support of the arts in every community*

Began as communications intern working as sole graphic designer within the company and was hired as contractor after the completion of my internship. I accomplished Arts Alliance's image redesign after an outside consulting company left. Responsibilities included publication design and layout, images for e-blasts and printed newsletters, website banners and buttons, information graphics for advocacy campaigns, and other print and web images as needed.

- Designed letter and all peripherals for direct mail campaign
- Updated design of website through simple changes like new navigation and headers
- Upgraded usability and functionality of website with better use of images and captions and better word layout
- Reduced costs by integrating design roles and eliminating redundancies
- Brainstormed and researched ideas for new promotional merchandise

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### ***Exhibitions and Fashion Shows***

2011 *Sights/Sight*, Solo Exhibition, Carrack Modern Art Gallery, Durham, NC  
*La Vie Fashion Show* by Dance 4 Liberation, Raleigh, NC  
*Red Death Masquerade*, One Wicked Gallery, Wilmington, NC  
2010 *Artist Book Exhibition*, Joan Flasch Artist's Book Collection, Chicago, IL  
*Spring Undergraduate Exhibition*, SAIC Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL  
2009 *Brick By Brick*, Arash Shoushtari Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Couture for a Cause Fashion Show and Auction*, Marbles Kids Museum Raleigh, NC  
2008 *Room For Cream*, Noble Tree Coffee House, Chicago, IL  
*SAIC Annual Fashion Show*, SAIC Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL  
*Moved by the Gospel, Let Us Move*, Siragusa Gallery, SAIC, Chicago, IL  
*Home is Where the Heart is T-Shirt Show*, CB Media Room, SAIC, Chicago, IL  
2007 *Annual OuRArt Show*, Siragusa Gallery, SAIC, Chicago, IL

### **Curatorial Experience**

2008 *Found Object Art Show*, CB Media Room, SAIC, Chicago, IL

### **Art Sales**

2010 *4TheLove Music and Arts Fest*, Soap Box Lounge, Wilmington, NC  
*Carolina Beach Farmer's and Craft Market*, Carolina Beach, NC  
SAIC Biannual, Fall 2007 – Spring 2010

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### ***Awards***

2010 Roads Travel Grant  
2007-2009 SAIC Grant  
SAIC Academic Incentive Scholarship  
SAIC Enrichment Scholarship

**Skills**

Graphic design and website design: *XML, HTML, basic php and javascript knowledge, Adobe Suite, MS Office, Autocad; information graphics design.*

Clothing design and construction: *Design and illustration; pattern drafting and draping; pattern manipulation; creating a pattern from existing garment; machine and hand stitching, serger and industrial machine experience.*

Fiber arts: *Free hand, Blackwork, needlepoint, cross-stitch, and machine embroidery; hand wool felting; knitting and crochet; Shibori and Tritik dye techniques and experience with natural and synthetic dyes; quilt making; textile design; paper making.*

Printing: *Photo-emulsion screen printing with water-based pigments and dyes on fabric and paper; discharge (bleach) printing on fabric; several monoprint techniques on paper and fabric; extensive heat press experience with flocking, foiling, dye transfer, transfer paper, puff paint, and microsuede pigment on fabric.*

Jewelry making: *Beading and wirework for bracelets, necklaces and earrings; basic, non-ferrous; especially familiar with copper and copper oxidation processes, as well as ring-crafting.*