

Justin Gloston

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A creatively driven Professional Designer with 9 years of experience in designing handbags and small leather goods for successful major fashion companies as well as for contemporary trend driven markets.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts (Studio Art-Painting)- Louisiana State University A&M, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (1999 - 2004)

Associate of Arts (Fashion Design)- Bauder College, Atlanta, Georgia (2005 - 2006)

SKILLS

- O Strong understanding of construction, details, and functionality of handbags and small leather goods.
- O Extremely organized and adheres to timelines and calendars set for seasonal development and market presentations.
- O Excellent communication with fellow Designers, Directors, and other internal divisions to ensure smooth and seamless design process from concept to creation. Team player.
- O Extensive travel to Asia allowing better understanding of factory/development process. Also experienced with traveling overseas to source new leathers/materials, styles/silhouettes, etc.
- O Extremely proficient in all computer applications (Illustrator, Photoshop, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.) Versatile in both PC and MAC.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Designer, Handbags –JustFab El Segundo, CA (May 2013 – February 2014)

- O Designed trend driven handbags for the JustFab customer, which several styles went on to become best selling styles for the company and continues to drive sales for the handbag category.
- O Worked directly with overseas factory to develop product prototypes and develop/review materials and hardware. Also included travel to Asia to work with factory, search market for new materials, and new styles/silhouettes.
- O Worked directly with buyers/merchandisers to ensure product offerings fit consumer needs and market trends. Also worked with merchandising to ensure developments meet costing targets.
- O Traveled to trade shows to review current and emerging trends in market.
- O Created trend/seasonal direction presentations for merchandising team that are specifically tailored for Handbags.

Senior Designer/Consultant, Handbags – Luxcessories, Inc. Monterey Park, CA (May 2012 – April 2013)

- O Designed seasonal and trend driven handbag collections for wholesale market as well as retail stores.
- O Worked directly with overseas factory to develop product prototypes.
- O Traveled to trade shows to review trends in wholesale/retail market.

Designer, Handbags and Accessories – Forever 21, Inc. Los Angeles, CA (April 2011 – February 2012)

O Conceptualized and designed seasonal and trend driven handbags and small goods collections for the Forever 21 brand as well as supported Production team in executing final pieces for retail stores.

O Worked directly with company owner in regards to styling and design concepts to ensure her vision is represented.

O Worked directly with overseas factories to develop product prototypes and develop/review materials and hardware.

O Established “Design” for the Forever 21 handbag accessory department, which included creating a design process/calendar, production process for development, design standards for material/hardware colors and qualities, and label/branding standards.

O Managed Assistant Designer to ensure timely execution and accuracy of new developments and to build/maintain style archive.

Designer, Handbags and Accessories - Ann's Trading Co, Inc. Vernon, CA (December 2009 – March 2011)

O Conceptualized and designed seasonal handbag and small goods collections.

O Conceptualized and created sketches as well as technical packages for seasonal collections.

O Worked directly with overseas factories and vendors to develop product prototypes and develop/review materials and hardware. Included frequent travel to Asia to work with factories, search market for new materials, and source new factories.

O Attended domestic trade shows (WWD/MAGIC, Project, ASD-LV, ATS-NY) and worked with buyers for NY and LA market weeks.

O Managed in house Graphic designer and Photographer to ensure timely execution and accuracy of website and catalog/look book content.

Associate Designer, Handbags and Accessories – BCBGMAXAZRIA Vernon, CA (June 2006- November 2009)

O Supported four Directors and head designer in conceptualizing and designing seasonal Handbag and small leather goods collections for three brands (BCBGMAXAZRIA, BCBGMAXAZRIA Runway, and Herve Leger) and assisted Production team in costing and executing final pieces for retail stores.

O Conceptualized and created sketches as well as technical packages for seasonal collections.

O Collaborated with internal departments such as Merchandising, Research and Development, Visuals, and Graphics Team on a regular basis to ensure smooth and seamless design process from concept to creation to retail floors.

O Worked directly with factories and vendors (both domestic and overseas) to develop product prototypes and develop/review materials, hardware, and leather. Included traveling to work with factories in Asia.

Design Intern, Sportswear/Collections - BCBGMAXAZRIA Vernon, CA (March 2006- May 2006)