

MARIA FARHATT DUNLAP

www.mariadunlap.com

COMPETENCIES

Design Strategy
Trend Analysis
Apparel Construction
Product Development
Patternmaking
Pattern Grading
Budgeting & Costing
Project Management
Prints & Graphics
Coaching & Training
Quality Assurance
Technical Sketches
Illustration

EXPERTISE

Apparel
Accessories
Children's Wear
Textiles
Outerwear
Knitwear
Safety Testing

SOFTWARE

Adobe Illustrator
Adobe Photoshop
Gerber Accumark
Gerber webPDM
Gerber YuniquePLM
Flex PLM
Karat CAD

INVOLVEMENT

Mayor's Fashion Council
of Chicago

EDUCATION

BS Apparel Design and
Technology
Purdue University

AA Fashion Design
Fashion Institute of
Technology

PRODUCT DESIGNER / PROJECT LEADER

Enterprising, versatile, and decisive Design Leader with a powerful combination of business acumen, technical ability, and creative ingenuity who drives projects from conception to market. Fosters collaboration, inspires design teams, and strengthens partnerships. Creates structure and documents processes to improve performance and increase efficiency.

- Experience growing start-up businesses and developing innovative products.
- Partners with overseas vendors and apparel factories in China to ensure quality standards.
- Led design projects for global brands: Gap, Rock & Republic, and Jockey International.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

FREELANCE DESIGNER | Mott 50 (Chicago, IL) 2015–present

- Create original artwork for apparel silhouettes, surface design, and graphics for womens and kids collections.
- Create techpacks for womens, mens, and kids collection.
- Manage apparel design, development, and production through fittings, revisions, and concise fit comments.

SENIOR TECHNICAL DESIGNER | Colony Brands, Inc., OSA Brands LLC (Chicago, IL) 2010–2015

- Served as sole technical designer and designed children's apparel and soft goods executed through textile design, sketches, and techpacks. Products include: swimwear, outerwear, cold weather accessories, shoes, lunch bags, water bottles, backpacks, luggage, and bedding.
- Conducted market research and trend analysis; collaborated with sales and merchandising teams.
- Led product design, development, and production with offshore vendors. Organized a trip to China to tour vendor facilities and strengthen partnerships.
- Created Vendor Production Manual with sample submission and packaging requirements.
- Implemented safety testing regulations, assisting vendors with compliance.

FOUNDER & DESIGNER | Single Needle Design (Chicago, IL) 2010–2015

- Consulted clients, both startup and corporate, on design, development, and production.
- Executed original concepts for outerwear, athletic wear, children's wear, maternity, and woven accessories; supervised apparel development and production with local manufacturers.
- Strengthened the local fashion community through monthly networking meetings.

TECHNICAL DESIGNER, QUALITY ASSURANCE | Henry Lee & Co. (Chicago, IL) 2008–2010

- Managed production fit and construction quality for 600 West and private label contracts with Orvis, Von Maur, Rock & Republic, Norm Thompson, Perry Ellis.
- Communicated original concept, design and fit revisions to offshore manufacturers.
- Created Vendor Compliance Manual with production guidelines, how to measure sketches, and CPSIA regulations. Developed quality assurance process for production garments.

SOLE PROPRIETOR, DESIGNER | Marfar Designs (San Francisco, CA | Chicago, IL) 2005–2008

- Launched a women's organic cotton clothing line and executed entire process: market research, patterns, sample development, production management, sales, shipping, and customer service.

FREELANCE TECHNICAL DESIGNER | Gap Inc. (San Francisco, CA) 2005–2007

- Worked across notable brands: Old Navy, Banana Republic, and Gap.