

AVA BIBBS

ava@avabibbs.com | (515)723-1743 | linkedin.com/in/ava-bibbs
Portfolio: avabibbs.com | Instagram: @thirdoneacharm

EDUCATION

Iowa State University | Ames, Iowa

Expected May 2028

Bachelor of Science | Fashion Design and Merchandising | Product Development and Merchandising Certificate

GPA: 3.98

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

TEXTILE AND APPAREL INDUSTRY FIELD STUDY | NORTH CAROLINA

Oct 2026

- Traveled across North Carolina to examine the textile and apparel supply chain firsthand, from cotton agriculture and fiber processing through manufacturing and textile recycling.
- Visited Cotton Incorporated headquarters and textile facilities specializing in product development, testing, manufacturing, fiber processing, and circularity.
- Connected with industry professionals to explore textile innovation, sustainability, domestic production, and the future of the U.S. textile industry.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT | INNOVATE 1858 | AMES, IA

Aug 2026 - Present

- Design and develop original, trend-driven apparel and accessories for a student-run retail store.
- Conduct trend, market, competitor, and customer research to identify product opportunities and inform assortment decisions.
- Create product mockups and coordinate revisions, production, and launches from concept through execution.

MERCHANDISING INTERN | IOWA CUBS | DES MOINES, IA

May 2026 - Aug 2026

- Supported inventory and merchandise ordering by monitoring stock levels, product demand, and replenishment needs while maintaining engaging store displays.
- Managed Shopify e-commerce operations across orders, product listings, and promotions to support retail sales.

SEASONAL SALES ASSOCIATE | ANTHROPOLOGIE | WEST DES MOINES, IA

Jun 2025 - Jan 2026

- Delivered personalized styling and product recommendations to 40+ customers per shift, developing firsthand insight into customer preferences, product trends, and purchasing behavior.
- Maintained visual merchandising standards through product placement, floor recovery, fitting-room organization, and new product launches.

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT | INTRO TO APPAREL DESIGN (FDM 1780)

Aug 2026 - Present

- Guide students through apparel design projects, providing feedback on fashion concepts, sketching, and presentation boards.

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

VISUAL MERCHANDISING DIRECTOR | THE FASHION SHOW

Oct 2025 - May 2026

- Led a visual merchandising committee creating promotional displays across campus and local businesses to drive awareness for The Fashion Show.
- Coordinated garment displays and large-scale exhibits at Stephens Auditorium for 2,500 attendees.

STUDENT AMBASSADOR | NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Jan 2026 - Present

- Connect Iowa State students with retail leaders, career opportunities, emerging industry trends, and professional development resources.

DIRECTOR OF EVENTS | KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA

Jan 2026 - Present

- Lead vendor coordination, budgeting, timelines, and operations for chapter events serving 200+ attendees.
- Work with chapter leaders and vendors to plan events, solve issues, and keep everything running smoothly.

AWARDS & HONORS

President's List | College of Human Sciences | Iowa State University

2024 - 2025

National Retail Federation | Bright Futures Scholar | Iowa State University

Jan 2026

SKILLS & STRENGTHS

Technical: Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, Shopify, POS Systems, PLM, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator

Industry: Product Development, Textile Sustainability, Production, Visual Merchandising, Customer Insights, Inventory Management