

# Call for Apparel Design Submissions

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Textile Fabric Consultants, Inc.

## Recycling Burlap Coffee Bean Bags

Challenge your creativity by thinking... outside the bag!

### Purpose of the Contest

Local roasteries often have no sustainable way to reuse or recycle empty burlap coffee bean bags, leaving many destined for landfills. Textile Fabric Consultants, Inc., in collaboration with the International Textile and Apparel Association (ITAA), invites designers to reimagine these discarded bags as fashionable, functional works of art. This initiative highlights the power of design to merge aesthetics with environmental responsibility.

### Design Guidelines

- **Primary Material:** Used burlap/jute coffee bean bags obtained from local coffee roasteries. Should you want to participate and cannot find a local roastery, Textile Fabric Consultants, Inc. (in cooperation with Frothy Monkey) will provide bags for your design.
- **Material Requirement:** Coffee bags must remain central to the design, making up at least 75% of the final wearable/usable piece.
- **Supplemental Materials:** Additional fabrics, trims, or embellishments may be used, as long as they support the design concept. Virgin or recycled embellishments are welcome (e.g. other coffee-related packaging).

### Theme

Designs should emphasize:

- **Creativity** – innovative, original approaches
- **Sustainability** – meaningful reuse of discarded materials
- **Functionality** – practical and wearable/usable outcomes

### Techniques

All construction, surface design, and embellishment methods are welcome, including repurposing, upcycling, and experimental fabrication.

### Submission Requirements

- Submit entries via the ITAA Design Submission Portal
- Deadline: June 1, 2026
- Follow all ITAA submission procedures carefully

### Eligibility:

- Open to graduates and professionals
- One winning design will receive a \$500 award