Building a High School to College Connection via E-Publishing

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Abstract

This poster describes how Drake Memorial Library is partnering with the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library to encourage publication of winning high school essays and creative works in the college’s institutional repository.

The Sokol High School Literary Awards Program is an annual creative writing contest for high school students in grades nine through twelve sponsored by the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library since 1958. Prizes are awarded for poetry, prose and performance.

The process of establishing this collaboration, developing a workflow, and obtaining permissions are highlighted. Learning outcomes include sharing how this outreach program can be replicated and enhanced by others. The goal is to increase visibility for open access student scholarship and enhance self-advocacy. The project introduces students to publishing an online work for their resume, college applications, etc.

We have partnered with the Sokol Award program for the past five years since 2015, and have now published a total of 35 articles in this collection. See: https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/sokol/

Project Description

The open access collection can be viewed globally. Winning entries have been downloaded collectively over 1242 times in the past five years from 26 countries.

Results

Outcomes
- Improved contest visibility
- Enhanced library and community connections
- Student exposure to open access publishing

Lessons Learned
- Align to library values of inclusion and purposeful innovation
- Be open to non-traditional partnerships
- Add value to existing programs
- Cross-train for sustainability

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References


