

A CLASSROOM THAT PUBLISHES

WACS, Alden's student-run broadcast

WACS Daily replaced the morning
announcements in September 2024

The whole school is the audience,
every single day

Every student holds a real job

They pitch, get feedback, revise,
and hit real deadlines

**TEACHING IS JUST JOURNALISM FOR A
SMALLER AUDIENCE.**

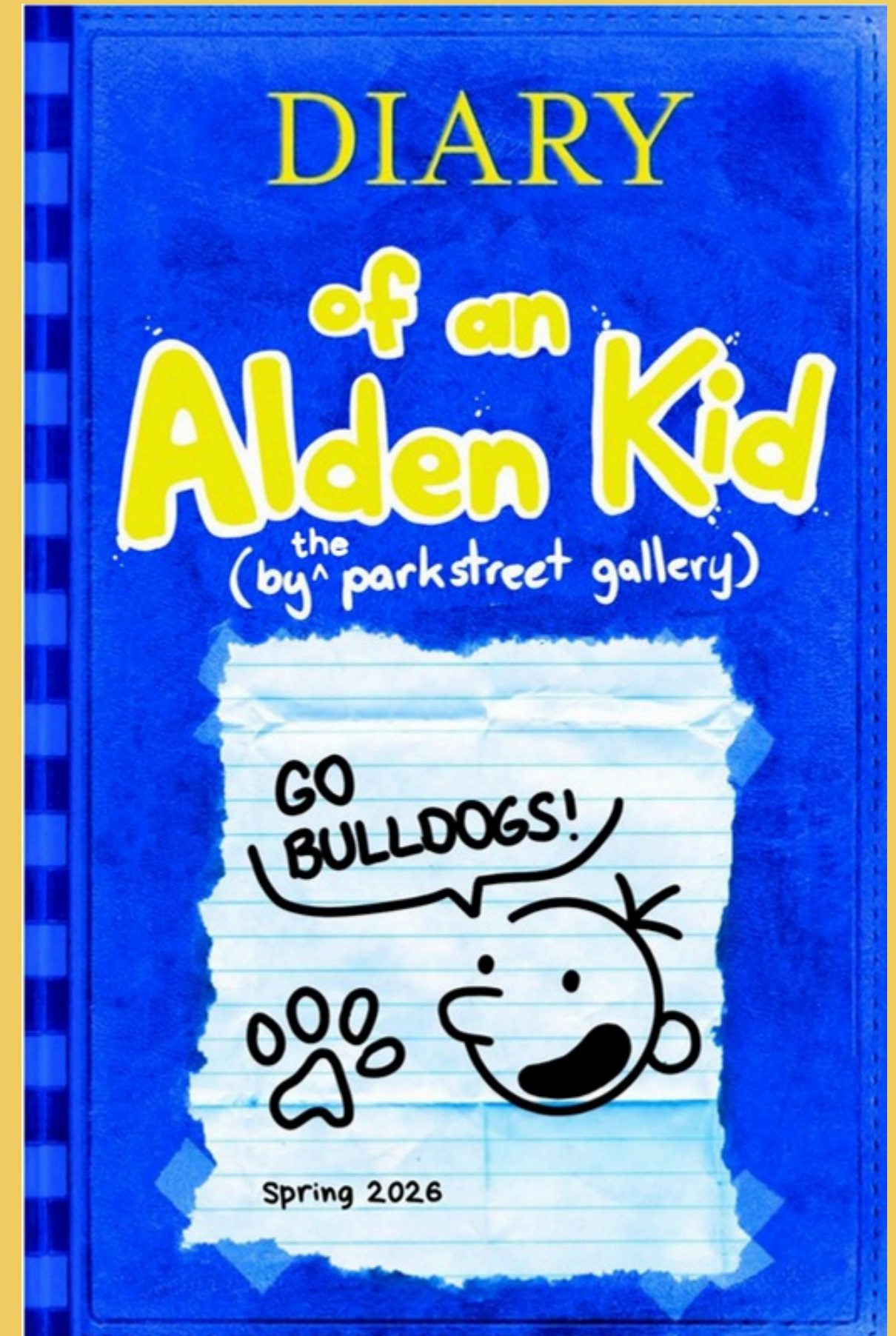


CREATIVE WRITING

THE PARK STREET GALLERY

A real literary magazine, published every year since 2023
Students apply for staff jobs – editors, designers, layout
The class splits: some build the magazine, some write for it
They select, edit, design, and publish it themselves
Each year's staff inherits the magazine from the last

Colin Dabkowski | Creative Writing | Alden High School



COLLEGE ENGLISH 12

FIND YOUR MENTOR

WHOSE WISDOM DO YOU CARRY?

Choose a mentor and create the questions

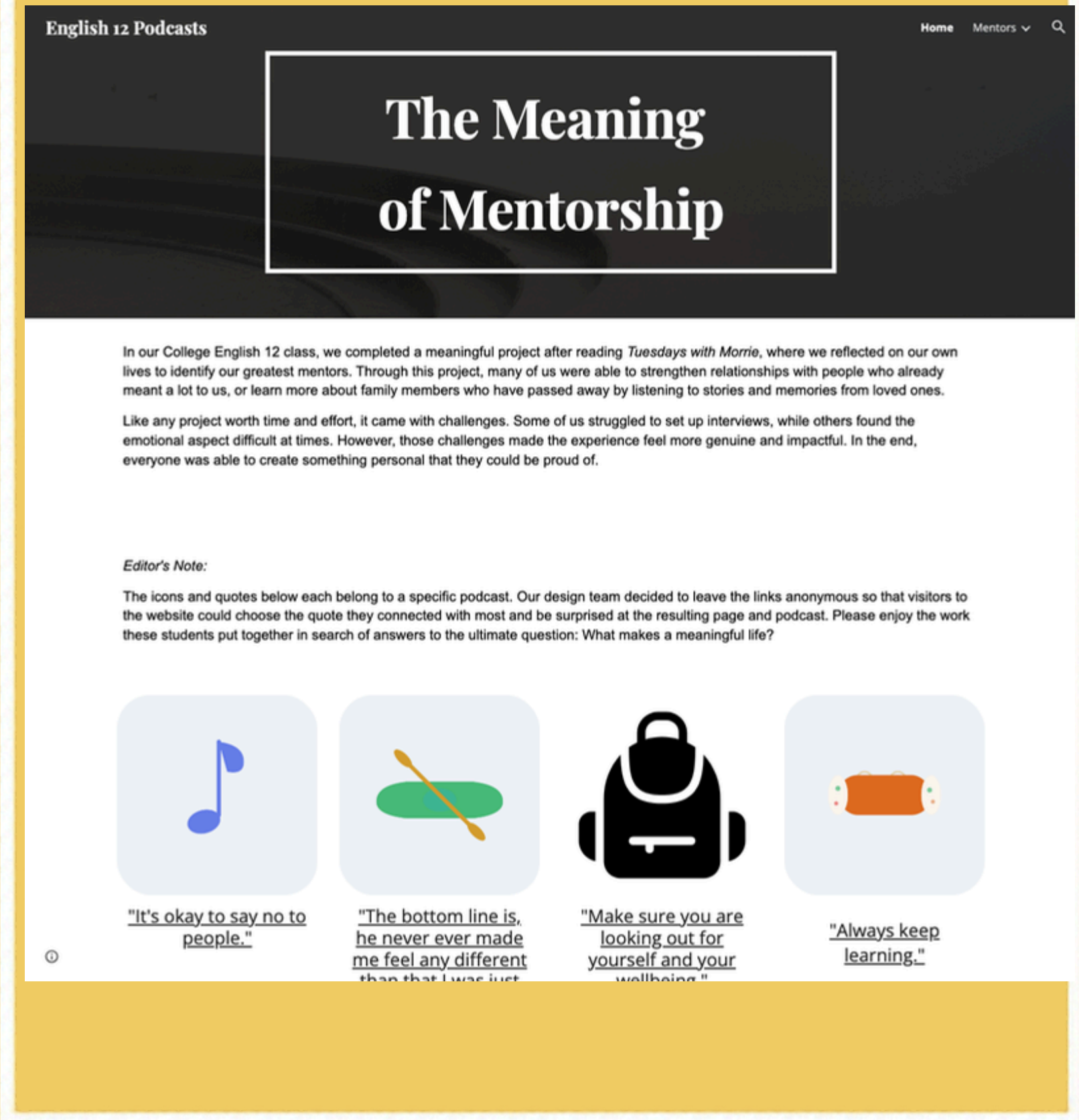
Record, edit in Descript, add your narration

Publish a podcast + one-pager on the class website

Share your finished work with visitors from Buffalo State

A new collection every year since 2022

Colin Dabkowski | College English 12 | Alden High School



INTRO TO ACTING

TWO COMPANIES, ONE CLASS

**STUDENTS BUILT THE CLASS WITH ME:
THEY PICKED THE DIRECTION, CHOSE THEIR COMPANY, AND PITCHED THEIR PROJECTS ON PITCH DAY.**

FILM COMPANY

A SCARY SHORT FILM

WRITE IT. SHOOT IT. EDIT IT.

SCREEN IT FOR A TEST AUDIENCE

PREMIERE NIGHT

STORY COMPANY

STORYTELLING WITH SOCK PUPPETS

ADAPT AND WRITE STORIES FOR KIDS

BUILD THE PUPPETS. REHEARSE THE SHOW.

STORY TIME LIVE FOR A YOUNG AUDIENCE

HOW I SELL STUDENTS ON PBL

1. Say why — out loud, early, more than once
2. Ask their hopes and worries, then keep the answers
3. Build the rules together
4. Name the real audience on day one
5. Expect it to break — and let them watch you fix it

NYS PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

CREATIVE INNOVATOR

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATOR

**REFLECTIVE &
FUTURE FOCUSED**