

## **Introducing FOSS4G to pre-university students (OSGeo first experience with the Google Code-in Contest)**

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### **Abstract (300-500 words)**

2017 was the first year that the OSGeo foundation participated in an international contest introducing young coders (still in middle school, or “highschool”) to the world of Open Source, through the Google Code-in contest. OSGeo software projects involved included MapServer, GeoServer, GRASS GIS, gvSIG, pgRouting, and many others. OSGeo volunteer mentors and administrators helped manage the many students participating, who came from all over Asia & the world. This talk will examine the contest process, the results of the contest, as well as lessons learned from OSGeo’s first experiences working with young, enthusiastic students.

*Keywords:* Type your keywords here, separated by commas

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## 1. References

Use [APA \(American Psychological Association\)](#) Style single column justified text.

References should be cited in the text, thus (Author, 1987b), and listed in alphabetical order in the reference section.

## 2. Author/s Biography



Jeff McKenna was an admin member of OSGeo's first participation in the Google Code-in contest in 2017/2018; Jeff also was voted by the winning OSGeo students to represent OSGeo at Google's main headquarters in Mountain View, California, in 2018. Jeff is also an admin member of OSGeo's mentoring of university students, through the Google Summer of Code program. In 2016 Jeff was awarded the Sol Katz Award for his leadership in the FOSS4G community. Jeff is also the former president of OSGeo, and a longtime member of the OSGeo Board of Directors. Jeff McKenna operates a consulting company, Gateway Geomatics, located on the East Coast of Canada, focusing on assisting organizations publish spatial information on the Internet