Reframing Librarian - Student Relationships through Collaborative Digital Projects
Gail Golderman and Annette LeClair | Union College, Schenectady, NY

Librarians mentor students to:

- Research historical background
- Develop website ideas
- Write contextual essays
- Create timelines, digital maps, etc.
- Cite sources and publish the results

Students become full partners and:

- Apply academic skills
- Work collaboratively
- Take ownership and initiate outreach
- Utilize unexpected outlets
- Draw others to the material
- Consider library careers

Librarians gain full partners and:

- Expand roles as faculty members
- Gain access to internal and external research grants and support programs
- Invest time as mentors, but it is worth it!

Sample Partnerships and Outcomes
www.union.edu/library/collections/digital-collections

**The World of Mrs. Perkins**
Students collaborated and proposed website ideas, developed an interactive map, and researched biographical and historic contexts. They also organized a campus-wide celebration party, sharing their enthusiasm and engaging others.

**Correspondence of John Bigelow**
Students wrote guides to correspondents, collection contents, further research sources.

**Postcards of Jewish Women**
College grant-funded student fellow developed guide, exhibit, campus talk.

**Activism in the American Wilderness**
CLIR and College grant-funded students wrote contextual essays, developed timeline, posted on social media, produced campus radio program.