Jenkins in Google Season of Docs 2021. Retrospective

We were not accepted to GSoD 2021. Let's see what we can do better next year.

Links

- https://developers.google.com/season-of-docs
- https://developers.google.com/season-of-docs/docs/participants
- https://www.jenkins.io/sigs/docs/gsod/
- Application drafts:
    - Right one - https://www.jenkins.io/sigs/docs/gsod/2021/organization-proposal/
    - Obsolete - https://www.jenkins.io/sigs/docs/gsod/2021/application/

What did go well?

- We applied in time
- The budget request was reasonable being compared to other org applications

What could we do better?

- Oleg - IMHO: Little to no public communications about GSoD 2021. There might have been discussions in Docs office hours, but there is no track in mailing lists or Gitter chats. It did not allow to facilitate the community around the program (e.g. no call for mentors and project ideas) and may have impacted the acceptance decision by Google
    - Mark - Publicly discussed Google Season of Docs at the Feb contributor summit (Docs east, Docs west, final presentation), and in office hours Feb 18, Mar 1, Mar 4, Mar 15, Mar 22, Mar 25. Agreed that there was no mention in the mailing list or in gitter chats. Those are good places for future recruiting efforts,
- Oleg - AFAIK GSoD application draft was not sent to a public review. We have not discussed/reviewed the project idea in the community
- Oleg - both org admins are from the same company, no mentors from other companies announced. It is not good for the application when reviewed, because the application appears to be submitted by a single for-profit company
- Oleg - there are 2 GSoD application pages on jenkins.io, and one is outdated. https://developers.google.com/season-of-docs/docs/participants references project pages in many cases, and they may have been unable to reference ours. Any chance Google saw the incomplete one, and it impacted the decision?
    - Mark - Submission to Google was from the organization proposal page and did not link to the outdated application.md file. It seems unlikely that Google would be able to find the application.md file when the

Any additional suggestions?

- Be as public as possible when applying to programs (GSoD, SheCodeAfrica, etc,). Otherwise such applications do not help with community bonding much

Official feedback from Google

Not available at the moment