

i Call to Action

Engage with the growing community of youth philanthropists and social entrepreneurs Jonah is leading with NEXUS. Find out how you can get involved at nexusglobal.org.

🔆 Values

- Compassion.
- Tolerance
- Imagination
- Social Inclusion
- Environmentalism

🔆 Lessons Learned

Open your heart and your mind to those you don't understand. You might find you have more in common with them than you think.

Find common humanity in inclusion. We are all children of the earth, so let's start acting like it!

Practicing philanthropy is a good way to find people who share your interests, and a sense of belonging.

A Future Forged in Radical Inclusion

Jonah Wittkamper, NEXUS New York _____

At 15, Jonah enrolled at Camp Rising Sun in New York, where he was accepted by an international community of youth leaders, and began practicing a personal philosophy of "Radical Inclusion" – and he hasn't looked back since.

Influenced by this formative experience, Jonah went on to found NEX-US around a framework and culture of celebrating differences, while amplifying the voice of the global youth he credits for setting him on this path. NEXUS is a global youth network of influential philanthropists and social entrepreneurs that are tackling a wide array of socially responsible causes and issues, and they are at the forefront of innovations in a variety of environmental spaces. Through the NEXUS Impact Accelerator program, Jonah is striving to get resources directly to those social entrepreneurs who are working on the most critical global environmental challenges. In 2018, he founded the Healthy Democracy Coalition (HDC) to help mend the political divide in the United States, by bringing Republican and Democratic donors together to address societal problems that have been ignored, and even exacerbated, as a result of the increasing divisiveness. Jonah strongly believes that getting youth involved in decision making along with adults is very important, especially at a time when people are so divided. He sees investing in young people as a crucial, and positive investment in our future.

🔆 Language Arts

What is Radical Inclusion? Create a presentation in which you explain the concept, the benefits of the practice, and how people your age can practice it in their community. (Give specific examples).

After watching Jonah's <u>discussion on the Rights of Na-</u> <u>ture</u>¹, write a summary of the main points discussed in **the video.** Afterwards, have a class discussion in which you go over the main points of the video. Discuss your point of view with your peers, and listen to theirs.

Visit the <u>NEXUS website</u>². Choose three of their initiatives (under the "Initiatives" tab), and answer the following questions: What is this initiative about? Why do you think it's important? What, exactly, is the problem they are trying to solve? How can you get involved? Use your answers to create a series of Tik Tok videos to educate people on these issues.

A Call to Action (CTA for short) is a type of statement used in marketing to get people interested in a product or an organization. After reading this <u>article on CTAs</u>³, write a 500-word CTA in which you invite people your own age to get involved with one of the philanthropic causes you mentioned in your videos from the previous activity.

🔆 STEM Activities

Research the process of micro-fragmentation being used by scientists at Coral Vita, and find out how it is helping to rebuild coral reefs.

In groups, or individually, identify and research one current social and/or environmental problem, and design a business-oriented solution to it.

Hurricane Dorian caused \$3.5 billion dollars of damage to the Bahamas. Calculate the annual GDP of the Bahamas and compare these numbers. What long-term effects did this storm have on the main industries in the Bahamas?

Research has found that <u>every \$1 invested in prevention could save \$6 in disaster mitigation</u>⁴. Now you do the math. What if the \$2 million in aid donated by businesses to the Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian had been given beforehand, instead, in disaster prevention? What could businesses have done to reduce the effects of Hurricane Dorian before it happened? What could they do now to mitigate the effects of future hurricanes?

🔆 Sustainability Innovations

One of <u>Nexus Global's⁵</u> most impactful projects includes 10 different working groups that are centered around member-led initiatives addressing problems that they are passionate about. Research the working group that you would like to know more about, and create an "11th" working group that could address an issue that is has not been previously discussed.

Jonah's passion for change is one of the key reasons why he has become successful in his pursuit of building Nexus Global. This <u>article⁶</u> highlights other young entrepreneurs whose passion for environmental and social justice led to the development and expansion of their businesses to make the world a better place. <u>philanthropynewyork.org/diversity-philanthropy²</u>

🔆 Sustainability Career Pathways

Social Entrepreneur. Jonah identified an untapped opportunity—connecting, supporting, and empowering youth—and created an organization to help achieve this. A social entrepreneur is like a business entrepreneur, but is creating something to address a societal issue, whether with a nonprofit, business, or other initiative. Interested in becoming a social entrepreneur? Learn more here⁸.

Fundraiser/Development Officer. Raising money is a skill as well as a viable career path. Not only do collaborative networks like NEXUS cultivate philanthropic giving, but every major nonprofit organization has a development officer—from environmental organizations to universities and community aid organizations. For a basic description of what being a development officer entails, visit

<u>here⁹</u>.

Organizational Leader. Many great leaders are "conveners," or individuals who, like Jonah, "<u>bring people together to address a</u> <u>problem, solution, or opportunity¹⁰</u>," even across a diversity of political views, values, sectors, and institutions Today, there are many college and masters' degree programs focused specifically on organizational leadership, rather than on teaching more traditional management techniques. <u>Learn more here¹¹</u>.

Camp Counselor. Summer camps are a really valuable educational tool. Some of them teach children about collaborative leadership, like <u>Camp Rising Sun¹²</u> does. While few make a career out of camp counseling, it is a great summer job for college students and future educators, and can lead to full-time jobs in directing camps, museums, parks, or other educational programs. <u>Read more here on</u> <u>how to become a camp counselor¹³</u>.



¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ezjfhpDHT0

² https://nexusglobal.org/about/team/

³ https://www.thebalancesmb.com/call-to-action-1794380

⁴ https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2018/01/11/every-\$1-invested-in-disaster-mitigation-saves-\$6

⁵ https://nexusglobal.org/initiatives/working-groups/

⁶ https://www.euronews.com/green/2020/09/05/the-millennial-entrepreneurs-creating-a-more-sustainable-world

⁷ https://philanthropynewyork.org/diversity-philanthropy

⁸ https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/281214

⁹ https://bestaccreditedcolleges.org/articles/development-officer-job-description-and-education-requirements.html

¹⁰ https://collaborativeleadersnetwork.org/leaders/the-role-of-the-convenor/

¹¹ https://www.snhu.edu/about-us/newsroom/business/what-is-organizational-leadership

¹² https://www.lajf.org/

¹³ https://www.zippia.com/camp-counselor-jobs/