

NEXUS: A CONNECTION, LINK. A CONNECTED GROUP OR SERIES.

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For this column: Interconnected moments, actions, and attitudes in work with youth. Also the name of a fictitious agency with several programs for youth.

Time, motion, time and motion, both are important in work *with* youth. So is sound, what we hear, the existential hum, or movement just beneath the surface. Time is not linear, nor is sound. Both move, spiral forward and back, through stories and moments. Workers lost in time and sound as they move and listen to and with youth, finding timelessness in motion, or as Aristotle said, the mode in which the present and future are one.

Motion and stillness, juxtaposed and interconnected: the yin and yang of youth work. Struggle and success, joy and sadness, time and stillness in places (as in the place that is one's self) where workers and youth move together, shaping themselves.

In the Nexus program, the workers are curious about these notions of time and motion. As they are *with* youth, they try to move in time and listen for the sounds of youth work. They explore the meaning of place and their surroundings as they try to hear and see what goes on around them in ways that they have not heard and seen before.

For the past four years I have been working with a group of youth workers, who, like the Nexus youth workers, are curious about their work. If you'd like to read about our study and some of their stories, turn to Moments *With* Youth at cyc-net.online.org.