**Volunteer Notes**

**For Alexander Calder**

There are two project choices for this artist; a) “Red nose” or b) a mobile. Choose one.

Items Needed:

**For choice A:**

Art paper (1-2 per)

Sharpies black (1 per) and red (12)

**For choice B: (working in groups of 2-3)**

5 sticks per group (can be cut to form different lengths)

Thread

Construction paper and scraps

Bottled glue (10)

Masking tape

From Classroom: hole punch, scissors

**Concepts being taught:** Please be able to understand and discuss these concepts with the students**.**

**Emphasis:** The principle used to focus attention in a composition, using contrast (light vs. dark, large vs. small), lines, placement or isolation to draw the eye to the center of interest.

**Focal point:** The first thing the eye sees when viewing an art work. This can be created using a contrasting color, placement, size or lines leading to the object of interest.

**Contrast:** The center of interest is indicated by creating differences in elements of a work, i.e. being lighter or darker than the rest of the composition.

**Balance-**Principal concerned with equalizing visual forces or elements in a work of art. In Calder’s mobiles there is both a literal and visual balance to his work.

**Organic Shapes-** Also known as free form, with curved and rounded edges. Calder rarely used geometric shapes (squares, triangles, etc.) in his mobiles.

**Other Notes:**

Please be sure to read through *all* instructions with the students before they begin any project.

The red nose project does not have to be a face. The students may create any scene, with one red focal point, big or small.

If doing the mobile, have the students hang it from their desks with the tape while working on balancing it. The sticks can be cut to form different lengths.