Now I Can Do It! - A Narrative Project
(Grades K – 2)

Objective
Students create a crayon resist artwork and a brief piece of writing that discusses learning to do something and how they felt about the experience.

Time
30 – 40 minutes for the artwork; 15 minutes for the writing

Materials
• heavy white paper (8.5 x 11)
• pencils
• crayons
• watercolor paints and brushes
• writing paper

Process
Discuss
Hung Liu’s Shoemakers depicts a family making shoes together. Think of something you have learned to do because of your family. Is there a craft or food you make together? Is there a game or sport you have practiced with them? Maybe you enjoy music, being outdoors, or another hobby or pastime because of family traditions.

Plan
Choose one of your ideas. Think about the what, where, how, and who of your idea. Think about how you felt, and how you could show that in a drawing.

Create
Use a pencil to sketch (lightly draw) a scene showing your idea on your white paper. Use all of the space, and avoid leaving large parts of the paper empty. Use the crayons to color your drawing. Press hard enough to make the colors strong. Paint the white spaces of your drawing with the watercolors. Using only one or two colors will make your drawing stand out better. Adding a little more water makes the colors lighter. You can paint right up to the crayon parts because the crayon will resist (push away) the watery paint.

Write
Write about your artwork. Think again about the what, where, how, and who of your idea, and how you felt. Help the people who look at your painting understand your art.

Expanding the Lesson
• Use an autobiographical picture book to introduce the lesson. Please reference our book list for some suggestions.
• Devote more time to the narrative writing while still having it follow the art-making.
• Create a class display of the artwork and writing together.