

## THREE-PART ART: Post-Tour Art Lesson

**PROJECT TITLE:** What Shines Light in Your Life? (Watercolor Wax Resist Postcard)

**THEME:** Four Visions: A Celebration of the Year of the Woman

**AGE RANGE:** K-12

### PROJECT INTRODUCTION:

#### **Four Visions: A Celebration of the Year of the Woman**

Marisol Rendon is an artist, designer and educator. Her work includes sculpture, installation art, design and drawings.

“ Dreams and hope are feelings that some how have been helping us to keep our balance. However, I’m sure of something; in most cases, behind and after each moment of illusion there is a sigh of resignation. I would love to find a way to represent that sigh.” – Marisol Rendon



**Marisol Rendon**

*“Rearrangement Series: Why not”, 2020*

Charcoal on paper

# ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

## LESSON PLAN

### ART PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

For this project you will be creating an art postcard to “Shine some light” into someone’s life by creating a unique piece of art and mailing it to someone you know. You will learn how to use a white crayon and watercolor paint to create an original wax resist artwork. Wax resist is a technique where wax material, like a crayon, is added to dry paper and then painted over. Wherever the wax has been drawn, the paper will remain white, as the wax “resists” the paint. When you are done, you may use your original art postcard to connect with your community by mailing it to someone you know: a relative, a friend, a classmate, even your teacher!

### PROMPT QUESTIONS:

1. Look at the artwork above for a moment. How is the artwork connected to something you know about?
2. What do you wonder about?
3. What is something that brings light into your life? Is it a thing or a person? Is it an activity?
4. What are some ways to bring light into other people’s life?
5. If you were to draw what brings light to your life, what would that look like? How could you represent that thing, person or activity?

### PROJECT MATERIALS: (provided in Art Kit)

- Watercolor postcard
- Watercolor set with included brush
- #6 watercolor brush
- White Crayon

### MATERIALS NEEDED FROM HOME/SCHOOL:

- Pencil or pen to address and write a message on your postcard
- Stamp (optional)
- Small container of water

### KEY TERMS:

**Wax Resist-** wax (like a crayon) is added to dry paper and then watercolor is painted over it, the wax prevents the paint from leaving color where lines are drawn

**Postcard-** a card for sending a message by mail without an envelope, typically having a photograph or other illustration on one side

### ART MAKING INSTRUCTIONS:

#### Step 1:

Collect and lay out the materials needed from your Art Kit and home or classroom onto a table or workspace. Make sure that the water container is at the top of your work area so it won’t spill. If you are working near any electronics (Ex: your computer, Chromebook or cellphone) ensure that no materials will come into contact with them.

## LESSON PLAN

### Step 2:

Using the white crayon, draw the image you have selected onto the front of the watercolor postcard (NOTE: the back of the postcard has an area printed for addressing your card and adding a stamp.) The white crayon will leave the image of your design on the paper, it will be hard to see now but once you add watercolor it will “pop” off the paper. Draw firmly with the white crayon so there’s plenty on the paper. If you use it too lightly the watercolor won’t “pop”. Consider different types of lines: wavy, straight, thick and thin.

### Step 3:

When you are satisfied with your design it is time to add color. Dip your #6 watercolor brush into your container of water and then use the wet brush to soften one of the colors in your watercolor set. Experiment with adding more water to lighten the color tone, or less to create a darker, denser color. Try mixing colors to create new colors. Rinse your brush between colors to keep the colors separate. Be sure to change your water if it becomes muddied. When you are finished rinse your brush and put your art supplies back into your Art Kit.

### Step 4:

Allow your watercolor postcard to dry. When it is dry, you can add a message on the back, perhaps you can talk about how you created this art or perhaps you want to say hello to someone. When you are finished you can address your postcard, add a stamp and mail it to someone you know. Perhaps they’ll write back!

### POST PROMPT QUESTIONS:

1. What is something you learned today while making this postcard art?
2. Did anything challenge you in your art making, if so how did you problem solve?
3. How did you feel drawing with the white crayon and not being able to see it until you painted over it?
4. Would you like to use wax resist and watercolor again? (You have the supplies so try it on other pieces of paper- have fun!)
5. Who will you share your postcard with?

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## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS:

### Artful Thinking

### Connect/Extend/Challenge

### What kind of thinking does this routine encourage?

The routine helps students make connections between new ideas and prior knowledge. It also encourages them to make a personal connection to an artwork or topic.

### When and where can it be used?

A natural place to use this routine is after students have experienced something new. The routine is broadly applicable: use it after students have explored a work of art, or anything else newly introduced in the curriculum. Try it as a reflection during a lesson, after a longer project, or when completing a unit of study. Try using it after another routine!

## RESOURCES:

[http://pzartfulthinking.org/?page\\_id=2](http://pzartfulthinking.org/?page_id=2)

<http://marisolrendon.com/drawings/#1>

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/m/mail-art>