

Their Journey: Vietnamese in Michigan

Exhibit Prospectus: *Their Journey: Vietnamese in Michigan* is a small, traveling exhibit that augments Bich Minh Nguyen's *Stealing Buddha's Dinner*, the 2009-10 Great Michigan Read. The book is a memoir that chronicles the author's migration from Vietnam in 1975 and her coming of age in Grand Rapids, Michigan in the 1980s. The exhibit offers audiences a greater understanding of the book's historical basis. It consists of eight, thematically arranged banners:

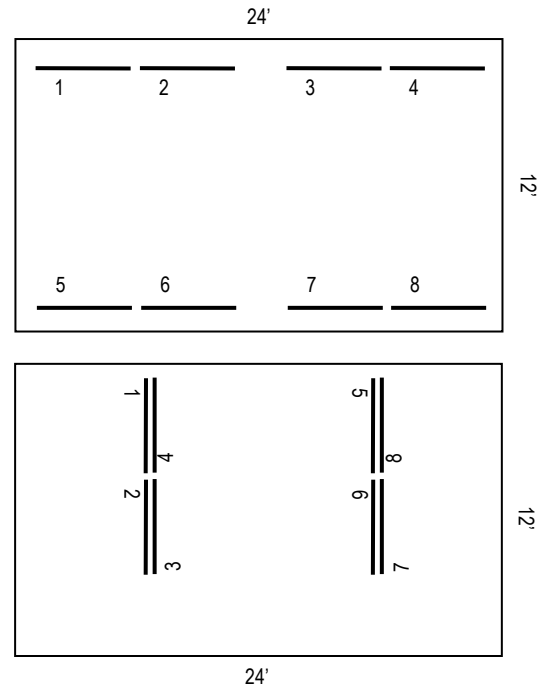
1. About Vietnam
2. Vietnam and the Cold War
3. Why was the United States fighting in Vietnam?
4. How did Vietnamese refugees come to Michigan?
5. Bich Minh Nguyen's Journey, In Her Words (Pt. I)
6. Bich Minh Nguyen's Journey, In Her Words (Pt. II)
7. What was life like for Vietnamese refugees in Michigan?
8. Bich Minh Nguyen and The Great Michigan Read

Venue: Exhibit must be displayed in a gallery, lounge area, or other defined, enclosed, interior space. It must not be displayed in a hallway, corridor, or other passageway; outdoors; or in a tent or other temporary building. Exhibit must be under continuous surveillance during public hours and locked and secure during closing hours. After delivery and until pickup, Exhibitor is fiscally responsible for any damage to the Exhibit.

Arrival: The Exhibit will arrive at least two days before the Exhibitor's opening. The shipment will include eight separate boxes, each holding a self-contained banner assembly. Exhibitor must contact the Council should any boxes be missing or damaged.

Installation: The exhibit consists of eight, 39" x 84" banners, which are similar to a roll-up window shade in operation. With the base firmly positioned on a level floor, unfold and install the support pole into the base. Then, simply pull the cassette up to unroll the banner. It will lock into place with the support pole. Each banner is freestanding, sturdy, and lightweight. They are designed to be installed quickly by nonprofessionals.

Sample Installations



After installation, Exhibitor shall inspect all banners for damage or other defects and complete a Pre-Exhibition Condition Report, which must be faxed to the Council immediately. Exhibitor is responsible for any damage during their exhibition dates.

Exhibitor must store the shipping boxes in a dry, secure environment. Both are expected to last the duration of the exhibit tour.

Deinstallation: To disassemble, unhook the banner from the support pole and carefully feed it back into the base. Then, remove the support pole and fold it (accordion-style) for storage. Place the base and pole into the proper cardboard box, seal it securely with packing tape, and affix a shipping label to the next venue. After doing this for all the banners, complete the Post-Exhibition Condition Report and fax it to the Council immediately.

Shipping: Exhibitor must arrange for the entire exhibit to be shipped so that it arrives at the next host venue at least two days prior to the next opening. Exhibitor responsible for shipping expenses.