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Threads of Passage: From Vietnam to America

An interactive exhibition honoring Vietnamese refugee stories and cultural memory

By Linh My Truong

April 26 – May 18, 2025

Annex Gallery at 333 Midland St, Highland Park, MI 48203

Opening Reception:

Saturday, April 26 | 6–9 PM

With Vietnamese appetizers by [Vè Lai](#) and personal dishes from the artist's family

Artist Talk & Vietnamese Vinyl Listening Party:

Thursday, May 1 | 6–10 PM

With artist Linh My Truong and guest artist, filmmaker, and DJ Thanh Tân

The evening includes artist presentations on current work and a joint discussion on preserving oral histories, followed by a vinyl listening session featuring rare Vietnamese records from both artists' personal collections.

Gallery Hours:

Thursday–Friday: 2–7 PM

Saturday–Sunday: 12–6 PM

Or by appointment

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War this year, artist Linh My Truong presents *Threads of Passage: From Vietnam to America*, an interactive art exhibition exploring the Vietnamese American refugee experience and its enduring legacy across generations.

Truong, a daughter of refugees herself, creates multi-sensory installations that combine hand-embroidery, video, and technology activated by touch and movement. Her work invites audience participation and challenges linear storytelling—mirroring the often fragmented nature of memory, trauma, and migration. By merging craft traditions with technology, *Threads of Passage* builds a bridge between the analog past and the digital present, and between personal memory and collective history—offering space for reflection and healing in a time of cultural disconnection and generational change.

The exhibition includes the artist's own family refugee history as well as oral and visual histories submitted by Vietnamese American refugees and their descendants from across the country, including Michigan, collected through an open call for community participation. These stories—tender, complicated, and often undocumented—become part of a living archive accessible to visitors, allowing them to engage with migration not only as a historic event, but as an evolving experience that continues to shape lives and identities.

A free, trauma-informed Guide on How to Facilitate Conversations, developed by the artist and collaborators, supports intergenerational dialogue within Vietnamese families. It will be available at the exhibition and can also be downloaded online at linhcreates.art.

About Linh My Truong

[Linh My Truong](#) is a Detroit-based interdisciplinary artist and educator working with textiles, video, and electronics. Her work merges handcraft with emerging technology to explore memory, identity, and human connection. She is a recipient of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation's New Work grant, and her work has been exhibited across the U.S. and Asia.

About Thanh Tân

[Thanh Tân](#) is a Vietnamese American storyteller, filmmaker, and cultural worker based in Seattle, Washington. Her storytelling spans podcasting (Second Wave), journalism (The New York Times, This American Life), community organizing (Viet Fact Check, Viets for Afghans), and analog music preservation of Asian diasporic music (SEA Vinyl Society). She is currently directing her first independent documentary, *Che's Last Stand*, which uncovers the untold Cold War stories of South Vietnamese soldiers and their extraordinary legacies at risk of erasure from history.

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