



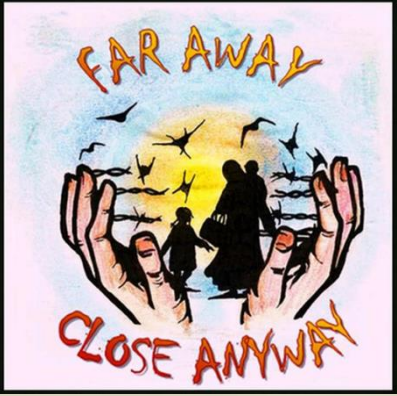
Erasmus+

# The story of CARINA HOANG

**STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP ERASMUS+ KA2, "In A Far Away Land:  
Refugee Children  
(2016-1-TR01-KA219-033904\_2)  
2016-2018**

**COLEGIUL ENERGETIC, RAMNICU VALCEA, ROMANIA**





Erasmus+

# Carina Hoang

**Former Vietnamese refugee and award winning author**





**“I was one of hundreds of thousands who escaped the aftermath of the Vietnam War. I escaped with my sister and brother and 373 others from Saigon in June 1979.**

**We arrived in Indonesia a week later.”**

# Story

When she was 16 years old, Carina escaped Vietnam on a wooden boat with her two siblings and 370 other people. She endured violent storms, pirate raids and severely unsanitary conditions to make it to Indonesia, only to find herself stranded on an uninhabited island for almost three months until being rescued by the UNHCR.



Over a period of twenty years, she gained a Bachelor of Chemistry and Masters in Business Administration.

In 2006, Hoang re-settled in Perth where she enrolled at Murdoch University and completed an honors thesis on the significance of memoirs to history. On International Women's Day 2011, Hoang was inducted into Western Australia's inaugural Hall of Fame by His Excellency Dr. Ken Michael AC, Governor of Western Australia.



“Being a  
refugee is  
not a  
choice”

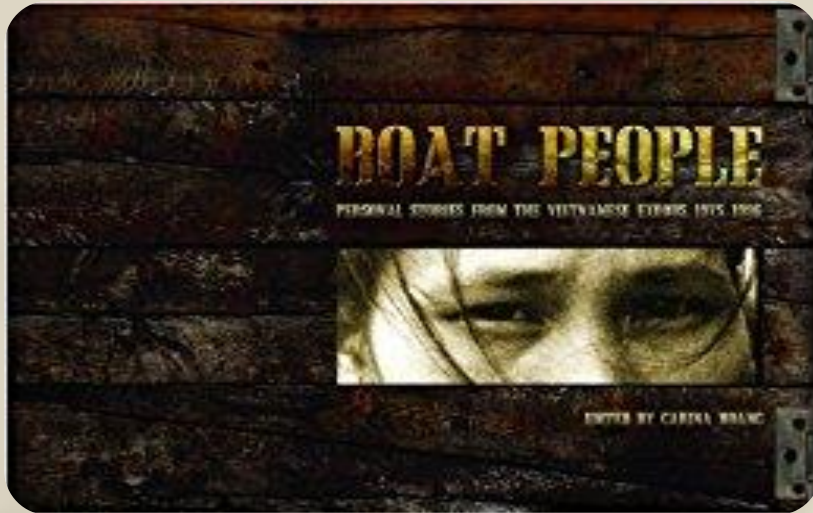
Carina Hoang



Refugees are often marginalized, their humanity ignored as their stories go untold. In this remarkable and emotional talk, however, author and former refugee Carina Hoang discusses her experience as a "boat person". It's a powerful account that is impossible to ignore.

**Carina Hoang at TEDxPerth**





She released her first book, *Boat People: Personal Stories from the Vietnamese Exodus 1975-1996*, a series of 31 short stories by Vietnamese boat people, and nine stories by non-Vietnamese staff that work in various refugee camps in South East Asia. In June 2012, the book received an award as Best Regional Non-Fiction (Australia and New Zealand) in the 2012 Independent Publisher Book Awards.









Carina returned to Kuku Island as an adult to search for the remains of her cousin, who she had lost on the journey. When she posted photographs of some graves on her website, many Vietnamese people contacted her to find the graves of their relatives, mainly people who survived the high seas but succumbed to disease and malnutrition.



**For more  
informations  
about her life  
story visit:  
<http://carinahoang.com/>**



# carina hoang

*A true story of determination and survival*

[Home](#)[News](#)[About](#)[The Journey](#)[Graves of Refugee](#)[Book](#)[Forum](#)[Contact](#)

*I was one of hundreds of  
escaped the aftermath of  
I escaped with my sister  
373 others from Saigon in  
We arrived in Indonesia  
site is about my escape a  
to try and understand the  
what took place during the  
times. [More](#).*

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION



Erasmus+

## DISCLAIMER

This publication reflects the views only of the authors, and the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency and the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

