



PERMANENT ART AT REIMAN GARDENS

*PART OF THE
UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS'
ART ON CAMPUS COLLECTION*

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Fast Facts:

- **Artist:** Tom Riefe
- **Date:** 2016
- **Material:** Stainless Steel
- **Location:** Events Plaza

Expand

The bright luster and sharp edges of stainless steel may at first seem unusual in the natural setting of Reiman Gardens, but this dramatic sculpture is perfectly at home in the Rust Events Plaza.

The linear elements of Expand originate from the sculpture's center and project outward, both suggesting growth and illustrating how an idea can expand limitlessly. The symmetrical form provides a sense of balance, creating a connection between individuals and nature.

The plantings surrounding the sculpture echo these themes of growth and balance, which form the foundation of Reiman Gardens' focus on plants, butterflies, and the beauty of the natural world.



Fast Facts:

- ▶ **Artist:** Ted "Sitting Crow" Garner
- ▶ **Date:** 1979
- ▶ **Material:** Carved Steel
- ▶ **Location:** Walled Courtyard

Totems

This sculpture incorporates three stylized animal figures – a bear, a beaver, and a raven. Northwest Coast peoples – Native North Americans who lived along the Pacific Ocean's edges from northern California to Alaska and surrounding island chains – often erected totem poles outside their homes to communicate various stories, myths, and legends, and to serve as a symbolic form of historical writing.

Can you identify each animal carved into the steel, and create a story of your own?



Fast Facts:

- ▶ **Artist:** Thomas Stancliffe
- ▶ **Date:** 1995
- ▶ **Material:** Welded Bronze
- ▶ **Location:** Catalpa Courtyard

Dikhonomia

Both sculptural works are welded bronze and set on stone columns.

Work "A" has a round bronze base that extends to form rising "flame or leaves" of grass.

Work "B" also has a round base extended with vertical bars of bronze held together by three bronze bands placed at equal distance; the top is stylized bronze and overall, the piece is cylindrical.

Dikhonomia represents a dialogue between horticulture and agriculture.



Fast Facts:

- ▶ **Artist:** Thomas Stancliffe
- ▶ **Date:** 1995
- ▶ **Material:** Welded Bronze and Cedar Wood
- ▶ **Location:** Jones Rose Garden

Pediment

A wood "pagoda style" canopy extends across the entry to the rose garden. The side support columns are 8' and are made of stone. A cedar wood trellis and bronze roses form the mid-section of the canopy. The bronze finial is a 2' high vertical bronze rod with bronze ball midway up.

Pediment references the architecture and landscape of the rural Midwest. The endless grid of our roads and fields as laid out on the Jeffersonian grid plan become a trellis, with a rose added to denote the entrance into the rose garden.



Fast Facts:

- **Artist:** Nina de Creeft Ward
- **Date:** 1999
- **Material:** Cast Bronze
- **Location:** Children's Garden

Shep

Shep is a farm dog placed at the Children's Garden entrance at Reiman Gardens. With a happy looking face and his right paw extended outwards, Shep greets children and adult visitors to the garden with a warm welcome.

Artist Nina Ward first made several drawings of her own dog. Then, after small clay models were made, Ward moved onto a full-size model of Shep, which was fired. Shep was then shipped to Max-Cast foundry in Kalona, Iowa where Shep was cast in bronze, using a sand mold method of casting.



Fast Facts:

- **Artist:** Christian Petersen
- **Date:** 2000
- **Material:** Cast Bronze
- **Location:** Events Plaza

Joy II

The round bronze fountain has bas-reliefs of children, from toddler to youth, at play. As you view the fountain in the round, the children are dancing together and holding hands. Two young girls, wearing flowing dresses hold hand of two smaller children followed by two girls, a dog, a child, with tennis racket, and two boys wearing shorts.

This is a bronze cast of a plaster sculpture created by Christian Petersen in 1938 as a possible drinking fountain for the Ames' Brookside Park. This was never completed. In 1986, the College of Family and Consumer Sciences purchased the plaster sculpture, and the rights to reproduce the fountain. This bronze is one of two posthumous castings; the other cast is for a drinking fountain at the Palmer Building playground.



Fast Facts:

- **Artist:** Deborah Masouka
- **Date:** 2005
- **Material:** Painted Bronze
- **Location:** Prairie Vista Garden

Rabbit Hill

Usually, rabbits are limited to a diet of low lying vegetation and greenery. Not here – these rabbits could eat you. Each sculpture weighs 150 pounds and is several feet tall – and that’s just the head poking up out of the ground. The typical prey becomes the predator.

Each head is two faced, with one menacing eye regarding its visitors and painted earth tones that are just a bit too bright. This explores the contrast between how we typically see rabbits (as soft, vulnerable creatures) and as they really can be (ravenous garden predators, capable of causing a garden’s destruction).

The rabbits stand solitary and quiet in the far reaches of Reiman Gardens, both attracting people in to the prairie that was once less traveled, and repelling them away.



Fast Facts:

- **Artist:** Vernon "Skip" Wilits
- **Date:** 2013
- **Material:** Recycled Metal
- **Location:** Catalpa Courtyard

Pods

Planted in the shade of the catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*) trees, Pods is a dramatic companion to the natural elements of the Catalpa Courtyard in all seasons.

The sculpture's shape echoes the trees' long, thin seedpods that persist through the winter, while the rust-colored surface creates a striking contrast to eruptions of orchid-like white blooms in spring. Later, the catalpas' large, heart-shaped leaves provide relief from summer suns, as well as a backdrop to the angular sculpture that transforms from rich green to luminous gold in the fall.

With sharp upward projections, the sculpture explores themes of growth and life cycles central to Reiman Gardens' focus on plants, butterflies, and the beauty of the natural world.



Fast Facts:

- ▶ **Artist:** Alex Heveri
- ▶ **Date:** 2023
- ▶ **Material:** Steel and Dalle de Verre Glass
- ▶ **Location:** Christina Reiman Butterfly Wing
- ▶ **Not part of the University Museums' Art on Campus Collection**

Blue Morpho

The colors on most butterflies are created by the pigments of overlapping scales on the surface of their wings. The blue morpho's dorsal (top) scales are like small prisms which makes the color shimmer. This is called structural color, and it changes as light refracts off the wings at different angles.

In 2023, Reiman Gardens became the first garden in the Midwest to display Heveri's art. Afterward, she donated Blue Morpho to the Gardens to use as a fundraiser.

Due to the relationship between Reiman Gardens and Heveri, the City of Ames was able to buy an additional art piece to display in the Airport Rd roundabout.



Fast Facts:

- ▶ **Artist: Dale Lewis**
- ▶ **Date: 2022**
- ▶ **Material: Recycled Metal**
- ▶ **Location: Lake Helen Buffer**
- ▶ **Not part of the University Museums' Art on Campus Collection**

Cherry Tree

After leaving a career as an electrical technician and machinist, Minnesota artist Dale Lewis embarked on a new journey, re-imagining scrap as art. Reiman Gardens was the first botanical garden to exhibit his whimsical mixture of metal plants, insects, and animals made from found objects.

Cherry Tree, though not part of the 2022 exhibit at Reiman Gardens, was selected from among Lewis' many works by a donor and placed amongst a grouping of live cherry trees near Lake Helen.

Donated to Reiman Gardens in memory of Paulean Wood by her daughter, Shirley Wood.