



ASCENSION

Sculptor: Jake Balcom
Memorial Park Rose Garden
56th Street & Underwood Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska

Sculptor 's Thoughts:

I felt that an organic shape would be best in a nature setting, something that would exist in harmony with the gardens, interacting with and complimenting the roses during the summer and standing up to become the focal point in the winter. It also seemed appropriate to respect the memorial south of the gardens and I wanted something airy so as to not completely block the view of the Memorial Wall. A design emerged which seemed to explode with life, rising powerfully out of the ground, yet soft and elegant in form, a form that seemed to adequately represent growth and the vibrant nature of a garden full of beautiful flowers. I chose the name **ASCENSION** because it felt like the sculpture was still evolving, as if this was just an early snap shot in its life cycle, and it would keep growing larger and larger, rising to a monumental scale.

ASCENSION was commissioned by the Dundee/Memorial Park Association with funds contributed by an anonymous donor. It was dedicated to the city of Omaha on June 6, 2009.