

# ArtStory

Pursuing quality of life.

## Gary Kahle

Sculptor

### Medium:

Stainless Steel

### Notable Commissions:

University of Kansas Medical Center,  
Kansas City, KS  
Cowley County Community College  
Arkansas City, KS

### Collections:

Arts and Science Museum,  
Pine Bluff, AR  
The Trust Company of Kansas,  
Wichita, KS

### Notable Juried Exhibitions:

National Academy of Design,  
New York, NY  
North American Sculpture Exhibition,  
Golden, CO

**“...put them in the dark and  
their brilliance is diminished.”**

**–Gary Kahle**

**Y**ou’ll spot his work in interesting places: small town main streets, area colleges, exhibitions nationwide, memorials and medical centers. They are bright, shiny works of stainless steel. Smooth, sleek, polished and expressive, they tell you what he sees and where he has been.

Gary Kahle is a native Oklahoman residing in Arkansas City, Kansas. For 16 years he was a heliarc welder at an aircraft service shop, where he learned the techniques used to produce his stainless steel wonders. Those techniques allow him to create mirror surfaces and smooth angles with no signs of welding.

Kahle walks the fine line between contemporary and realistic. He knows the difference, both in his work and in people’s differing tastes.

“The material needs contemporary shaping, it wants that look. If you go down to Florida they prefer expressive shapes. If you come up here (Kansas) to make a buffalo, it has to look just like a buffalo,” Kahle chuckles.

“I like to put them in an area where there’s plenty of light and they reflect a lot of surrounding color,” says Kahle, “put them in the dark and their brilliance is diminished.”

Kahle creates what feels good to him, what he notices around him.

“I think art makes people’s minds work, you know? They wonder how you did it, how you came up with that, how the quality was made,” says Kahle, “it gives you a sense of accomplishment to know that people like it. If they buy it, that’s just an added bonus.”



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