

## Golden Connections

By Jennifer Corio and Dave Frei

This sculpture, "Golden Connections" represents a unification of various parts of Ashland that come from the historic origins of the city. "Golden Connections" occupies one of four central hubs that recognizes the unique history of Ashland and helped to put it on the map. Its placement in Ashland's Railroad District serves as a historic marker and wayfinding project to provide a connection to the history of Ashland on today's landscape. Accompanying this sculpture, are medallions inlaid through the Railroad District that commemorate historic sites of Ashland.

The artists explain, "The Golden Connections merges a trio of powerful symbols to tell the story of how the railroad spurred a huge transformation in Ashland when in 1887, the Southern Pacific chose the town as a main stop between their Portland-San Francisco line with a full-service maintenance yard . . . as well as, an offering of gratitude and forgiveness to the Chinese workers who worked under difficult conditions to build these tracks."