Reflections of Mayo by a Team of Mayo Clinic Artists

Recognizing the contribution art has had in the Mayo Clinic environment since the original Mayo Clinic Building was finished in 1914, Mayo Clinic Proceedings features some of the numerous works of art displayed throughout the buildings and grounds on Mayo Clinic campuses as interpreted by the author.

In recent years, many communities have adopted a mascot representing something of importance to their community, such as the Peanuts characters seen in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis — St Paul, Minnesota, honoring Charles Schultz.\(^1\)

The geese became an integral and iconic part of the history of Rochester. In honor of this, Reflections of Mayo was created by a team of artists at Mayo Clinic, who spent 7 days completing its assemblage. They used materials such as marble, metal, and glass remnants from construction projects around the Mayo Clinic campus, including 900 copper feathers fabricated by the Engineering Department.

Reflections of Mayo is located in the patient cafeteria area in the subway level between the Siebens and Gonda Buildings of Mayo Clinic’s campus in Rochester.

Margaret R. Wentz, BA

In 2009, the Rochester Arts Council sponsored a similar tribute called “The Goose is Loose,” featuring the Canada goose.\(^2\) Anyone familiar with Rochester, Minnesota, most likely has seen evidence of geese, especially around the Silver Lake area. These waterbirds were thought to have been extinct, but were restored to viability by Dr Charles Mayo, Sr. in 1924.\(^2\)

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