The Rose Window Stained Glass by Mike and Stephanie Podulke and Daryl Nigon

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.

Filled with rich and vibrant blue, green, and red colors, The Rose Window is infused with many symbols of the Christian faith — depicting the relationship between humanity and the mystery of God. The designs were created by Mike and Stephanie, and painted details were added by Stephanie using ground glass shards mixed with resins fired at extremely high temperatures.

Mike Podulke (1943-2011) studied stained glass making in Italy and the Netherlands from 1968 to 1972, and opened his studio, Rochester Stained Glass, in partnership with his wife, Stephanie, in 1976. He designed and constructed numerous windows and works of art throughout Rochester, Minnesota, and the surrounding area, and maintained the studio up until his death.

Daryl Nigon, President and CEO of Nigon Woodworks — a custom furniture and cabinet making company also located in Rochester — constructed the wood frame for The Rose Window out of walnut harvested from Blooming Prairie, a community in southeast Minnesota.

The Rose Window was created by the Podulkes and Nigon for Mayo Clinic’s Methodist Hospital Chapel as a memorial to Reverend Raymond Spurlock, its first hospital chaplain. The window was installed in December of 1981 and dedicated in a ceremony held in January of 1982.

The Rose Window (originally noted as being located on the third floor), currently resides outside the chapel located on the second floor of Mayo Clinic Hospital, Methodist Campus.
(the window has not moved, but the floors have been renumbered).

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