



## Mayo Clinic Heritage Films Discussion Guide

### Crowned with Music: The Carillon at Mayo Clinic



Mayo Clinic is the only medical center in North America to have a carillon. It sits in a tower atop the Plummer Building on the Rochester, Minnesota campus. The carillon was a gift to the community from Drs. William J. and Charles H. Mayo in 1928, dedicated to the American soldier. To this day, every official recital begins with “America,” popularly known as “My Country ‘tis of Thee.”

The carillon has been lovingly maintained and expanded through the years. With 56 bells, it is one of the largest musical instruments of its kind. Mayo’s full-time carillonneur plays recitals that are streamed live so they can be enjoyed by people throughout the world.

#### Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think the Mayo brothers wanted to put a carillon on top of the clinic’s new building?
2. Why do you think the Mayo brothers chose to dedicate this musical instrument to the American soldier?
3. How does the carillon enhance the environment of Mayo Clinic?
4. Have you ever listened to music as part of a health care or healing experience? How did it help?

5. The film shows how the carillon is played. How did this compare to how you imagined it was played?

6. Have you played a musical instrument? What do you think would be the most challenging thing about playing the carillon? What would be the most fulfilling?

7. If you could play the carillon, what songs would you choose to play?