

Leslie and Susan Gonda Building

Gonda Building Facts

- Architect of record is the Minnesota firm of Ellerbe Becket, Inc., which also designed the first Mayo Clinic Building in 1914.
- John Waugh, principal architect, is a native of Rochester and son and grandson of Mayo physicians.
- The Gonda Building is designed for up to 30 stories (10 more than the Mayo Building).
- The Gonda Building is linked to the Charlton Building by one of the world's largest "stacked" skyway systems.
- A typical floor encompasses 72,000 square feet (as compared to 48,000 square feet per floor in the Mayo Building).
- The Gonda Building contains 14,400 tons of steel.
- The building is covered in 87,000 square feet of fabricated glass.
- The exterior of the building features Samba White granite from Brazil, accented by Imperial Danby marble from Vermont – both finished in Italy.
- Interior stonework comes from Italy, Spain, Greece, Peru, Iran, Bolivia, France and Vietnam, and from the states of Connecticut, Georgia, Maine and Minnesota.
- 3.5 million feet of communications cable provide service to voice and data jacks throughout the building.





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Welcome to the Leslie and Susan Gonda Building, the “front door” of Mayo Clinic.

Born in Hungary, Leslie and Susan Gonda married in Switzerland after World War II and emigrated to Venezuela in 1947.

Over time, the Gondas headed a wide range of successful businesses. In 1963, the couple, with their three children, moved to the United States, and Mr. Gonda became an avid cattle rancher. In 1973, with his son and a friend, Mr. Gonda created one of the largest airline-leasing firms in the world today.

The Gondas established a foundation to support important medical projects and research in the United States and Israel in 1988. In honor of relatives, they named it the Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Foundation.

Mr. and Mrs. Gonda have been loyal Mayo Clinic patients since the 1950s. Their first major gift to Mayo was the Gonda Vascular Center in 1992. A model across the United States and abroad, the Gonda Vascular Center helped inspire the design of the Gonda Building with its focus on patient convenience and multispecialty resources in medical care, education and research.

In 1997 Mr. and Mrs. Gonda provided leadership support for a new clinical facility. Construction of the Gonda Building Phase I (10 floors) was under way when the Gondas’ son, Lou, a member of Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees, and his wife, Kelly, along with Mr. and Mrs. Gonda, provided lead gifts that enabled immediate construction of Phase II to its current height of 20 floors.

The Gonda Building was dedicated in 2001. The building supports innovative and evolving hospital and clinical activities, including outpatient examinations, treatments and procedures, same-day surgery, intensive and step-down hospital care, patient-focused research, and education for patients and staff.

Mayo is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more information, please call the Department of Development at 507-284-8540.



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