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**HESS CENTER PUBLIC OPENING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2012
10:30 AM**

Thank you all for being here today to celebrate this milestone in Mount Sinai's history.

This beautiful place is going to be an engine of discovery between physicians and scientists, and among scientists from cancer... neuroscience... cardiology... molecular imaging... and genomics, which will transform the future of medicine.

At the risk of being too bold, I make these predictions....

- **In Cancer**, where we have already built virtually overnight one of the top clinical care programs, our scientists will discover improved therapies for the most common and lethal cancers.
- **For brain diseases**, we will change the prognosis for patients with devastating diseases such as Alzheimer's, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, Schizophrenia, and Depression.
- **For cardiovascular disease**, we will develop gene and stem cell therapies that will reverse cardiac failure.
- **For our children with chronic illnesses**, we help them lead a better life and have a brighter future.
- **Our role in advancing molecular imaging technologies** will greatly improve diagnostic accuracy and the measurement of therapeutic effects.
- **And our investment in genomics** will revolutionize human biology and lead to a truly new era of preventive and precision medicine.

It is natural to wonder when we will witness this transformative progress. And in response, I will paraphrase President Kennedy...

Advancements of this magnitude cannot happen within a year... They may not even be accomplished within a few years...

But, this is our moon shot – By the end of this decade we will bear witness.

We, the physicians and scientists of Mount Sinai, are literally going to battle against the most serious diseases that afflict mankind.

I find inspiration from Henry V's St Crispins Day speech before the 1415 Battle of Agincourt, when the vastly outnumbered British defeated the French...

Before the battle, Henry V tells his troops that after this victory, they will be remembered for the ages. And that those who were not there, and safe in their homes, will forever regret it. As penned by William Shakespeare...

“What feats he did that day. Then shall our names, Familiar in his mouth as household words – Harry the King, Bedford and Exeter, Warwick and Talbot, Salisbury and Gloucester –

Be in their flowing cups freshly rememb'ed...

And gentlemen in England now-a-bed Shall think themselves accurs'd they were not here....”

Crohn... Churg and Strauss... Sachs... Brill... Popper - all Mount Sinai physicians that are “freshly remembered” many generations after their initial discoveries.

Now, we have a new Mount Sinai Corps of Discovery, who count themselves fortunate for this opportunity and are ready to do battle. The work to be done by the physicians and scientists in this room today will benefit future generations, and will long be remembered.

And by achieving their dreams, they will make the dreams of so many others, our patients and their families – come true.

MOUNT SINAI – A SPECIAL TIME; A SPECIAL PLACE.

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