

**Mayo Clinic 150<sup>th</sup> Collection of Stories**

**O30 Inspiring Scents and Compassionate Care**

Intro: Mountain air, desert sun, the mist from the sea. Scents that conjure memories of far away places are the types of fragrances perfume maker Kim Spadaro captures in her products. It’s a profession that requires a keen sense of smell. But when a brain tumor threatened to destroy that sense of smell, Kim went to Mayo Clinic for help.

**Video**

**Audio**

<b>TRT 3:00 Kim Spadaro</b>	“I can tell you how something smells through a story.”
<b>Voice of Vivien Williams</b>	Perfume maker Kim Spadaro creates fragrances that tell a story of the exotic far away places she visits.
<b>Kim Spadaro Perfumer</b>	“I smell that scent of the sea. I can smell the warmth of the desert sands. It’s the environment you look at. The color, the spices, the culture, and the old stones, and its my experience that really turns into a fragrance.”
<b>Voice of Vivien Williams</b>	The perfect blend of fragrance requires a keen sense of smell. And Kim was concerned about her career – her passion – when doctors at Mayo Clinic told her a brain tumor was pressing on and damaging her olfactory nerve. The nerve that controls one’s sense of smell. The symptoms were strange.
<b>Kim Spadaro</b>	“I started having a bit of a racing heart and, not a headache, but a sensation like it was almost like...the only way I can describe it was like a mushroom cloud explosion in my head, but it wasn’t painful, it was just a sensation. And I also felt like I needed to hang on.”
<b>Robert Wharen, M.D. Mayo Clinic neurosurgeon</b>	“The tumor was a benign tumor, one that grows in the lining of the brain, called a meningioma.”
<b>Voice of Vivien Williams</b>	Mayo Clinic Florida neurosurgeon Dr. Robert Wharen told Kim it was not

	cancer, but it was most definitely a threat to her career.
<b>Kim Spadaro</b>	“Well, at least I’m going to live, but at some point I’m like, this is my passion, this is what I’ve done my entire life.”
<b>Robert Wharen Mayo Clinic neurosurgeon</b>	“The challenge for her was for us to be able to remove the tumor and not damage her olfactory nerve.”
<b>Voice of Vivien Williams</b>	A multidisciplinary team of experts prepared Kim for surgery during which Dr. Wharen used microsurgical tools to remove the tumor.
<b>Kim Spadaro</b>	“When he came in the next morning after surgery, he said, ‘We did it!’ And so immediately people were like, ‘Do you smell this, do you smell that?’”
<b>Robert Wharen, M.D. Mayo Clinic neurosurgeon</b>	“Fortunately we were able to save the olfactory nerve, and, in fact, she’s reporting to us that she can actually smell better than she could before surgery.”
<b>Kim Spadaro</b>	“You know, It’s stronger, it’s refined now. It’s stronger now than ever.”
<b>Voice of Vivien Williams</b>	Through this experience, Kim’s passion has grown stronger.
<b>Kim Spadaro</b>	“It made me appreciate life and want to say, let’s just go all out and keep producing fragrances. Now I’ve got this super sense of smell, lets go for it.”
<b>Voice of Vivien Williams</b>	Kim continues to travel and bring her experiences back to the U.S. in beautiful bottles to share with fans. And as she practices the meditation that grounds her, she is grateful to have become an inspiration to others and to have received exactly the care she needed.
	“It puts things in perspective.”

Anchor tag:

In addition to making perfumes, Kim started a foundation named for her mother, who died of a different type of brain tumor. And she reaches out to help empower underserved women of other cultures.

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