

Dr. Richard Allen
Williams

The Physician



Dr. Richard Allen Williams, is a cum laude honors graduate of Harvard University (1957). He subsequently attended the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center where he received the M.D. degree in 1962. He then performed an internship at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center, a residency in Internal Medicine at Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center, and a Cardiology fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School where he later joined the faculty.

In 1972, he helped to open and to inaugurate the new Dr. Martin Luther King Hospital in Watts, California, where he served as the Assistant Medical Director. During this time, he wrote the grant proposal that garnered \$2.75 million dollars from NIH to initiate the King-Drew Sickle Cell Center, one of the first in the nation, of which he became Director.

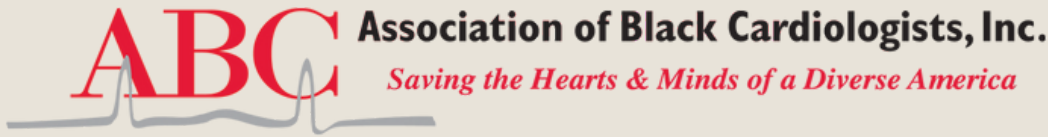
In 1974, he moved to the UCLA campus where he became the Chief of the Heart Station at the West Los Angeles VA Hospital, subsequently rising to become head of the Cardiology Department.

At present he is Clinical Professor of Medicine at the UCLA School of Medicine (full Professor), where he has been a faculty member for 46 years.

Founder, Minority Health Institute & ABC



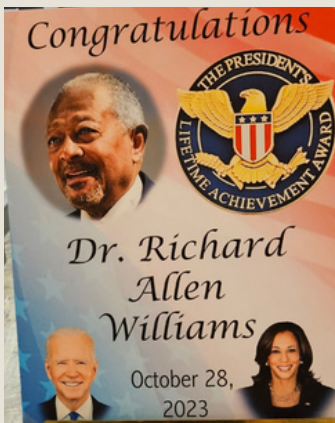
Dr. Richard A. Williams is the Founder of the Minority Health Institute (1985), which focuses on educational programs to teach doctors about cultural competency, diversity, and healthcare disparities. The organization's goal is to promote community health programs, and inform to "Uplift the Health of Humanity."



Founded in 1974 by Dr. Richard Allen Williams, The Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC) is an organization whose purpose is to bring special attention to the adverse impact of cardiovascular disease on African Americans. It's mission is to promote the prevention and treatment of Cardiovascular Disease, including Stroke, in Blacks and other Minorities and to Achieve Health Equity for all through the Elimination of Disparities



Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award

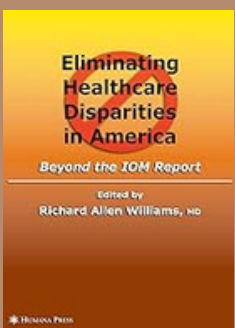
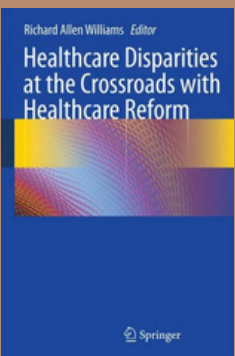
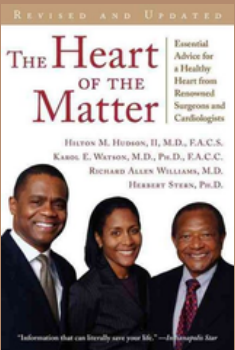
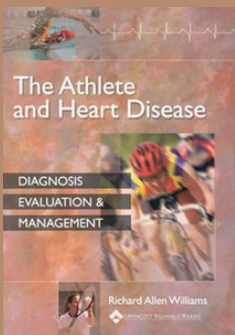
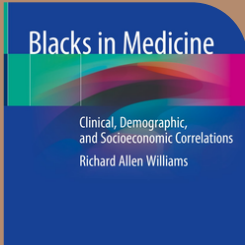


In 2023, Dr. Williams was awarded President Biden's Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award recognizing his lifetime contribution of service. Along with the ultimate honor of presidential recognition, he received his official pin and congratulatory letter from the president of the United States.



The Author

Among his nine books are the seminal, landmark Textbook of Black Related Diseases (McGraw-Hill, 1975), Humane Medicine, volumes 1 and 2 (Lippincott, 1999, 2001), The Athlete and Heart Disease (Lippincott, 2000), The Heart of the Matter (2000), and Healthcare Disparities at the Crossroads with Healthcare Reform (Springer, 2011).



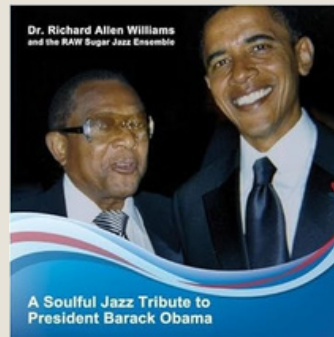
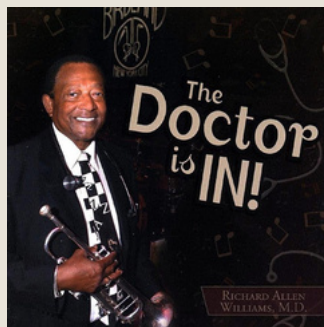


The Musician



Dr. Williams began his music journey in Wilmington, DE, where he was tutored on trumpet by schoolmate Clifford Brown. As a pre-med student at Harvard, he was influenced by Miles Davis who became a lifelong musical mentor, friend, and later a patient of Dr. Williams. He has played with Lou Donaldson, Rahsaan Roland Kirk, Billie Holiday, Ben Webster, Herman Riley, Hubert Laws, Lenore Raphael, Freda Payne and many other iconic musicians, and in dozens of venues and jazz festivals (Montreux, Clifford Brown, Atlanta, Jazz at Drew, Duc Du Lombards in Paris, Golden View in Florence, Italy, etc.).

As Founder of the jazz Band RAW Sugar, he has uniquely combined two of his passions, medicine and music to serve in both of these areas. He has done countless music fundraisers and concerts across the country to raise health equity awareness. As well as six jazz CDs (RAW Sugar) to his credit.



Home Sweet Home Wilmington, DE

His journey from humble beginnings to becoming a renowned cardiologist and advocate for healthcare equity exemplifies the resilience and excellence of our community. Dr. Williams's profound connection to Wilmington and his significant contributions to the medical profession are undeniable. Here are some highlights of his notable achievements and history in Wilmington:

- Dr. Williams's profound connection to Wilmington and his significant contributions to the medical profession are undeniable. Here are some highlights of his notable achievements and history in Wilmington:
- Attended local grammar schools and high school for Black students from 1940 to 1953. He demonstrated exceptional dedication to his education by studying diligently at the Wilmington Public Library to access resources not available at his segregated school.
- Graduated as the Valedictorian from Howard High School in 1953.
- Represented Howard High and the City of Wilmington at the National Conference of Student Councils in Evanston, IL in 1953.
- Achieved outstanding academic success, scoring among the highest in the nation on the College Boards and earning a full scholarship to Harvard University at the age of 16.
- Demonstrated talent in music and athletics during high school, earning recognition in All-City and All-State bands as well as competing at the internationally famous Penn Relays.
- Worked at Delaware Hospital (now Christiana Care Wilmington) during high school, starting as a dishwasher and later becoming an assistant lab technician.
- After completing Cardiology training at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Williams returned to Wilmington to deliver Medical Grand Rounds on Black-Related Diseases and Healthcare Disparities, consulting at Christiana Care, and providing pro bono consultations with local Black doctors.



Awards & Recognition

Dr. Williams has received many honors including the **Scroll of Merit** from the **National Medical Association**, their highest award.

He was given the legendary **Louis B. Russell, Jr. Memorial Award** by the **American Heart Association** for outstanding service in the minority community.

He also received the **Lifetime Achievement Award** from **Harvard Medical School** in 2004 in recognition of his successful efforts to increase diversity at that institution when he was on the faculty there.

He was the recipient of a **Lifetime Achievement Award** from the **National Minority Quality Forum** in 2009, and he was inducted into fellowship with the **American College of Cardiology**, the **American Heart Association**, and the **American College of Physicians**.

Named as **one of the 100 Best Doctors in America** by **Black Enterprise Magazine**, and in 2012;

Honored as the Ethnic Physician of the Year by the **California Medical Association Foundation**.

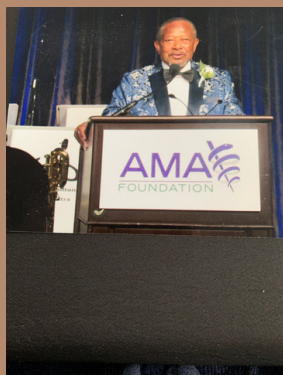
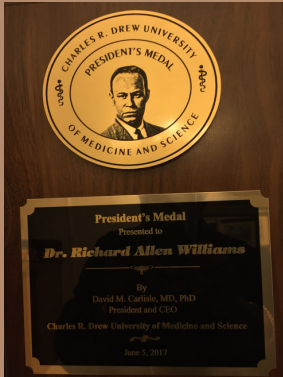
In 2013, he was designated a **Local Hero** for his outstanding community service by **KCET-TV**

Received the **International Distinguished Humanitarian Leadership Award** at the **United Nations** from the **National Council of Women of the United States** in recognition of his global contributions in uplifting the health of people in other countries including Jamaica, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and the Virgin Islands.

Received the **International Health and Human Services Award** from the **Links** in 2015.

Served as **117th President** of the **50,000-member National Medical Association** (2015-2016)

Selection to the **Oxford Round Table**, Oxford, England, 2006



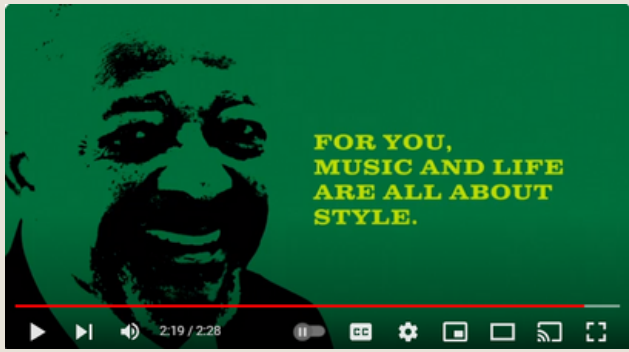
Awards & Recognition II

- Award from the Black Health Organization, Harvard Medical School, 1976.
- Award from Black Students in Science, San Francisco State University, 1976.
- Zollicoffer Lecture Award, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, 1976.
- Imhotep Award, Kansas University Chapter, Student National Medical Association (SNMA) 1977.
- Award from Occidental College SNMA, 1977.
- 14th Annual Edwin Munich Lecturer, University of Kentucky School of Medicine, 1977.
- Award from UCLA School of Medicine SNMA, 1978.
- Medical Awareness Award, University of California at Irvine, 1979.
- Award from the Medical College of Ohio SNMA, 1979.
- Award of Honor, New England Regional Black Nurses Association, 1979.
- Recipient of the Third Annual SNMA Award, Yale Medical School, 1979.
- Award from the American Heart Association, Dallas Affiliate, 1981.
- Dr. William A. Hinton Award, Harvard Medical School, 1984.
- Establishment of the Dr. Richard Allen Williams Scholarship for Black Medical Students, by the Association of Black Cardiologists, 1984. Award of Excellence, Sons of Solomon, Price Chapel AME Church, Los Angeles, 1984.
- Award from Arkansas Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Association, Hot Springs, Arkansas, 1985.
- John Beauregard Johnson Memorial Lecturer, National Medical Association Convention, New York City, 1986
- Distinguished Service Award, Association of Black Cardiologists, Atlanta, Georgia, 1986.
- Dr. Edward W. Hawthorne Award of Merit, Association of Black Cardiologists, St. Thomas, V.I., 1987.
- Award of Distinction, Afro-American Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington, Delaware, 1989.
- Dr. Walter M. Booker Innovation Award, Association of Black Cardiologists, San Antonio, Texas, 1993.
- Dr. Daniel D. Savage Science Award, Association of Black Cardiologists, Chicago, Illinois, 2008.
- Award from the Black Medical Association, University of Massachusetts, 1994.
- Dr. Frank L. Babbott Memorial Award, SUNY Downstate, Brooklyn, N.Y., 2012.
- Ethnic Physician of the Year, California Medical Association Foundation, 2012.
- Local Hero Award for 2013, KCET-TV and Union Bank, Los Angeles, CA.
- International Distinguished Humanitarian Leadership Award, National Council of Women of the United States, United Nations (UN), New York, NY, 2013.
- Dr. Frank L. Babbott Memorial Award, SUNY Downstate, Brooklyn, N.Y., 2012.
- Ethnic Physician of the Year, California Medical Association Foundation, 2012.
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Awards & Recognition III

- Hinton-Wright Distinguished Lecturer,
Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass., 1994.
- Doctors' Appreciation Award, City of Lynwood, CA, 1998.
- Simon Doff Visiting Professorship,
University of Florida, Jacksonville, Florida, 1999.
- John Beauregard Johnson Award,
National Medical Association, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1999.
- Masters of Medicine Award
Recycling Black Dollars, Los Angeles, California, 1999.
- Black Enterprise Magazine Award and
Recognition as one of the 100 Best Doctors in America, 2001.
- Life and Career Profile,
Harvard Magazine, 2001.
- Lewis B. Russell Memorial Award,
American Heart Association, Dallas, Texas, 2001
(For outstanding service to minority and underserved populations)
- National Leadership Award,
Consortium on Southeastern Hypertension Control
(COSEHC), Charleston, South Carolina, 2001.
- Lifetime Achievement Award,
Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, 2004.
- International Achievement Award,
The LINKS, Inc., Los Angeles, CA, 2005
- Lifetime Achievement Award,
National Minority Quality Forum, Washington, D.C., 2007
- Award of Honor, Asian American Cardiologists of Indian Origin, 2007
- Ethnic Physician of the Year Award,
California Medical Association Foundation, Los Angeles, CA, 2012
- Dr. Herbert W. Nickens Memorial Award and Lecture,
"The Impact of Healthcare Reform on Eliminating Healthcare Disparities",
Los Angeles, CA, 2012.
- Local Hero Award for 2013, KCET-TV and Union Bank.
- Keynote Speaker and Award of Honor, Southern Medical Association 100th
Anniversary, 2000
- International Distinguished Humanitarian Leadership Award, National Council of
Women of the United States, United Nations (UN), New York, NY, 2013.

Media



[AMA Foundation Tribute](#)



[National Medical Association Interview](#)



[Local Hero](#)



[American Heart Association-Black Americans Making History](#)



[Harvard Alumni Interview](#)



[RAW Sugar Jazz Quartet](#)