



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 16, 2019

**AMA Foundation to Host Testimonial Dinner and Gala in honor of Dr. Richard Allen Williams**

Chicago, Illinois - The [American Medical Association Foundation](#) (AMAF) will host a special evening recognizing Dr. Richard Allen Williams who has dedicated his life to paving the way for diversity and inclusion in both the practice of medicine and delivery of care. To commemorate and celebrate his 50 years of medical service and leadership, the black-tie event is set for Saturday, June 22, 2019 at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills, California.

Physicians, minority health care leaders, academicians, elected officials and many others will gather to honor and celebrate Dr. Williams for his groundbreaking achievements in medicine and minority affairs (see page 2). In addition, this event will further stress the significant need for and societal benefit of expanded minority medical education and physician diversity in America.

Proceeds from the event will equally benefit the Dr. Richard Allen Williams & Genita Evangelista Johnson/Association of Black Cardiologists Scholarship held by the AMAF and the Minority Health Institute. The AMAF scholarship annually supports an outstanding black medical student with an expressed interest in cardiology. The Minority Health Institute is dedicated to the elimination of racial and ethnic disparities in medicine, the medical workforce, clinical research, health and health care.

This event is being planned and coordinated by a Dinner Committee co-chaired by Ludlow B. Creary, M.D., M.P.H. and Ruth V. Creary, PhD. More than 50 Los Angeles area friends and colleagues of Dr. Williams are serving on this committee. An Honorary Committee has also been formed and currently includes Lou Gossett, Jr.; Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, Jr.; and Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher, MD, PhD and others (see page 3).

The evening includes a dinner, a special tribute video, Notes of Appreciation & Honor, a presentation of numerous proclamations, testimonials and entertainment by the Grammy-nominated Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra and other special guests. Television and film actress Judy Pace will serve as the event's Mistress of Ceremonies. Special remarks will also be given by the Presidents of the American Medical Association Foundation, American Medical Association and the National Medical Foundation. Formal invitations have been sent by mail. Individual tickets for \$500 each or tables, which additionally include event recognition, may now be purchased for \$5,000. Please visit [amafoundation.org/wiliams-gala](http://amafoundation.org/wiliams-gala) to purchase tickets and learn more about this extraordinary event.

Established in 1950, the AMA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, is the philanthropic arm of the American Medical Association. The AMAF works toward closing the gap in health care inequities – through fostering and supporting the delivery of quality care in our most vulnerable and underserved areas – by providing scholarships to medical students from cultural groups historically under-represented in the

practicing physician population. Made possible by the generosity of its donors, AMAF programs bring physicians and communities together to help solve our nation's most significant health care challenges. Over the past 69 years, the AMAF has funded nearly \$120 million in student scholarships and grants to community health programs across the country.

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**Event Honoree**

Dr. Richard Allen Williams graduated from Harvard, where he continued on to serve as an instructor. He was then the first black full professor at the UCLA School of Medicine. He is the Founder of the Association of Black Cardiologists and an internationally recognized authority on hypertension and other cardiac issues. Additionally, Dr. Williams has authored numerous publications including The Textbook of Black-Related Diseases, which is currently under consideration for inclusion in the library of the Smithsonian Institute.

Dr. Williams has championed efforts to improve cardiovascular health in the black community and has been a major force in minority health care for decades. He has advocated for the inclusion of patient-centered subjects like women's health, violence, health care disparities, biomedical ethics, nutrition and the management of death and dying as part of the standard medical school curriculum. He has also received copious awards and recognition, and was recently honored with UCLA's Jackie Robinson Award for Lifetime Achievement.

Dr. Williams is a visionary and a philanthropist. Through his scholarship, he is continuing to address cultural competency in the delivery of health care, as well as build a pipeline of future extraordinary black cardiovascular disease specialists for years to come.

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and support from  
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*As of May 16, 2019*



*A Testimonial Dinner & Gala in honor of Dr. Richard Allen Williams*

*Honorary Testimonial Dinner & Gala Committee*

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Billy Davis, Jr & Marilyn McCoo  
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*Testimonial Dinner & Gala Committee*

**Ludlow B. Creary, MD, MPH and Ruth V. Creary, PhD, Co-Chairs**

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