

Dr. Bernard Lown

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

Dr. Bernard Lown has long been an activist in working to abolish nuclear weapons and to promote world peace and health. His work spans the realms of medicine and social responsibility, development and education.

In 1962, Dr. Lown co-founded Physicians for Social Responsibility, working to prevent the use and spread of nuclear weapons as well as stop the toxic degradation of our environment. From 1974 he was President of the USA-China Physicians Friendship Association. In 1980 he cofounded with Dr. Yevgeny Chazov of the former Soviet Union, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, the IPPNW. In 1985, the IPPNW was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Dr. Lown is also the recipient of the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education, the George F. Kennan Award for Distinguished Public Service and the International Gandhi Peace Prize.

Dr. Lown was the first to build and successfully use the direct current defibrillator, and was among the first to research the role of psychological and behavioral factors in heart disease. Dr. Lown also founded SatelliLife, a not for profit organization that uses satellite and internet technologies to serve health providers and facilitate the spread of information in underserved areas of the world.

“The Lost Art of Healing” (1996) and “Practicing the Art While Mastering the Science” (1995) are only two of his many publications. As Professor of Cardiology Emeritus at the Harvard School of Public Health, Senior Physician at Brigham and Women’s Hospital Boston and Chairman of the Lown Cardiovascular Centre and Research Foundation, Dr. Lown continues his very active professional life.

Dr. Lown graduated summa cum laude from the University of Maine and received his MD from John Hopkins University School of Medicine.