



**For Immediate Release**

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**PIONEERING DOCTOR HONORED AT SWEET CHARITY EVENT AS  
NATIONAL HEROES OF THE HEART® AWARD RECIPIENT**

**Washington, D.C. (June 21, 2010)** – Dr. Benjamin Carson, one of the most famous and respected doctors in the world, has been awarded the National Heroes of the Heart® Award at this year's Sweet Charity event; a local benefit co-hosted by Albert Uster Imports (AUI), a Swiss fine gourmet food company, and the Heart of America Foundation®, a national nonprofit headquartered in Washington, D.C. that uniquely combines volunteerism and literacy to support children in need nationwide. Proceeds from Sweet Charity will go to help The Heart of America Foundation's Books From The Heart® program to provide books to children living in poverty in the D.C. metropolitan area who have few or no books of their own.

Since the 1980s, Dr. Carson has been performing groundbreaking surgeries to separate conjoined twins and has pioneered techniques which have revolutionized the field of neurosurgery. He performs hundreds of operations each year and is currently the Director of Pediatric Surgery at John Hopkins Hospital.

In addition, Dr. Carson has authored three bestselling books and engages in numerous public speaking events annually (specifically to groups of young people) to spread his message that anything in life is possible. He is president and co-founder of the Carson Scholars Fund, which recognizes young people for exceptional academic and humanitarian accomplishments and established Carson Reading Rooms for children. Dr. Carson has received numerous honors and awards throughout his career and in 2008, the White House granted him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

Recipients of the National Heroes of the Heart® Award are recognized leaders who embody the values at the heart of America and work to touch and change lives in the Greater Washington region as well as the nation. Past honorees include Christopher Reeve, U.S. Senator Richard Durbin, Sheila Johnson, Brian Lamb and Ken Harvey.

**About The Heart of America Foundation®**

The Heart of America Foundation, a national nonprofit headquartered in Washington, DC, uniquely combines volunteerism and literacy. The organization's focus is to provide children in need everywhere with the tools to read, succeed and make a difference. The Heart of America Foundation puts books into the hands of children who need them the most while transforming school libraries in underserved communities into vital and vibrant centers of learning that



become the heart of a school. Since 1997, the organization has provided children living in poverty with over 1.85 million library and take-home books, and engaged volunteers in more than 1,020,000 hours of service to the community.

**About Albert Uster Imports, Inc.**

Albert Uster Imports is an importer and distributor of over 1,000 high-quality ingredients, semi-finished and finished gourmet products. Predominantly known for its Swiss Des Alpes Chocolate (and all things sweet), the company branched into savory as well as frozen lines, becoming a well-rounded, fine gourmet food house that it is today. The wide range of services include: excellent customer service, recipe and menu development, a comprehensive website [www.auiswiss.com](http://www.auiswiss.com), an online store, newsletters, continuing culinary education classes and a database of over 500 recipe.

**About Mandarin Oriental, Washington D.C.**

Mandarin Oriental, Washington D.C. redefines luxury as Washington, D.C.'s most sophisticated hotel. Transitional in design, with stylish oriental flair, the hotel provides an unparalleled guest experience, with Mandarin Oriental's legendary reputation for award-winning service.

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