



**For Immediate Release**

Contact Information:  
Vicki Bendure, APR  
540-687-3360 (o)  
202-374-9259 (c)



**THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER HOSTS  
23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL CHOCOLATES GALORE & MORE!  
ON FEBRUARY 18**

***-One of the Region's Most Popular Food Events Helps Families in Need-***

Leesburg, Va., January 21, 2011 —The 23<sup>rd</sup> **Annual Chocolates Galore & More!** event, scheduled for February 18, 2011, is the YMCA Loudoun County's largest annual fundraiser. The event will be held from 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm at **West Belmont Place at The National Conference Center in Leesburg, Virginia**, home to Northern Virginia's largest ballroom.

Event attendees will indulge in rich, luscious chocolates, exquisite desserts and mouth-watering hors d'oeuvres prepared by the area's finest restaurants and caterers and showcased in a competition for Best Presentation and Best Taste (*Critic's Choice*, judged by three professional food critics and *People's Choice*, judged by event attendees.) Attendees will also enjoy silent and live auctions, free-flowing champagne, music, dancing and more -- all for a great cause.

Tickets are on sale now at [www.chocolatesgalore.org](http://www.chocolatesgalore.org), or contact the YMCA Loudoun County at 703-777-9622. Ticket prices are \$60 for general admission (\$70 at the door) and \$70 for reserved seating (**\$50.00 is tax deductible**).

***...AND THE JUDGES ARE:***

**CHARLIE ADLER**, Founder & President of TasteDC.com and author of "I Drink on the Job: A Refreshing Perspective on Wine"

**MIKE ISABELLA**, Owner and Chef at Graffiato (opening Spring, 2011) and former executive chef of Zaytinya, Isabella was most recently seen on Season Six of Top Chef and Top Chef All-Stars.

**REBEKAH PIZANA**, Owner of Gourmet Amore, professional pastry chef and food writer.

**Confirmed Presenters to date are:** Ayrshire Catering Company, Chantel's Cakes and Pastries, Cupcakes & Moore, Dove Chocolate Discoveries, Goodstone Inn & Estate, Holiday Inn at Dulles, Hunter's Head Tavern, Lansdowne Resort, Leberherz Oil & Vinegar Emporium, Magnolia's at the Mill, Market Salamander, Napoleon Café & Culinary Delights by Feist, The National Conference Center, Not Your Average Joe's, The Restaurant at Patowmack Farm, Sweetz Bakery, Very Virginia-The Pink Shop, Vintage 50, the Washington Dulles Marriott, and Wegmans Food Markets.

Proceeds support the YMCA's Loudoun County's Building Bridges annual giving campaign, which provides essential scholarships and much-needed funds to local Loudoun County families who turn to the YMCA for help. Your support enables all families and children the opportunity to participate in quality YMCA Loudoun County programs, regardless of an inability to pay.

*About The National Conference Center: Located in Northern Virginia 12 miles from Dulles International Airport and 35 miles from Washington, D.C., the National Conference Center (NCC) is one of the largest and most comprehensive conference centers in the nation. With 917*

*guest rooms and over 250,000 square feet of meeting space, NCC has become a hub for productive meetings. NCC is also on the GSA schedule. For information call 800-640-2684 or visit [www.conferencecenter.com](http://www.conferencecenter.com).*

*The National Conference Center is managed by ARAMARK Conference Centers. ARAMARK is a leader in professional services, providing award-winning food services, facilities management, and uniform and career apparel to health care institutions, universities and school districts, stadiums and arenas, and businesses around the world. In FORTUNE magazine's 2009 list of "World's Most Admired Companies," ARAMARK was ranked number one in its industry, consistently ranking since 1998 as one of the top three most admired companies in its industry as evaluated by peers and analysts. ARAMARK seeks to responsibly address issues that matter to its clients, customers, employees and communities by focusing on employee advocacy, environmental stewardship, health and wellness, and community involvement. Headquartered in Philadelphia, ARAMARK has approximately 260,000 employees serving clients in 22 countries. Learn more at the company's Web site, [www.aramark.com](http://www.aramark.com).*

###