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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Chicago's Own Sue Duncan Children's Center is
OMAROSA's All-Star Celebrity Apprentice Beneficiary**

OMAROSA Honoring Michael Clarke Duncan by Competing for His Childhood Charity

Chicago, March 8, 2013 ... Reality TV star OMAROSA will be competing on behalf of Chicago's south side children during her return to "The Apprentice" series. She is honoring the path of her late fiancé, Michael Clarke Duncan, by designating the Sue Duncan Children's Center as her charity of choice in the current season of "All-Star Celebrity Apprentice." Duncan, a native of Chicago, credited the Center for putting him on the path to success during his childhood.

As in past seasons, OMAROSA and other celebrity contestants are being charged with critical fundraising tasks to benefit their charities of choice. Any funds raised by OMAROSA on behalf of the Sue Duncan Children's Center will bring the center closer to its goal of opening additional sites serving the Woodlawn and Englewood neighborhoods, and help provide additional technology resources for the kids at the original Oakland site.

"I feel very blessed to have this opportunity to raise money for a charity that is near and dear to my heart. These last few months have been the worst of my life. The world lost a great actor and incredible human being, but I lost my best friend, fiancé, and the love of my life. I chose to compete on "All-Star Celebrity Apprentice" to honor him and his legacy. Sue Duncan Children's Center is an organization that Michael was very passionate about. He and Sue have always had a special connection and she served as a mentor to Michael throughout his entire life. I truly hope to make a positive impact on the kids and raise much needed funds for the Center," said OMAROSA.

The Sue Duncan Children's Center was established in 1961 by the mother of former CEO of Chicago Public Schools and current United States Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, who grew up in and was powerfully influenced by her work at the Center. Located in the Oakland neighborhood, the Center has proven to be a highly effective model for youth development by combining moral support with academic, athletic and artistic resources. It has been an oasis for children on the city's south side for over five decades and many successful alumni credit Sue Duncan for helping them transform their lives through her commitment to educating children from the inside out. 100% of the children who attend the Center show remarkable progress with their grades, test scores, behavior, self-esteem, and planning for the future.

Now run by Sue's youngest son, Owen Duncan, the Center's reputation for developing outstanding students has led to an increased demand for its services. Attendance has doubled in the last five years and students, parents and educators from other communities show a strong interest in having access to its programming.

"We are extremely grateful to OMAROSA for thinking about the needs of our children despite having recently lost Michael. He was a wonderful human being, an inspiring role model and above all a shining example of what children from impoverished areas are capable of achieving when given opportunity. We commend OMAROSA for honoring his legacy by advocating on behalf of children facing similar circumstances," said Owen Duncan, executive director.

In addition to Michael Clarke Duncan and Arne Duncan (no relation), Center alumni also include: Chicago Bulls NBA player Nazr Mohammed; tween actor Dante Brown, starred opposite Oscar Nominee and Tony Winner Viola Davis in the 2012 released film, Won't Back Down; IBM Fellow Kerrie Holley, only the second African-American among more than 330,000 employees to be awarded the corporation's highest honor for technologists; Tyrone Smith, practicing U.S. government attorney in the state of Pennsylvania; Michelle Gordon, national and international award-winning American martial artist; and Ron Raglin, former Chicago Public Schools AVID District Director and current Elgin Public Schools Chief of Equity and Social Justice.

The Center's Director of Development, Tina Battle, is a 21 year veteran of the nonprofit, philanthropic sector who became an award-winning poet and playwright prodigy following her participation in the Center. "I can tell you first-hand that the Sue Duncan Children's Center has been quietly transforming lives for decades with the only expectation of accolades being the success of its students. This couldn't have happened to a more worthy organization," said Battle.

For more information on the Sue Duncan Children's Center, visit
www.sueduncanchildrenscenter.org.

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