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**SADD SELECTS MANHATTAN STUDENT FOR NATIONAL
STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

*Students Against Destructive Decisions Youth Leader Joins
Top Teen Advisors From Across the U.S. to Guide Organization and Represent Peers*

Marlborough, Mass. – SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), the national school-based, peer-to-peer prevention education organization, today announced that Marcus Kidd of Manhattan, Kan., has been named to the SADD National Student Leadership Council for the 2009-2010 school year. Chosen from a nationwide pool of highly qualified applicants, he joins 11 other Council members who will represent the hundreds of thousands of SADD students in chapters across the country.

“Marcus’ leadership and his work and dedication to issues affecting teens make him a great choice to join SADD National’s Student Leadership Council,” said Penny Wells, president and executive director of SADD. “We will now rely on Marcus to use his experiences on the state and local levels to help guide our organization as we work nationally to develop programs that will positively influence teens when it comes to choices about alcohol and drug use, as well as other potentially destructive behaviors.”

The Student Leadership Council advises the SADD National Board of Directors on policies and programs, plans and implements the annual SADD National Conference, and serves as a national and regional student representation network. Members of the Student Leadership Council represent SADD at local, regional, and national events and engagements.

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Kidd, a senior at Manhattan High School in Manhattan, Kan., has been a dedicated SADD student for the last four years. He is currently president of his SADD chapter and serves on the Kansas SADD Student Leadership Council. Kidd is actively involved with Youth Impacting the Community, Youth As Resources, and the Community Ambassador's Program. In partnership with Teens Leading Teens, he helped organize a Community Sharing Session to inform local officials about the activities his SADD chapter was involved with. Kidd also assists the Pilgrim Baptist Church as a Sunday School Superintendent, Youth Usher and Youth Choir member.

"Being selected for the SADD National Student Leadership Council is a great honor, one that is well deserved and brings great pride to our state and local organizations that have worked so hard to educate teens about responsible decision-making," said Maria Torrez Anderson, Kansas' SADD State Coordinator. "Marcus has been an exceptional SADD leader in Kansas, working tirelessly to ensure that teens are aware of the perils of underage drinking and other drug use. We are confident he will thrive as an educator and an important advocate for teens nationwide."

SADD is a national student-based organization committed to empowering young people to lead education and prevention initiatives in their schools and communities. Founded in 1981, SADD has become the nation's leading peer-to-peer youth education, prevention, and activism organization, with thousands of chapters in middle schools, high schools, and colleges. SADD highlights prevention of many destructive behaviors and attitudes that are harmful to young people, including underage drinking, substance abuse, risky and impaired driving, and teen violence and suicide. More information about SADD can be found at sadd.org.

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