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Motivational Speaker and Stand-Up Comedian Craig Tornquist Receives Award at SADD National Conference

Distinguished Service Award Acknowledges Ten Years as Emcee Extraordinaire for Leading Peer-to-Peer Youth Conference

Marlborough, MA – SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) is proud to recognize comedian and professional emcee **Craig Tornquist** with the **2010 SADD Distinguished Service Award**, presented by SADD President and Executive Director Penny Wells at the 2010 SADD National Conference Awards Banquet “Sunset Celebration” on June 29 in Orlando, Florida, before more than 600 attendees.

The **Distinguished Service Award** recognizes extraordinary dedication and commitment and advancement of SADD’s mission to protect young people from alcohol, other drug use, violence, and other risky behaviors. SADD honors Tornquist with this award in recognition of his creativity, wit, and service as conference emcee for the past 10 years and for his deep commitment to the SADD mission of promoting safe and healthy decision-making among youth.

“Craig has returned for ten years as our emcee by popular demand,” remarked Wells. “He has a profound respect for these youth leaders and creatively interacts with them during key times, providing a guiding presence that is both safe and hilariously funny throughout this four-day educational program. Craig is a large reason that this conference has been a life-changing experience for many teens.”

Tornquist has performed more than 2,500 stand-up comedy shows nationwide. He’s known for his quick wit, celebrity impressions, novelty songs, and hilarious audience participation routines. Tornquist’s unique brand of completely clean comedy has put smiles on even the most skeptical faces. Whether he’s inspiring adults, motivating students, or warming up concert crowds, he consistently proves that “Laughter is the shortest distance between two people.” Tornquist, who lives in Mishawaka, Indiana, with his wife and three daughters, travels around the country performing for and speaking to young people and adults. This year marks Tornquist’s 25th anniversary of service in his field.

SADD, the nation’s leading peer-to-peer youth education, prevention, and activism organization, is committed to empowering young people to lead initiatives in their schools and communities. Founded in 1981, today SADD has 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, other drug use, risky and impaired driving, and teen violence and suicide. More information about SADD can be found at **sadd.org**.

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