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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Miss Black Pennsylvania U.S.A. Captures National Title

Washington DC – August 3, 2009 – This evening The Miss Black USA Pageant and Scholarship crowned a new national titleholder Miss Black Pennsylvania U.S.A., Shayna Rudd as Miss Black U.S.A. 2009. The pageant was held at the University of District of Columbia Theatre in Washington DC.

Miss Rudd is currently an MBA Candidate at Trinity University of Washington, D.C. She holds a Bachelor's of Arts in Journalism and African American Studies from Howard University. The 23 year old is the founder of the Lady Diva Corporation, a non profit organization which provides resources and training to young women 13-20 in the metro Washington DC area.

The four-hour event was hosted by actor Lamman Ricker and Deya Smith Miss Black USA 1994 and featured 15 finalists, Kimberly Brown (Alabama), Jalondra A. Davis (California), Krisangela Washington (Colorado), Breyuna L. Williams (District of Columbia), Tashay T.M. Reid (Georgia), Deidre O. Howard (Iowa), Tiffany M. Lloyd (Louisiana), Alicia Lewis (Mississippi), Adrienne D. Davis (New York), Shayna Y. Rudd (Pennsylvania - WINNER), Molesey Knox-Brunson (South Carolina), Duanisha LaShan Mathews (Tennessee), Andrea Jamia Hill (Texas), Crystal L. Bailey (Virginia), Nzingha S. Thompson (Wisconsin).

All contestants competed in four areas of competition Fitness Attire, Talent, Evening Gown and Onstage Question and Answer. The contestants were judged by a Celebrity Panel of Judges which included Dr. Ian Smith (Celebrity Fit Club), April Woodard (Inside Edition), Terri Stevens (Designer, Project Runway 5), Nakia Sanford (Washington Mystics), Roger Bobb (Tyler Perry Studios), and Tamiko Gibson (Miss Black USA 1987).

The **top five finalists** were, Shayna Rudd- Winner, Alicia Lewis 1st runner up, Tiffany M. Lloyd 2nd runner up, Molesey Knox-Brunson 3rd runner up, Duanisha LaShan Mathews 4th runner up.

Dr. Ian Smith presented a 5,000 scholarship to Miss Black District of Columbia Breyuna L. Williams for having raised awareness about the 50 Million Pound Challenge during the event and Miss Congeniality was awarded to Brittane J. Perkins (Arizona).

The winner of the competition receives a host of prizes in addition to an appearance schedule and management by the Miss Black USA Pageant and Scholarship Foundation.

The Miss Black U.S.A. and Miss Black U.S.A. Talented Teen pageants were founded by Karen Arrington in 1986. The Miss Black U.S.A. Pageant and Scholarship Foundation is committed to

increasing awareness of Heart Disease and Obesity. By forging relationships with organizations committed to research and education, such as The National Heart Lung and Blood Institute's "The Heart Truth," campaign the "50 Million Pound Challenge."

Please Credit the Following Pictures to Jason Alan

Miss Black U.S.A. 2008 Kristen White Crowns Shayna Rudd Miss Black U.S.A. 2009



Miss Black USA 2009 Top Five Finalists

Left to Right – Molesey Knox-Brunson 3rd runner up, Alicia Lewis 1st runner up, Shayna Rudd (winner), Tiffany M. Lloyd 2nd runner up, Duanisha LaShan Mathews 4th runner up.

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