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## Students at KU take stand against campus alcohol abuse

By MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS  
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Students at the University of Kansas are taking a stand against campus alcohol abuse in memory of two freshmen who died there last year.

About 34 journalism students, with the support of university officials, are developing a campaign against high-risk drinking that they hope to take to other campuses.

Also, members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and the Delta Gamma sorority will host an educational seminar on underage drinking April 16 in the Budig Hall auditorium.

The event was named the Jason Wren Initiative after the KU student who died last year at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon off-campus house in Lawrence after a night of binge drinking.

The alcohol abuse issue was pushed to the fore after Dalton Hawkins, who had been drinking, fell off a roof a little more than a month after Wren's alcohol poisoning.

The guest speakers for the educational seminar will be Richard Myers, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Erica Upshaw, founder of Keep Friendship Alive, started after her brother died from alcohol abuse.

Wren's father, Jay Wren, who in January filed a wrongful-death lawsuit against the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, said he was glad about the students' effort to talk down irresponsible drinking.

"I'm honored that they would do this in Jason's name," he said. "I hope and pray that someday it saves a kid from drinking."

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