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“HOLA” eases Latino students’ transition to college

Rogue Community College will host a weeklong event this summer to help recent Latino high school graduates transition to college.

The second annual HOLA (Helping Oregon Latinos Advance) event is scheduled July 13-17 and aims to help 2009 high school grads enrolling this fall at RCC, according to Jodie Fulton, director of Student Programs.

“The goal is to help them bridge the gap between high school and the college experience and get a sense of what’s expected at college,” Fulton said. “Students — especially those from families with little or no college background or families where English is a second language — can get lost in the system. HOLA helps give them some direction.”

Students will receive help selecting a major, be offered career guidance, be provided with financial aid information, and take a class on writing scholarship application essays. They will explore the RCC Redwood Campus in Grants Pass, the Riverside Campus in Medford, and Table Rock Campus in White City, visiting academic, and professional and technical programs at each site.

Also scheduled during the week is a tour of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland and to view a performance of “The Servant of Two Masters.” The week concludes with an outing to the Emigrant Lake water slide.

Students earn one college credit for completing HOLA. Enrollment is full, but a waiting list has been started. HOLA, which serves a maximum of 25 students, is funded by a grant from the Oregon Community Colleges and Workforce Development. For information contact Karolina Lemus Thompson, RCC Latino Programs coordinator, 245-7722.

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MEDIA: For more information contact Jodie Fulton, director of RCC Student Programs, 956-7200 or 245-7528

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