

Program welcomes potential Ducks

■ **ACTIVITIES:** Groups aim to show people of color interested in the University what it has to offer

By Angie Suchy
Student Activities Reporter

A taste of University life will be sampled today by more than 200 high school students of color participating in the program "Gateway to the Future 96: Mosaic in Motion."

The Office of Admissions is sponsoring the event to offer an opportunity for students of color to team up with University officials and students who share similar racial and ethnic backgrounds.

This team approach aims to teach the high school students about the University and post-secondary education in general, said Guadalupe Martinez, assistant director of admissions and coordinator for multicultural recruitment.

"We would like high school students of color to have a strong interest in higher education, and obviously the University, after they attend this program," Martinez said.

High school students will participate in informational sessions and discussions, as well as presentations about student activi-

ties, Martinez said. In addition, students will learn details about the admissions process, financial aid, scholarships, housing options, career opportunities and resources available at the University.

University student volunteers include ASUO groups such as the Black Student Union, the Native American Student Union, MEChA and the Asian Pacific American Student Union. Approximately 50 volunteers from the groups will act as peer guides for the high school students, Martinez said.

In addition to the University students participating, professors representing various departments on campus will make academic-related presentations about their areas of expertise.

"This is an opportunity for the high school students to gain more knowledge of all realms of the University — social, cultural and academic," Martinez said. "Everyone involved is really excited."

The emphasis on aiding high school students of color before they are a part of campus life is a good idea, said Cobi Smith, director of the Black Student Union.

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The Admissions Department developed the "Mosaic in Motion" theme to stress the multicultural theme of the day, but Martinez emphasizes the event is not strictly for students of color.

"The theme represents a variety in colors and collages and an opportunity for students of color specifically," she said. "This is advertised as a 'Multicultural Open House.'"

Because the program is cost-free and was advertised by invitations to juniors and seniors in high school in Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho, the turnout is expected to be high, Martinez said.

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