Students to receive warm welcome, starting with Move-In Day

Sacramento State is rolling out the gold carpet for freshman, transfer and returning students as they head back to campus for the start of fall classes on Tuesday, Sept. 2.

About 3,700 first-year students will be among the throng, bringing the campus's total student population to about 28,800.

It all begins with Move-In Day (www.csus.edu/housing/MoveIn/Move-In.html) on Friday, Aug. 29, when residence hall students, their parents and other family members move clothes, school supplies, computers, televisions and refrigerators into the rooms that 1,700 students will call home for the next nine months.

More than 330 volunteers will be standing by to help the new residents haul their belongings to their rooms.

Doors to the residence halls will open at 8 a.m., and the staff has been busy getting the halls ready. Philo, a cable television service, will allow students to have a DVR service so they can record their favorite television programs, then watch them later on their iPad, computer or TV.

Restrooms in Draper Hall have been upgraded, and the building's exterior has been painted to mirror the American River Courtyard of suite-style student rooms.

This year's big moving day also has new features for parents and other guests of the students. A parent lounge will be available in Desmond Hall from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., offering free coffee, bottled water, doughnuts and other snacks – and Kleenex. Parents may also write letters to the students, to be delivered during the first week of classes.

Then, from 3 to 5 p.m., while the students settle in to their new home, the University will host their parents at the Hornet Family Reception at Epicure Restaurant in the University Union.

The new students will have a three-day weekend to get acclimated before classes start, and residence hall staff members are doing all they can to help them along. That includes a free, outdoor screening of “Captain America: The Winter Soldier” at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29, in the housing quad. There also will be Olympic Quad Games that Saturday and a pool party on Labor Day.
Even more activities are planned when the school fills up the following week. It’s all part of Hornet WOW, or Weeks of Welcome (www.csus.edu/hornetwow), a series of organized events and attractions running through Sept. 20.

Created in 2013 by Student Engagement and Success, WOW is a collaboration of about 10 different departments that develops activities to introduce students to the campus, and this year’s lineup has something for every interest.

All students are invited to the Library Quad at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2, for the annual “swarm photo” with University President Alexander Gonzalez. The WELL, the University’s recreation and wellness center, hosts the WELLcome Back celebration from 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4, followed by the giant Sac State Throwdown Dodgeball game from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Then at 8 p.m., there will be a free screening of “X-Men: Days of Future Past” in the University Union’s Serna Plaza.

All students will get a chance to cool off a bit at the Sacramento State Aquatic Center open house at Lake Natoma from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7.

Phlagleblast – the 15th annual introduction to the staff and services of the University Union – will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10. This year’s theme is country-fall festival, and the event will include performances by Shauna Lea & The Hired Guns (country), The Old Screen Door (rock ‘n’ soul) and Caleche Ryder (West Coast cowgirl) as well as music by student-run radio KSSU.

That’s in addition to the prizes – Xbox One, Apple TV, concert tickets and more – and games.

Other WOW activities include:

- Career Café, a chance for students to explore job opportunities on campus; 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5; Union Redwood Room.
- Bus rides to UC Berkeley for the Sac State-Cal football game; buses depart the residence halls parking lot at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 6.
- Comedian Natasha Leggero; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11; University Union Ballroom.
- Choreographers’ Collective, contemporary dance featuring works by students, alumni and guest artists; 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14; Solano Hall Dancespace (get tickets early).
- Constitution Week Lecture by United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18.
- Campus-wide scavenger hunt; 3-6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20.

For more information on activities, check the WOW website or the University’s Events Calendar, [http://calendar.csus.edu/](http://calendar.csus.edu/). For media assistance, call Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156. – Craig Koscho