Sunday December 30 Day 5 – Amsterdam By: Britt Carlson & Hannah Jensen Northern Lights 16-2

Dear Reader, Hello from Amsterdam!

It has been a spectacularly fun day in the city. This phenomenal letter is brought to you by Britt and Hannah from the airport in Amsterdam. We started our day waking up bright and early at the StayOkay Hostel and enjoying a delicious breakfast.

We then took an hour bus ride to our hotel in Amsterdam to drop off our luggage. From there we took a train to Amsterdam Central to spend our day in the city. We were immediately greeted with the fresh smell of Amsterdam. Curt then took us on a short tour of the city and popular sites to see there.

After that Curt gave us the freedom to adventure on our own for a few hours. Most of us ate lunch at the fancy department store. Did you know that ketchup and mayo come in tubes on the side? We didn't. We spent our time shopping in tourist stores buying gifts for our families. We and our wallets would say that it was a very successful shopping day. We continue to improve at using euros, but it is a work in progress.

At 4:15 we visited and toured the Anne Frank House. We saw the living conditions they experienced, original artifacts from their house, and read about their lifestyle at the time. It was an impactful experience for all of us that also made us grateful for all of the positive things we have in our lives.

We went to The Pancake Bakery for dinner right after that. At the restaurant, there were multiple different kinds of pancakes to choose from that reflected certain countries. We walked around the city after dinner and worked hard to dodge the short poles that were in the ground. It was also a very successful day because nobody got hit by a bike or a car.

We hope you enjoy this wonderful and heartfelt letter written with thought to our dear loved ones back home.

Sincerely,

Britt Mandell Carlson and Hannah Marie Jensen