

# G'day USA Exchange Program.

On New Year's Day, two students from Macalister along with two students from Catholic College departed on an adventure of a lifetime as part of the G'day USA exchange program.

After almost 24 hours of travel we arrived in Los Angeles where we spent 4 nights. LA was jam packed with things to see and do, a Hollywood tour, including seeing the walk of fame Santa Monica Pier. Disneyland was a fun filled day meeting celebrities such as Mickey and Minnie mouse as well as enjoying multiple rides. For the more adventurous thrill seeker Knott's Berry Farm was the place to be with plenty of roller coasters to choose from. A trip to LA isn't complete without going to a working film studio which was our final destination for the first part of our trip.

A three hour bus journey took us to San Diego where we were able to meet our American families that we would be spending the next ten nights with, and a day at an American high school. Highlights of San Diego included San Diego Zoo, Sea World with the famous killer whales, shopping at the outlets, visiting the historical Old Town and the USS Midway, a retired aircraft carrier. Some adventures that we had with host families included bowling, ice skating, escape rooms, cheerleading practice and competitions, academic league matches and many, many more.

After some tears and plenty of hugs goodbye it was time to leave our host families and head to our final city of San Francisco. We visited the famous prison of Alcatraz, shopped in Union Square, travelled on a cable car and walked down the most crooked street in the world, Lombard Street. Our final night was filled with laughter and music, with the tunes blasting on our limo tour of the city.

After three weeks our time came to an end with a final day of sightseeing and a walk across the Golden Gate Bridge.

It was a fantastic trip with plenty of memories made and long lasting friendships forged.