

## **MY FIRST EXPERIENCE IN AUSTRIA!**

I was very fortunate to have this opportunity to go to Klagenfurt, Austria, on the 1<sup>st</sup> December. It is a beautiful city, and now with the holiday decorations, it is magical. Although I understand absolutely no German, I loved going on this trip. This is a sign that I am in Europe: you travel 50 km and suddenly everyone speaks a different language. This is very strange for Americans! The Christmas markets lining the streets were really quite the sight to see. From this, I am able to understand that people in Austria are excited to share their traditions. They are welcoming to the many tourists who walk through these Christmas stands, and they are excited to share their work. Every new place I go, I am able to learn about a new culture. I loved going to the “Lago Wörthersee” to see the nativity scene on the water. We had the opportunity also to make traditional Christmas cookies. We rolled out the dough and cut out shapes – then after they were baked, we could eat them! In the afternoon we went to the Planetarium to watch a documentary. Even though I did not understand everything, it was interesting to watch. This trip was truly amazing, and a great way to start the holiday season.

By Julia Kilroy, 4<sup>th</sup> LSA B