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Class Afloat Sails to Amsterdam on King's Day Aboard the Majestic Tall Ship Sørlandet

AMSTERDAM, April 24, 2014 – After 8 months at sea, 40 students from Class Afloat – West Island College International will be arriving in Amsterdam on King's Day, April 26, 2014, aboard the majestic tall ship SS Sørlandet, the world's oldest operating fully-rigged tall ship.

With the guidance of a dedicated team of academic faculty and professional mariner crew, high school and university students from seven countries set sail in August 2013 from Ontario, Canada on the voyage of a lifetime. Students attend classes aboard the tall ship, while sailing to over 20 ports of call on 4 continents where they experience local cultural traditions, visit historic sites, participate in voluntary service projects and engage in exciting outdoor activities. Among other ports, this year's itinerary has included visits to the Azores, Spain, Morocco, Canary Islands, Senegal, Cabo Verde, Barbados, Costa Rica, Cuba and France.

The school will be visiting Amsterdam from April 26- 29, with the ship docking at the NDSM pier in Amsterdam Noord next to the Marina and ferry. "Class Afloat is excited to be sailing aboard the Dutch ship Gulden Leeuw next year, so our current students are looking forward to learning more about 'The Netherlands,'" says Shipboard Director, Megan MacLeod. "Highlights of our stay will include sailing into Amsterdam on King's Day and taking part in the celebrations, visiting Voldendam and taking a canal tour of the city," she added.

Upon departure from Amsterdam, the Sørlandet's voyage continues with a visit to Edinburgh before arriving in Kristiansand, Norway in May where a graduation ceremony will celebrate the completion of the students' incredible nine-month voyage of adventure and learning.

Class Afloat welcomes applications from students worldwide. Spaces are available for the 2014/15 school year, which will take place aboard the beautiful Dutch tall ship Gulden Leeuw and include two visits to Amsterdam. More information about Class Afloat and next year's itinerary is available at www.classafloat.com.

About Class Afloat and the Sørlandet

The Sørlandet is a 210-foot Class A fully-rigged tall ship built in Norway in 1927 and recently fully-restored. The oldest operating fully-rigged tall ship in the world, Sørlandet sails with a professional mariner crew of ten. Nine months of the year it is a home and classroom for Class Afloat- West Island College International, a private school offering fully accredited senior high school and university programs while sailing to over 20 ports on four continents. Class Afloat is based in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, Canada.

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Media Contacts:

Ship:
Megan MacLeod, Shipboard Director
902.430.0810
class.afloat@sorlandet.dualog.net

Head Office:
David Jones
902.634.1895
djones@classafloat.com