

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## **Sculpture in memory of Leo Cooper-White, who “lived bigger than he dreamed”**

A bronze sculpture and time capsule has been unveiled in memory of UTAS theatre student Leo Cooper-White, who died tragically last year in an accident at the Door of Hope in Launceston.

The bronze sculpture is to be installed at the UTAS School of Visual and Performing Arts in Inveresk, where Leo was studying in the third year of his degree.

In addition to the sculpture, the inaugural Leo Cooper-White Memorial Scholarship in Performing Arts will be established from 2013, the first scholarship in that academic area in Tasmania.

UTAS acting director of advancement, Melanie Roome, said Leo’s friends and family had been creative and energetic in raising \$30,000 towards the scholarship.

“The UTAS Foundation will match those funds to endow a scholarship of \$2000 a year,” she said.

Because Leo Cooper-White was an enthusiastic chess player, his friends designed the sculpture in the form of a chess queen. Deloraine artists Michael Thompson and John Parrish assisted with the carving and casting involved.

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