



PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER JULIA GILLARD

**COSMOS - SECOND ECHO ENSEMBLE
FUNDRAISING PERFORMANCE**

I recently had the pleasure of visiting COSMOS, an outstanding community organisation bringing a sense of hope and inclusion to those living with intellectual disability in Tasmania.

We so easily describe the clients of COSMOS and its fellow organisations as having disabilities, but they're full of abilities too. They are people wanting to live their own lives and make their own decisions. People who have so much to offer – as the fantastic artwork on display during my visit amply demonstrated.

I was very proud to chat with COSMOS' Second Echo Ensemble on my visit and to hear that they will be bringing their artistry to audiences in New Zealand at the Tempo Dance Festival.

This is such a wonderful opportunity to showcase the talents of these gifted young people and the sense of possibility that has unfolded in their lives.

I therefore warmly congratulate the members of the Second Echo Ensemble. I wish them safe travels and all the best for their 15 October fund raising performance of a play that, very appropriately, explores human emotions and relationships around the theme 'Love'.

It is an inspiring cause that deserves the support of every Tasmanian.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Julia Gillard'.

The Honourable Julia Gillard MP
Prime Minister of Australia