

Joe wins inaugural Rising Star Award

By Piers Meyler

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CHELMSFORD College has set up an annual award to a student who is showing exceptional promise, sometimes in spite of difficult circumstances.

The student will be nominated by course tutors and the heads of departments as being a Rising Star of the future.

The Rising Star Award has been inaugurated in memory of Gary Rising, a well-loved and dedicated tutor who sadly died in the summer.

Gary will be remembered for all the good work he did at Chelmsford College and most recently the college and the Essex Chronicle celebrated his success with the pre-employment training academy he ran for the long-term unemployed.

This year's Rising Star Award is being given to 18-year-old Joe

Howse, a student in the art, design and media department, who has demonstrated not only exceptional talent but also a real drive to work hard and succeed.

Having found mainstream education difficult, Joe was home-schooled and had to work very hard to achieve his Level 1 qualification at Chelmsford College in order to study art.

He had shown that he is particularly skilled with 3D work and has produced some amazing claywork with his tutor Julie Leahy.

Julie said: "Joe has shot straight to Level 3 because of the high standard of his practical work and his written work is always well considered and eloquent."

"I'm looking forward to arranging his work experience and am in conversation with some different artists with whom he could work."

"He will now be able to travel



RISING STAR AWARD: Chelmsford College Principal Andy Sparks, Helen Padmore (Chair Mid Essex Decorative and Fine Arts Society), Sylvia Gamham, Membership Secretary (NADFAS) award-winner Joe Howse, Julie Leahy (Art & Design), Dave Smith, (Head of Department Art, Design & Media)

and afford the resources he will need to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity."

This year's award is being made with the support of a bursary from The Mid Essex Decorative and Fine Arts Society (part of NADFAS) who are delighted to be helping a young and talented student on their path to success.

Chairman Helen Padfield said: "We were so impressed with Joe, he is obviously enjoying his course and his work shows so much promise."

"We are looking forward to seeing how he progresses over the coming year."

The £500 donation will be used to enable Joe to take part in

work experience and to buy the equipment and materials he will need to take his learning to the next level.

Joe said that he was thrilled: "I feel honoured to have been awarded this bursary and it makes me realise that whatever I am doing it's always worth putting 100 per cent effort into it - no matter the situation".

■ NADFAS, The National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies, is a leading charity working to promote conservation of our artistic heritage and to advance decorative and fine arts education and appreciation, opening up the world of the arts to everyone to enjoy, learn, preserve and participate in.



CERAMIC SHOE: Part of a 3D construction by Joe Howse

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