



Melody West, Cecilia Craft, Karen Willis and Mhairi Vogt with The Tree Of Hope book.

Picture: PHILLIP BIGGS

Book to highlight hopes of children

By MICHAEL LOWE

An innovative investigation into the hopes of Launceston children has won a national award and is vying for higher honours.

Called The Tree Of Hope: Our Children's View Of The Future, the project involved more than 1000 Launceston students and recorded their personal, community, national and global hopes.

The joint University of Tasmania-Launceston City Council project was part of the council's It's About Us 2006 programme last year.

It resulted in a 74-page book, and exhibition, a Web site and continuing research.

Federal Local Government Minister Jim Lloyd has awarded the national community participation and partnership prize, part of the National Awards for Local Government, to the project and it is being assessed for the overall prize.

Senior lecturer at the university's school of sociology and social work Karen Willis said the results were being broken into sectors to see if they could be put into action.