



**Michelle's Earth Foundation**

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For Immediate Release  
May 23, 2008

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## **Michelle Gardner-Quinn's Life Work Continues in New Orleans as Murder Trial Comes to End**

[https://www.causes.com/fb/donations/new?cause\\_id=38899&fp=fb003&fundraiser\\_id=15094052&m=9deb6](https://www.causes.com/fb/donations/new?cause_id=38899&fp=fb003&fundraiser_id=15094052&m=9deb6)

A Vermont jury has found Michelle Gardner-Quinn's alleged killer, Brian Rooney, guilty of aggravated murder. He faces prison in life without parole.

For more information, please go to [www.burlingtonfreepress.com](http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com) and look for Adam Silverman's reports.

Shortly after Michelle's untimely death, her family and friends formed Michelle's Earth Foundation to carry on her dreams of environmental activism. MEF is keeping Michelle's spirit with us through the positive work we believe she would be doing, had her life with us not been shortened. ([michellesearth.org](http://michellesearth.org)) ([michellegardnerquinn.com](http://michellegardnerquinn.com))

Currently, in New Orleans, Louisiana, volunteers continue to plant sunflower seeds in Michelle's name. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency sunflowers remediate lead contaminated soil, making it safe for generations to come. New Orleans has a well documented history of lead contamination and its dangers, especially to young children ([www.wwtv.com](http://www.wwtv.com)).

Ian Willson and Julie Philp are leading the effort. On Thursday, May 22, fourteen students and four adults from Michelle's high school, H-B Woodlawn in Arlington, Virginia, arrived to help Michelle's Earth Sunflowers in New Orleans.

### **MESNOLA NEEDS YOUR HELP**

Please go to [michelleearth.org](http://michelleearth.org) or [facebook.com/causes](https://www.facebook.com/causes) and search for Michelle's Earth Foundation to support Michelle's Earth Sunflowers in New Orleans.

### **HERE'S HOW WE SPENT DONATIONS BETWEEN JANUARY AND MARCH:**

[http://web.mac.com/mesunola/Site/How MESUOLA Spent Your Donations January -  
\\_March 2008.html](http://web.mac.com/mesunola/Site/How_MESUOLA_Spent_Your_Donations_January_-_March_2008.html)

## **SEE WHAT WE'RE DOING IN NEW ORLEANS**

Michelle's Earth Sunflowers in New Orleans on youtube.com

## **WHY WE CONTINUE TO NEED YOUR SUPPORT**

### **Full time management in New Orleans**

Recruits and organizes volunteers

Networks with community

Tests soil and monitors results

Maintains equipment

Seeks out property owners for permission to start lengthy process of clearing the land, planting and harvesting approximately three crops of sunflowers annually

Properly disposes the biohazardous sunflowers

Works with local partners to train community residents in planting and harvesting techniques

Works with resettled residents to plant crops and gardens at remediated sites.

### **Expenses or Needed In Kind Donation**

Housing

Pickup Truck

Tiller

Sunflower Seeds

Printing Brochures & Yard Signs

Gasoline

Dr. Howard Mielke, who has studied lead contamination in New Orleans for many years, commented on MESUNOLA, saying, "From now on, every time I see a sunflower I will think about the young Burlington, Vermont woman that the wonderful volunteers have planted the sunflowers for, as well as the lost talent of our young that has resulted from the hidden poisons in our neighborhoods. The sunflowers are a living memorial honoring and reminding us of many losses."

[Michellesearth.org](http://Michellesearth.org)

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