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BUZZ ON BUZZY

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COLUMN: LET THE PUBLIC SPEAK

EDITOR: After hearing **Buzzy Martin** speak about his book, "Don't Shoot the Guitar man," I immediately knew that I needed to do three things: to purchase his book, read it to our fifth and sixth grade classes and invite him to speak at Roseland Elementary School. Having **Buzzy** address our students about his experience teaching music and working with at-risk children and with inmates at San Quentin, I thought might get the message across to the students that the glamorized gang inmate is just that -- a false image of what really goes on when you join a gang and the consequences resulting in following a destructive path.

By selecting certain passages and editing the adult language, I read excerpts to the classes. Students were extremely interested, and when I announced that **Buzzy** would be speaking at our school they were eager to attend.

Recommending **Buzzy Martin** to visit your school or organization is the easiest part in helping children. Even if a few children walk away with a different image of gangs, or a better outlook on life, isn't it

worth it?

ANNA COLLORAFI

Roseland

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