

## **Greene Correctional Facility Hosts Siena College Students' Performance of "Endgame"**

On April 24<sup>th</sup>, nearly 200 Greene Correctional Facility inmates and staff had the opportunity to watch a performance of Samuel Beckett's play, *Endgame*, directed by Hudson-Link and Siena College professor, David Girard. The play, set in an unknown location or time, features four characters in varying states of decline who pass the time with thoughts of fears, illusions of change, and their inevitable demise.

Girard, a proponent of arts-in-education programming to reduce recidivism says, "I've always had an affinity for how the works of Samuel Bekcett connect with inmates. There are many echoes in Beckett's dialogue and stage directions that are inherent to an inmate's experience on the inside." He added, "The play can be rather difficult...but it has a visceral effect on the incarcerated, where they're more inclined to see hope where there seemingly isn't any."

Girard and Hudson-Link hope to continue these performances at Greene, crediting the production for also having an impact on his student performers by giving them the opportunity to practice empathy and give back. "They really felt like they had done something important," said Girard. "It was more than a performance to them."

