

Riverview Drama Club Performs for Staff and Inmates

On May 18, 2018, inmates from Riverview Correctional Facility Drama Club in conjunction with students from SUNY Potsdam Theatrical Drama Class presented “The Path Beyond the Pines”. The interactive production was performed for staff and the inmate population.

Under the direction of SUNY Assistant Professor, Rivka Rocchio, the Riverview Drama Club inmates and SUNY Potsdam students, created and developed the characters and story lines. More than a play, the production is meant to build social and cultural capital around the dichotomy of social economic environments. Drama Across Prison Walls participants integrate applied learning, research, and creative practice between the students and the inmates.

At the conclusion of the performance, a question and answer session was held with the audience, who were inquisitive about the play and the developmental process.

Ms. Rocchio is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at SUNY Potsdam and the creator of Theatre Across Prison Walls, a theatre-based project bridging university students and artists who are incarcerated. Ms. Rocchio’s writings have been published on Howlround, TYA/USA, Pedagogy, and Theatre of the Oppressed Journal.

The group is planning a new play for the Fall of 2019.

