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Press Contact: Pete Sanders pete@omdkc.com

McCallum Theatre Announces 2026 OPEN CALL TALENT PROJECT Finalists

Performances May 1–2 | Tickets on Sale Now

Palm Desert, CA – The [McCallum Theatre](#) proudly announces the 2026 finalists for its beloved **OPEN CALL TALENT PROJECT**, performing Friday, May 1 at 7:00pm and Saturday, May 2 at 2:00pm and 7:00pm.

Now in its 27th year, Open Call showcases outstanding local talent from across the Coachella Valley. This year’s production features 53 finalists, ages 11 to 73, including vocalists, dancers, and instrumentalists competing live on the McCallum stage.

The 2026 finalists are: Ann Ochwat; Christopher Frias Torres; Curt Bergeron; CVHS Expl Dance Team; Daniel Manaloto; Ellenmarie Wright; Grupo Folklorico Tonantzin; Katherine Aiken; Keith M. Cornell & Mark Duebner; Leah Scott; Linda Cenicerros Gonzalez; Luis Salcido; Mary Montiforte; Nikolas Somers; Palm Swings; Patan Huang; Scott Clinkscales; Swara D’Souza; and Vincenza Gist.

Audience members vote for their favorite act at all performances. Winners are announced during the Saturday evening show. Prizes include a \$5,000 Grand Prize, \$2,500 Second Place, \$2,500 Audience Favorite, and a \$750 Talent Achievement Award. All finalists receive a stipend.

Tickets range from \$28–\$58. The Saturday evening performance includes the awards ceremony. Tickets are available at McCallumTheatre.org, by calling (760) 340-2787, or at the McCallum Theatre Box Office (Monday–Friday, 12pm–5pm).

The McCallum Theatre is located at 73000 Fred Waring Drive in Palm Desert, CA.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. For information, contact Ratna Williams at (760) 776-6174.