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THE MCCALLUM THEATRE

ANNOUNCES 2026-2027 SEASON

Curtain Up, Light the Lights.....

The stars shine brighter in the desert with world-class artists in theatre, music, dance, opera, comedy and more – all illuminating a thrilling new season.

***McCallum Annual Members Tickets Go on Sale May 18

***Tickets On Sale to Public on May 22

Season highlights include:

Broadway's Best

& Juliet, The Who's Tommy, The Wiz, The Bodyguard, The Sound of Music, and Mamma Mia!

Stars in Concert!

Megan Hilty, Cheyenne Jackson, Idina Menzel, Charo, Laura Benanti, Linda Eder, Jeremy Jordan, Lucie Arnaz, David Foster and Katherine McPhee, Paul Anka, Patti LuPone, Audra McDonald, and Andy Grammer

Music to Your Ears: The Best in Classical, Jazz, International and More

Joshua Bell, Midori, Lang Lang, The Count Basie Orchestra, Chris Botti, Jake Shimabokura, Pacific Jazz Orchestra, Indigo Girls, and Mariachi Christmas

Dancing Through the Season

Pacifico Dance Company, Palm Desert Choreography Festival, Ballet Hispanico, Sergio Bernal Dance Company, Les Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo,

Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, NoGravity Theatre Dance

Laugh Out Loud Comedy

Randy Rainbow, Rita Rudner, and Tom Papa

Community Celebrations and McCallum Signature Events

Hispanic Heritage Month, LGBTQ+Pride, McCallum Cabaret and Jim Caruso's Cast Party

(PALM DESERT, CA) – April 24, 2026 -**The McCallum Theatre**, the desert's premier performing arts center, today announces a 2026-2027 season creatively curated to inspire, celebrate, and delight the diverse and culturally rich community of the Coachella Valley. With a world-class line up of artists from around the globe, the McCallum Theatre presents a bold lineup of award-winning Broadway productions, dance performances, starry concerts, comedy and so much more – all to showcase the magic of live performance.

“The McCallum team and our partners are devoted to presenting a season that truly represents the best artists, unique storytelling and new gems that will become long-lasting favorites,” says **The McCallum Theatre President and CEO, Yvonne Bell**. “With the incredible support of our trustees and donors, we’re ready to show the Coachella Valley why the McCallum Theatre, the performing arts and our community matter now more than ever.”

Garry Kief, Chair of The McCallum Board of Trustees said. “This new season is dedicated to our audiences with our sincere commitment that the arts belong to everyone. But it's The McCallum Annual Members that get the chance to snap up their tickets first, so please become a member!”

Broadway's Best Shows

The 2026-2027 Broadway Season at The McCallum Theatre features musicals with vibrant themes and toe-tapping numbers that will resonate with both Broadway babies and new theatregoers alike.

What if Juliet got a second chance at life after Romeo? Find out at the 9-time Tony Awards® - nominated musical set to 30 iconic songs from pop music's #1 hitmaker. Written by Max Martin and his collaborators, **& Juliet** recontextualize hits from Britney Spears, Backstreet Boys, Katy Perry, and others to tell a new story about Juliet. Including "...Baby One More Time," "Since U Been Gone," "Roar," "I Want It That Way," and "It's My Life." **& Juliet** roars onto the stage October 27-November 1, 2026.

The iconic 1969 rock opera morphed into an iconic stage musical and now, ***The Who's Tommy*** is set to rock the McCallum November 24-November 29, 2026. This musical is about a "deaf, dumb, and blind" boy who becomes a pinball prodigy and cult-like celebrity, directed by Des McAnuff with music/lyrics by Pete Townshend has a cult-like following of fans too.

The Wiz will ease on down to The McCallum December 8-December 13, 2026. Offering a soul, gospel, and 70s funk reimaging of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, conjuring up an Oz unlike anything ever seen before, the creative team is helmed by director Schele Williams (*The Notebook*, revival of Disney's *Aida*) and includes choreographer JaQuel Knight (Beyonce's "Single Ladies"), William F. Brown (book), Charlie Smalls (music & lyrics), Amber Ruffin (additional material).

The Bodyguard, the award-winning musical based on the smash-hit film will run February 16-February 21, 2027. This breathtakingly romantic thriller features a whole host of irresistible classics including "So Emotional," "Saving All My Love," "I Have Nothing," "Greatest Love of All," "I Wanna Dance with Somebody" and one of the greatest hit songs of all time – "I Will Always Love You."

With songs like "Do-Re-Mi," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" and "Edelweiss," of course it's ***The Sound of Music***. The iconic Rodgers & Hammerstein tale of a spirited nun who chooses not to live behind closed doors—and, by following her heart, learns to climb every mountain. Directed by three-time Tony Award® winner Jack O'Brien (*Hairspray*), this vibrant and romantic tale of Maria and the von Trapp family will captivate audiences with its universal themes of love, resilience, and the power of music. *The Sound of Music* will be one the audience's favorite things on stage May 5-10, 2027.

For over 25 years, people all around the world have fallen in love with the characters, the story, and the music that make ***Mamma Mia!*** the ultimate feel-good show.

A mother. A daughter. 3 possible dads. Set on a Greek island paradise where the sun always shines, a tale of love, friendship, and identity is beautifully told through the timeless hits of ABBA. *Mamma Mia!* sets down in The McCallum June 1- June 7, 2027.

Stars in Concert!

They hit the high notes, make us feel their lows, get us to fall in love, and always leave us wanting more – and they've got shelves full of awards to prove it!

A galaxy of stars shine with concerts featuring **Megan Hilty** (*Death Becomes Her*, *Wicked*, *Noises Off*), **Patti LuPone** (*Company*, *Evita*, *Gypsy*, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*), **Idina Menzel** (*Rent*, *Wicked*, *If/Then*) **Laura**

Benanti (*Gypsy, Swing!, Into the Woods*), **Linda Eder** (*Jekyll & Hyde, Svengali*), **Jeremy Jordan** (*Just in Time, The Great Gatsby, Floyd Collins, Newsies*) **Lucie Arnaz** (*They're Playing Our Song, Pippin, Lost in Yonkers*) and **Audra McDonald**, who as of the 78th Tony Awards, has earned a record-breaking eleven nominations.

The McCallum also welcomes: **David Foster** who has 16 Grammy Awards, an Emmy, and a Golden Globe and his wife **Katherine McPhee** of *Smash* and *American Idol* fame; **Paul Anka** the legendary singer, songwriter of hits such as "You Are My Destiny," "Lonely Boy," "Put Your Head on My Shoulder," "(You're) Having My Baby" and "My Way"; and multi/platinum singer/songwriter, **Andy Grammer**.

Great Musical Experiences

Note for note, these musicians demonstrate why they are acclaimed around the world. Witness their expertise and musical mastery at The McCallum Theatre. Boldfaced names include the classical stars: violinist **Joshua Bell**, violinist **Midori** and pianist **Lang Lang**. Swing with **The Count Basie Orchestra**, marvel at the dexterity of jazz trumpeter **Chris Botti** and be dazzled by the ukulele virtuoso **Jake Shimabokura**. With her stories, comedy, and flamenco guitar, **Charo** shows why she's been a force of nature that remains timeless. **The Pacific Jazz Orchestra** epitomizes the spirit of jazz—America's original art form—brought to life by the unmatched talent of LA's finest musicians. And the Grammy-winning American folk-rock duo **Indigo Girls** will perform the songs that made them legends.

Dance At the McCallum

The McCallum is delighted to present a robust dance season filled with vibrancy, strength, and unrelenting acumen. Extraordinary dance companies take center stage – each featuring their unique artistry and influence.

From the world's foremost gender-skewering comic ballet company, **Les Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo** to reinventing dance and contemporary ballet. With companies like **Complexions Contemporary Ballet, No Gravity Theatre Dance, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, Sergio Bernal Dance Company, and Ballet Hispanico** – the universal language will have people talking.

The Palm Desert Choreography Festival will again be held this season. Giving a platform for international, national, and local choreographers to showcase their work and powerfully engage audiences around dance in the Coachella Valley. Exciting

original dances are performed by professional dancers on Saturday, and Sunday's performance showcases choreographers working with aspiring and emerging dancers of all ages. Sunday also features a performance by high school students participating in the East Valley Dance Project. On both days choreographers vie for cash prizes.

Community Celebrations: Hispanic Heritage Month, LGBTQ+Pride and Local Artists

Celebrating the array of cultures and diversity of the Coachella Valley, The McCallum Theatre will once again host events honoring Hispanic Heritage Month with performances, food, talks, and additional education programs. The McCallum Theatre is proud to present **Ozomatli**, whose music can only be described as — a notorious urban-Latino-and-beyond collision of hip hop and salsa, dancehall and cumbia, samba and funk, merengue and comparsa, East LA R&B and New Orleans. Also on tap will be **La Santa Cecilia**, **Aida Cuevas** and **Pacifico Dance Co.**

If it's November in the desert, it's time to show our Pride. The McCallum will present an array of artists and events to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community. Actor, singer, advocate **Cheyenne Jackson** ("American Horror Story" '30 Rock', *Oh, Mary! Xanadu*) headlines the celebration day and the Parade. Also returning in November are fans favorites **Straight No Chaser**, the sensational all male a cappella group arrives with a long list of accomplishments including 2 RIAA Gold Certified albums and over 1 billion streams on Pandora, and over 2 million albums sold worldwide.

November also brings the return of **Stars, Stripes and Songs**, the Mc Callum's tribute event for Veterans and their families across the Coachella Valley. This will take place Veteran's Day eve, November 10th in partnership with the City of Palm Desert.

McCallum's Open Call Talent Project returns to celebrate local talents too. Outstanding local performers of all ages are presented in this exciting talent competition – a visually stunning and energy-filled production with a full cast finale. More than just a talent show, Open Call offers participants the priceless chance to perform on a world-class stage and spend a week rehearsing with a crew of theatrical professionals. Audience members can vote for their favorite performers, and the winners are announced and celebrated at the conclusion of Saturday's performance. The event raises money for McCallum Theatre's education programs, which serve 40,000 students, teachers, and families annually.

Laugh Out Loud Comedy

We could all use a laugh, which is why the McCallum has lined up some of the best stand-ups around today. Highlights of the comedic season include the legendary **Rita Rudner**, **Tom Papa** and **Randy Rainbow**, the internet sensation whose YouTube videos have had more than 201 million views!

Please visit The McCallum Theatre online at www.mccallumtheatre.org to **see the full lineup for the [2026/2027 Season](#)**, dates and ticket information. As is tradition, additional announcements to the season will be made as artists are added and updated monthly.

Get More McCallum with an Annual Membership and enjoy exclusive benefits!

Annual memberships ensure the McCallum can continue to bring world-class artistry to the stage, remain a premier theatre with state-of-the-art equipment, and serve close to 40,000 children and teachers across the Coachella Valley every year. Members receive special privileges complementing the theatre-going experience. The primary benefit of Annual Membership is early access to purchase tickets before they go on sale to the public.

About The McCallum Theatre

Located in Palm Desert, California, the McCallum Theatre is one of the nation's leading nonprofit performing arts centers, dedicated to presenting world-class entertainment and educational programming that enriches the cultural life of the Coachella Valley (Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, Indio, Desert Hot Springs, Coachella and beyond). The McCallum Theatre is a proud member of The Broadway League.

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