



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 8, 2026

Contact: Joe Garcia, Marketing Supervisor/ C: 956-681-3818/ E: jegarcia@mcallen.net

The Curtain Rises on 2026 Palm Awards Nominations *The Palm Awards celebrate achievements in High School Theater*

The stage is officially set for the 2026 Palm Awards following today's nominations announcement held at the McAllen Performing Arts Center. Community and civic leaders, along with educators gathered for the Palm Awards Nominations Breakfast to celebrate the outstanding talent of high school students.

The event serves as the official kickoff to the 8th Annual Palm Awards, scheduled for Wednesday, **May 13, 2026**. Nominees were revealed across multiple categories, recognizing excellence in performance, design, and production among participating high schools. (see attached nomination list)

During the program, City Manager Isaac J. Tawil emphasized the broader impact of the Palm Awards. "At the City of McAllen, we believe the future of our community is shaped by the opportunities we create today, which is why we are proud to support initiatives like the Palm Awards. We want to ensure that more students have access not only to attend performances but to experience, learn from, and be inspired by them. When we invest in the arts, we are investing in our future and in McAllen. Next is Now."

Often compared to the Tony Awards for high school theatre and fine arts, the Palm Awards has become one of the region's most anticipated cultural events. The show, historically sells out, draws more than 1,800 attendees annually, with thousands more tuning in via livestream.

Tickets to the 2026 Palm Awards are now available on Ticketmaster and at the box office. For more information, contact Joe Garcia at 956-681-3818 or email: conventionsmarketing@mcallen.net

###