

"Our society needs the arts and pathways of expression now more than ever. Students deserve the opportunity to explore the arts and the McCallum Theatre makes this possible year after year, even during a pandemic! Wow!"

KATHERINE ZAPCART, TEACHER, REAGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, PALM DESERT

# ARTS, INQUIRY & IMAGINATION

## PROGRAMS OFFERED BY



*Since its launch in 1997, McCallum Theatre Education has served nearly one million students with performances and arts education experiences. In close partnership with local education agencies, McCallum makes the arts available and accessible to youth in the area through its dynamic education programs. In addition, Palm Desert Choreography Festival and Open Call Talent Project serve as powerful vehicles for developing artists and presenting exciting and affordable performances open to the general public.*



## The Aesthetic Education Program

This Program places the arts at the center of inquiry-driven learning experiences that include attendance at McCallum performances and exhibits. Teachers and students who partner with McCallum Theatre Education are encouraged to be curious, ask questions and rigorously explore works of art to awaken imaginative learning. Designed to cultivate perceptual abilities and higher thinking skills, this program has been offered online during the pandemic, with Teaching Artists facilitating workshops via Zoom and engaging with students in Google Classroom. 23 schools across the Valley currently partner with McCallum, and teaching artists facilitate over 1,500 individual workshops this school-year, preparing students for deeper and more meaningful encounters with the specific performances and exhibits offered as focus works for study.

## The Field Trip Series The Online Series

This Series provides free attendance to music, dance and theater performances at the McCallum for students from the Coachella Valley, the High Desert, and beyond each school year. Resource materials for teachers are available to access online to help make the experience for students as meaningful as possible. Many students do not have access to the arts in general, and engaging with McCallum serves as a powerful introduction to the world of the performing arts. This Series has been offered online in the last two years and has served close to 50,000 students



during the pandemic. Moving forward, there will be opportunities to attend performances in person at McCallum Theatre and via *The Online Series*.

"We are so focused on math, science, and language arts and test preparation. This program allows students to nourish the creative side of their developing personalities. For many students, this is their first exposure to live theater and visual arts."

SCOTT POWELL, TEACHER, VISTA DEL MONTE ELEMENTARY, PALM SPRINGS



## Palm Desert Choreography Festival

The only festival of its kind in Southern California, McCallum's Festival is dedicated to the advancement of dance as an art form and the promotion of quality choreography. It introduces aspiring amateur dancers to the possibilities of dance as a career by providing opportunities for learning and performing, and networking with professional dancers and choreographers. The festival includes a choreography competition with two performances open to the general public, educational workshops and residencies such as the annual **East Valley Dance Project**, **The Studio Project**, master classes, and lifetime achievement recognition. The next festival takes place at McCallum on November 12-13, 2022.

## Community Outreach



McCallum Theatre Education collaborates with other desert arts groups and municipalities on a variety of projects that include artist residencies, master classes,

pre- and post-show lectures, workshops and performances.

"East Valley Dance Project made me confident, increased my creativity and helped me to express myself."

MINAY IZAR, EAST VALLEY DANCE PROJECT DANCER,  
DESERT MIRAGE HIGH SCHOOL, THERMAL



## Open Call Talent Project

Open Call is a talent project/competition for singers, dancers, musicians, jugglers, mimes and other aspiring performers. The project is open to all residents 8 years of age and older, living within a 45-mile radius of the McCallum. Finalists have the opportunity to work with the Theatre's professional artistic and production staff in a week-long rehearsal process providing opportunities for learning and growth, and as a result perform on the McCallum Theatre stage. This annual event has become an audience favorite and usually sells out. Finalists of the 2022 competition will be presented at the McCallum on Saturday, April 16 at 2 pm and 7 pm. Tickets go on sale March 14, 2022.

"Open Call is a wonderful experience for all participating performers, from the youngest student to the oldest senior. Everyone in the group wants to bring joy to the audience, to be proud of the hard work they've put in to get there, and get better at their craft. Whether you are a young student trying to make your parents proud, a college student headed for Broadway, or a senior just enjoying retirement this is one of the highest honors in the Desert."

EARL MITCHELL, OPEN CALL 2022 FINALIST



For more information:  
760.346.6505 ext. 142 or [www.mccallumtheatre.org](http://www.mccallumtheatre.org)

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