

SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSITION AND LIVESTOCK SHOW
PO BOX 150 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76101-0150
817-877-2400
2026 TEXAS INVITATIONAL MARIACHI COMPETITION

JANUARY 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

All contestants will be under the supervision of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, and all General Rules of this Show can be found at www.fwssr.com. Each exhibitor, participant or other individual or entity participating in any aspect of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, including without limitation, livestock and animal entrants, grand entry participants, and Invitational Mariachi Competition participants (collectively, "Exposition and Livestock Show Participants") including any of their heirs, dependents, assigns, agents or representatives in any capacity, hereby waives all rights and claims for damages, and do hereby agree to release, hold harmless and unconditionally indemnify the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, sponsors, and co-producers of any Exposition and Livestock Show events, and any officials or employees, thereof, from and against all liability, costs, expenses, claims and damages, even if caused by the alleged negligence or gross negligence of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, which the Exposition and Livestock Show Participant, or the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show may at any time suffer or sustain or become liable for by reason of any accidents, damages, injuries or incidents either to the person or property, or both, or the Exposition and Livestock Show Participant, or of any other parties, in any manner arising from such Participant's participation in any Exposition and Livestock Show event or at any Exposition and Livestock Show premises which is in any way connected with the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, its officers, directors, members, agents, sponsors or employees. Exposition and Livestock Show Participant also recognizes that it will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage to, or occasioned by, arising from, any horse or other livestock used by the Participant or present at the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, including the preparation, duration and disbanding of said Show and any parts thereof. Each Exposition and Livestock Show Participant further agrees to execute such releases or other writings or other documents which evidence Participant's acknowledgement and understanding of the foregoing release and indemnity, provided, however, the provisions hereof shall prevail in the event that a conflict or other inconsistency is discovered regarding the contents of this provision, and any release executed by a Participant. Further, Exposition and Livestock Show Participant grants permission to the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show and their designees to use Exposition and Livestock Show Participant's image or likeness in connection with any broadcast or other reproduction of this event.

1. Entries in the 2026 Texas Invitational Mariachi Competition will be accepted by invitation only.
2. **PARTICIPANTS.** All students must be registered members of their respective high school ensemble. Traditional Mariachi attire or Trajes are required for each performer and performance.
3. **INSTRUMENTATION.** ALL ensembles must contain the following instruments: Voices, trumpets, violins/flutes, guitarrón, vihuela and guitar, but ensembles may contain harp and guitarra de golpe.
4. **FORMAT.** The Texas Invitational Mariachi Competition will consist of eight (8) teams, one qualifying round and a final round of the top four performers.
5. **DIRECTORS.** Directors may not participate in any part of the ensemble performance. At competition time, directors must leave the stage area.
6. **PRELIMINARY ROUND TIME LIMIT.** Performance time is limited to 10 minutes of music. Ensembles will be assigned performance times to be scheduled at 15-minute intervals to allow for sound check, transition, and announcements. The time structure for each performance will be held strictly to:
 - a) 3 minutes set up and sound check
 - b) 1 minute announcement
 - c) 10 minutes musical performance
 - d) 1 minute stage exit

2026 TEXAS INVITATIONAL MARIACHI COMPETITION RULES – Page 2

7. **FINAL ROUND TIME LIMIT.** Performance time is limited to 30 minutes of music. Ensembles will be assigned performance times based on random draw at the conclusion of the preliminary round.
8. **PERFORMANCE MUSIC.** There are no regulations as to what music is performed; however, music must be memorized and performed within the time limit. Each Director must upload performance music to an assigned Dropbox link. The Dropbox link will be assigned and sent on receipt of registration materials.
9. **COMPETITION DATE AND TIME.** All contestants must arrive one hour before the contest and must check in at the registration desk. Each group's competition time will be assigned by random draw and will be announced after all groups have accepted the invitation.

Date: Saturday, January 17, 2026

Time: 9:00 am – 7:00 pm

Location: Will Rogers Auditorium

10. **JUDGING.** Adjudication will be based upon criteria within the following areas:
 - a) Instrumental/Vocal - Sound Quality
 - b) Instrumental/Vocal - Technical Accuracy
 - c) General Musicality
 - d) Stage Deportment
11. **AWARDS CEREMONY.** The awards ceremony will follow the competition.
12. **ENTRY DEADLINE.** All Competition registration materials must be completed no later than December 1, 2025. The registration materials will consist of the following:
 - a. Team Entry and Waiver Forms
 - b. Team Photo and Profile Form
13. **PERFORMANCE ORDER.** The performance order for each performance (qualifying round and top four finals) will be determined by a random draw. The performance order for the top four finals will be announced at Noon inside the Auditorium upon completion of the scoring tabulation.
14. **PERFORMANCE ADMISSION PRICES.** Performances are free and open to the general public with Grounds Admission to the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. Performers will receive one complimentary pass to the Stock Show grounds and will receive these passes from their director.
15. **PARTICIPANT RE-ENTRY.** Performers and one director will be given identification wristbands that will allow them entrance to the auditorium. In addition, each director will be given four (4) additional wristbands to issue at their discretion. Your Superintendent and Principal will not need a wristband, they will receive complimentary tickets. These will be mailed separately once all registration materials have been received.
16. **TEAM PHOTO AND PROFILE FORM.** Each Director must complete a profile through the electronic form and submit a photograph. This information is for competition publicity and promotions purposes.
17. **PARKING.** Buses will be allowed to drop-off participants at the front of the Will Rogers Coliseum and will be provided parking permits for busses to park at Farrington Field.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2027
TENATIVE COMPETITION SCHEDULE

8:00 am	Teams Check-In		
9:00 am	Competition Begins - Pledge Allegiance		
9:15 am	Team 1 – Selection		
9:30 am	Team 2 – Selection		
9:45 am	Team 3 – Selection		
10:00 am	Team 4 – Selection	4:00 pm	<u>Championship Finals</u> Finalist 1– Finals Song Selection
10:15 am	Team 5 – Selection	4:30 pm	Finalist 2 – Finals Song Selection
10:30 am	Team 6 – Selection	5:00 pm	Finalist 3 – Finals Song Selection
10:45 am	Team 7– Selection	5:30 pm	Finalist 4 – Finals Song Selection
11:00 am	Team 8 – Selection		
11:15 am	Team 9 – Selection	6:30 pm	Championship Announcement, Award Presentation & Performance
11:30 am	Team 10 – Selection		
11:45 am	1st Round Complete		
12:00 pm	Announcement of Finalists		
12:30 pm	Lunch on your own		
1:30 pm	Free Time		
3:00 pm	Finalists Warm-Up		

18. **PRIZES.** Prize money will be paid as follows: \$2,000.00 to 1st Place, \$1,500.00 to 2nd Place and \$1,000 for 3rd Place. Award checks will be paid as soon as they can be properly processed after the close of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show and require completion of the attached W-9.

19. **PARKING AND GENERAL ADMISSION.**

The following daily parking and general admission tickets are available to purchase upon arrival the day of the competition:

DAILY GROUNDS ADMISSION:

One day pass - \$12.00 - Adults
 \$ 5.00 - Youth ages 6 to 16
 Children 5 and under are free

VEHICLE PARKING:

\$17.00 per vehicle

The following series parking and season general admissions passes may be purchased in advance. Please fill out the form below and return with your entry application and check or money order.

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Parking Permit @ \$60 (<i>Limit One</i>) (January 12 – February 3)	_____	\$ _____
Season Ground Pass @ \$35 each (1 complimentary pass with entry) (Grounds Access to all 23 days of the show - January 12 – Feb 3)	_____	\$ _____
Souvenir Pins @ \$50 each (Grounds Access to all 23 days of the show - January 12 – Feb 3)	_____	\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

**SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSITION AND LIVESTOCK SHOW
PO BOX 150 FORT WORTH, TX 76101-0150
817-877-2400**

2024 TEXAS INVITATIONAL MARIACHI COMPETITION

JANUARY 17, 2026

INDIVIDUAL WAIVER-AGREEMENT AND ENTRY FORM

Team Director _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone No. (Cell) _____ Payee's Social Security or Tax I.D.# _____

* * * * *

I (We), the undersigned, hereby make application to enter Texas Invitational Mariachi Competition, subject to the rules and regulations of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show and according to the Texas Mariachi educators Association Standards, all of which I (we) have read, and agree to the provisions contained herein, including without limitation the provisions relating to the release and limitation of liability of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, and agree to the provisions contained therein as a part of this contract. Specifically, I (we) hereby release the above Exposition from any claim or loss in accordance with the terms and provisions of the above-referenced Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show rules and regulations.

TEAM MEMBERS

1. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

2. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

3. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

4. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

5. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

6. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

7. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

8. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

9. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

INDIVIDUAL WAIVER-AGREEMENT AND ENTRY FORM page 2

10. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

11. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

12. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

13. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

14. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

15. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

16. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

17. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

18. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

19. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

20. Printed Name _____ Signature _____

**EXAMPLE RULES & WAIVER/TEAMS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE WILL RECEIVE RULES
ELECTRONICALLY WITH THEIR PARTICIPATION LINK
SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSITION AND LIVESTOCK SHOW
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2026 TEXAS INVITATIONAL MARIACHI COMPETITION

JANUARY 17, 2026

INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZATION, WAIVER AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

In consideration of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show (“SWELS”) permitting me to participate in the 2026 Texas Invitational Mariachi Competition held during the SWELS January 17, 2026, I agree to the following:

Each exhibitor, participant or other individual or entity participating in any aspect of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, including without limitation, livestock and animal entrants, parade and grand entry participants (collectively, “Exposition and Livestock Show Participants”) including any of their heirs, dependents, assigns, agents or representatives in any capacity, hereby waives all rights and claims for damages, and does hereby agree to release, hold harmless and unconditionally indemnify the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, Directors, co-producers and sponsors of any Exposition and Livestock Show events, and any officials or employees, thereof, from and against all liability costs, expenses, claims and damages, even if caused by the alleged negligence or ordinary negligence of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, which the Exposition and Livestock Show Participant, or the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show may at any time suffer or sustain or become liable for by reason of any accidents, damages, injuries or incidents either to the person or property, or both, or the Exposition and Livestock Show Participant, or of any other parties, in any manner arising from such Participant’s participation in any Exposition and Livestock Show event or at any Exposition and Livestock Show premises which is in any way connected with the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, its officers, directors, members, sponsors, agents or employees. Exposition and Livestock Show Participant also recognizes that it will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage to, or occasioned by, arising from, any horse or other livestock used by the Participant or present at the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, including the preparation, duration and disbanding of said Show and any parts thereof. Each Exposition and Livestock Show Participant further agrees to execute such release or other writings or other documents which evidence Participant’s acknowledgement and understanding of the foregoing release and indemnity, provided, however, the provisions hereof shall prevail in the event that a conflict or other inconsistency is discovered regarding the contents of this provision, and any release executed by a Participant. Further, Exposition and Livestock Show Participant grants permission to the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show and their designees to use Exposition and Livestock Show Participant’s image or likeness in connection with any broadcast or other reproduction of this event.

I UNDERSTAND THE INHERENTLY DANGEROUS NATURE OF PARTICIPATING IN STOCK SHOW AND RODEO EVENTS, AND I KNOWINGLY ASSUME ALL RISKS IN CONNECTION WITH MY PARTICIPATION IN THESE EVENTS. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE ACCEPTANCE OF THIS ENTRY, I WAIVE AND RELINQUISH, COVENANT NOT TO SUE, AND FULLY RELEASE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSITION AND LIVESTOCK SHOW, ITS DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, SPONSORS, EMPLOYEES, RODEO PRODUCERS, AGENTS, AND VOLUNTEERS (“SWELS PARTIES”) FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, CAUSES OF ACTION, AND/OR LIABILITIES WHATSOEVER, AT COMMON LAW OR OTHERWISE, FOR PERSONAL INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH, LOSS, AND DAMAGES WHICH I MAY SUSTAIN AS A RESULT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH MY PARTICIPATION IN ANY ACTIVITY HELD BY OR UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SWELS DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 2026, EVEN IF SUCH CLAIM OR INJURY IS CAUSED BY THE SOLE OR CONCURRENT NEGLIGENCE OF ANY SWELS PARTIES.

I grant permission to SWELS and its designees to use my image or likeness in connection with any Rodeo broadcast, rebroadcast, or other reproduction of the event and in any Rodeo publicity, advertisement, or program.

WARNING: UNDER TEXAS LAW (CHAPTER 87, CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE), A LIVESTOCK SHOW SPONSOR IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO, OR THE DEATH OF, A PARTICIPANT IN A LIVESTOCK SHOW RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF LIVESTOCK SHOW ACTIVITIES.

**I HAVE READ THE ABOVE AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL OF THE STATED TERMS AND CONDITIONS.
INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZATION, WAIVER AGREEMENT AND RELEASE-PAGE 2**

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PLEASE COMPLETE ALL BLANKS

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Note: Participants under 18 years of age must have the following signed by their parent or guardian.

CONSENT OF PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN:

I, _____, am the parent or legal guardian of the above minor, I have read the above release in full; I fully understand its terms and conditions and I hereby voluntarily execute and deliver my consent to _____'s participation in the Stock Show events pursuant to the terms of this Release. I further agree to be fully bound by this document's terms and conditions in both my individual capacity and in my capacity as parent or legal guardian for the participant.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Witness