



Texas
Talent
Musicians
Association

2026

2026 AWARDS VOTING
CRITERIA &
NOMINATIONS FORMS

Effective for the 46th annual Tejano Music Awards

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May 10, 2026

Greetings,

It is our pleasure to once again announce the beginning of the annual Tejano Music Awards nominations process. Please find the specific guidelines and nominations forms in this package for 2026.

The eligibility period for the 46th annual Tejano Music Awards is from January 01, 2025, through December 31, 2025. Only material released during the eligibility period will qualify. Do not submit material released from January through December 2024 or materials previously submitted. One exception is in the single release category. Singles released from a 2024 or a single from a 2026 CD released in 2025 will qualify for the Song of the Year category only (Submitted songs will not qualify for future nominations). ***The Entertainer of the Year winner will be selected by a special committee appointed by the board of directors.*** Qualifying Tejano Norteño submissions will be considered to qualify in the Tejano or Conjunto Album of the Year category on a case-by-case basis.

When submitting your nomination forms please include two (2) CD's (failure to submit your CD's will disqualify your entry). We must be able to verify that the CD was actually released within the qualifying period. Therefore, please also include a direct link to your online CD vendors to allow us to verify your submission (i.e. Spotify, Apple Music, etc.).

Send your CD's and bio to:

TTMA
P.O. Box 761358
San Antonio, TX 78245

NOTE: Do not send oversized packages or packages with incorrect postage. TTMA Will not be responsible for accepting these packages.

Please read the guidelines carefully since they are here for your information and review any changes that may have been made to the criteria, categories, and/or voting process. Failure to follow these instructions prolongs the vetting process and may disqualify you from participating. If you have any questions, send an e-mail to: admin@tejanomusicawards.com

Good luck to everyone.

Frank H. Salazar,
Vice-president,

NOTE: The TTMA board of directors reserves the right to make changes as needed to the criteria, categories, nominations process, and/or voting process presented in this document.

Specific Guidelines

Record companies, group managers, artists, and/or artists representatives must submit entries eligible for the current period. The eligibility period for the 46th annual Tejano Music Awards is from January 01, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Only material released during the eligibility period will qualify (exception will be for single releases only).

Group managers and/or representatives must have full authority to act on behalf of the record label or artist.

Verification Form must be signed by a representative authorized to nominate. Verification form must be submitted with nomination(s) or nomination(s) will not be considered for the current eligibility period. Only official Tejano Music Awards forms will be considered per artist or group.

NOTE: The TTMA board of directors reserves the right to make changes as needed to the criteria, categories, nominations process, and/or voting process presented in this document.



ANNUAL TEJANO MUSIC AWARDS

San Antonio, Texas

OVERVIEW

Since 1980 the Tejano Music Awards and various other special events produced by Texas Talent Musicians Association (TTMA) have provided a forum to create greater awareness and appreciation for Tejano music. This music format has been a tradition in the state of Texas and has transcended regional and cultural boundaries throughout the United States as well as internationally.

TTMA is committed to providing the best Tejano recording artists to the world.

MISSION STATEMENT

Texas Talent Musicians Association (TTMA) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote professional excellence; a better understanding and greater appreciation for Tejano music; and to provide a public forum for songwriters, performers and musicians in order to recognize their artistic efforts and achievements through the annual Tejano Music Awards and related events.

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

TMA VOTING PHASES

VOTING PROCESS FOR GENERAL BALLOT

PHASE I Nominations

Originate from record companies, group managers, artists, and/or representatives. Nominees may begin submitting qualified materials Monday, May 18, 2026. Qualified materials will be accepted through midnight Sunday June 21, 2026. TTMA reviews and submits nominations to the Nominating and Screening Committee for verification and eligibility.

PHASE II Industry Voting

Qualified nominees are placed on the Industry Ballot and ballot is placed on the TTMA web site for voting by qualifying industry voters. In phase II the Top twelve (12) nominees in each category will be selected. Only record companies, group managers, artists, and/or representatives are allowed to vote in this phase. Industry voting period begins Monday, July 13, 2026, and ends Sunday, July 26, 2026. Ballots must be postmarked and received by TTMA no later than midnight Sunday, July 26, 2026. CPA will tabulate ballots and submit the top twelve (12) nominees in each category to TTMA.

PHASE III Official General Public Voting

The top twelve (12) nominees will be placed on the TTMA web site by category Monday, August 10, 2026, for voting by Tejano Music Fans. General public voting period ends midnight on Friday, September 04, 2026. CPA returns Top five (5) nominees by category to TTMA.

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards GENERAL BALLOT and INDUSTRY Timeline

- May 18, 2026 Record companies, group managers, artists, and representatives provide a list of eligible artists and their materials.
- June 21, 2026 Qualifying materials are due midnight Sunday, June 21, 2026. Materials must be sent to the TTMA P.O. Box and must be postmarked no later than 12:00 am midnight Sunday, June 21, 2026. Nomination submissions may be made online at www.tejanomusicawards.com by due date. Two (2) CD's or 2 USB thumb drives with copyright year must be submitted to be considered. Music files must be in mp3 format. (USB is not returnable)
- September 01, 2025 TTMA compiles a catalog of eligible material.
- September 03, 2025 Nominating and Screening Committee meets to review nominations and verify eligibility. Staff will call record labels to provide any additional documentation and/or clarification if required.
- July 13, 2026 Industry voting commences to select the Top twelve (12) nominees for each category. Voting will be done online on the Tejano Music Awards web site. This is only for record companies, group managers, artists, and/or representatives. **THIS IS NOT FOR THE PUBLIC.**
- July 26, 2025 Industry ballots due and must be received by CPA no later than midnight Sunday, July 26, 2026. **If mailing in a paper ballot, must be received by July 26, 2026 not postmarked.**
- August 10, 2026 General public voting commences for qualified Tejano Fans. Top twelve (12) nominees' ballot is placed on TTMA web site for online voting.
- September 04, 2026 Voting will end 12:00 am midnight Friday, September 04, 2026.
- TBA CPA's tabulations are delivered to TTMA. Nominees will be announced online. Winners will be announced at 46th annual Tejano Music Awards, date TBA at a venue located in San Antonio.

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards NOMINATIONS, OFFICIAL VOTING, and CATEGORIES

A. NOMINATIONS

Originate from record companies, group managers, artists, and/or representatives. TTMA reviews and submits nominations list to the Nominating and Screening Committee for verification and eligibility. **TTMA does not nominate any artist. This is solely the responsibility of the record companies, group managers, artists, and/or representatives. Two CD's or two USB's must be submitted with the nomination(s) for verification of eligibility. USB's must contain CD cover photo and copyright sign ©. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

B. OFFICIAL VOTING

Master list of nominations is submitted by the record companies, group managers, artists, and/or the representative and is placed on the TTMA web site for the industry to select the top twelve (12) nominees. The top twelve (12) nominees are then placed on the TTMA web site for the general public to vote for the top five (5) nominees in each category.

C. QUALIFYING PERIOD

All material must have been released in the qualifying period of January 01, 2025, through December 31, 2025. In all categories, artists must have actively performed within the eligibility period.

Albums must be released during the eligibility period to be eligible in every category except for Song of the Year. Each category must have at least five (5) but no less than three (3) eligible nominations to be considered as a viable category.

NOTE: *The TTMA board of directors reserves the right to make changes as needed to the criteria, categories, nominations process, or voting process presented in this document.*

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards Attestation Form

VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Entry Deadline: **Sunday, June 21, 2026**

We hereby submit the following recording as our official entry into the 46th annual Tejano Music Awards nomination and voting process.

CD TITLE: _____

ARTIST / GROUP: _____

RELEASE DATE (Street Date): _____

RECORD LABEL: _____

ENTRY FORM AND CD MUST BE SUBMITTED TO TTMA BY Sunday, June 21, 2026

We attest that the above recording has been released within the TTMA eligibility period of January 01, 2025, through December 31, 2025, and there are no restrictions, legal or otherwise, that prevent this recording from being included on the Industry and/of General Ballot. **Artists must have actively performed nominated songs or albums within the eligibility period.**

COMPLIANCE: We support and encourage the integrity and professionalism of the Tejano Music Industry. It is understood that submitting ineligible material will immediately disqualify the entry. **Further, in all fairness to everyone, the artist and record company that knowingly submits ineligible material shall come under review and may be barred from participating in the annual Tejano Music Awards for the years of 2026 and 2027.**

AGREED:

Record Label Representative: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Received by: _____ Date: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

TTMA * P.O. Box 761358, San Antonio, TX 78245 * (979) 292-5443 * Fax (210) 679-5989

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

“SONG OF THE YEAR” CRITERIA

(New artist Do Not qualify in this category)

- A. Single must have been released in 2025 or 2026 but must be included in a CD released during the eligibility period of January 01, 2025, through December 31, 2025. This year digital releases released during the eligible periods mentioned above will qualify in this category only. Submitted singles will not qualify for any future Tejano Music Awards.
- B. Singles released prior to the CD release will be eligible and will only qualify in the “Song of the Year” category. CD must be released during the eligibility period is based on single or CD’s release date per criteria above.

Singles released in compilation CD (i.e.) “*The Best of*” are eligible if the single was not previously released or submitted. Artists’ or groups nominating in the Best New Artist categories do not qualify in this or any other category except for the Collaboration of the Year category.
- C. Songs re-released are not eligible if the song was previously submitted for consideration previously. Songs that received minimal airplay will be considered, on a case – by – case basis as decided by the Nominating and Screening Committee.
- D. Only two (2) singles from any album may be nominated during the eligibility period. If both singles become top qualified nominees, the record label and artist will select one song as a finalist to avoid splitting an artist’s vote since it works against the artist. Artist and/or group may only have one single or track nominated in this category.
- E. Include songwriter name and contact information.

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

ALBUM OF THE YEAR CRITERIA

(New artist Do Not qualify in this category)

To qualify in the “Album of the Year” category, sixty percent (60%) of the music tracks must be new (never recorded by the group or artists) or original renditions. Extended Plays (Eps) with at least 5 tracks will be accepted but must have never recorded by the group or artists. Original renditions will be judged and qualified by the Nominating and Screening committee. Albums must be released during the eligibility period and be nominated by the deadline date. Best of or Anniversary CD’s must meet the criteria mentioned above.

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

SONG OF THE YEAR

Maximum two eligible entries per Artist/Group

Singles are eligible if the album or EP is released during the eligibility period. If the singles were released prior to the album's eligibility period, the single must have not been previously submitted for nomination.

Eligible Material - Artist / Group

ARTIST / GROUP: _____

(1)

Songwriter: _____ (Must be filled)

Single / Track Title: _____

Release Date: _____

Album Title: _____

Release Date: _____

(Month / Day / Year)

(2)

Songwriter: _____ (Must be filled)

Single / Track Title: _____

Release Date: _____

(Month / Day / Year)

Album Title: _____

(If Applicable)

Release Date: _____

(Month / Day / Year)

Record Label: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone Number/Email: _____

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards
MALE / FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR
CATEGORIES

(New artist Do Not qualify in this category)

Eligible Material

Artist: _____

Album Title: _____

Release Date: _____
(Month / Day / Year)

Enter the above recording artist in only one of the categories listed below:

Male Vocalist of the Year

Female Vocalist of the Year

Record Label: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards ALBUM OF THE YEAR CATEGORIES

(New artist Do Not qualify in this category)

Eligible Material

Artist: _____

Album Title: _____

Release Date: _____

(Month / Day / Year)

Enter the above recording in only **one** of the categories listed below.

Album of the Year (Tejano)

Album of the Year (Conjunto)

Record Label: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

BEST COLLABORATION CRITERIA

“Best Collaboration of the Year” category submissions will be selected from the “Album of the Year - Tejano” category. Collaborations will include all established artists and groups. Best New Male, Best New Female, and Best New Group collaborations must be on the established artists or groups album. Collaboration must be released during the eligibility period of January 01, 2025, and December 31, 2025, and be nominated by the deadline date.



46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

BEST COLLABORATION

Eligible Artist / Material

Artist / Group: _____

Album Title: _____

Release Date: _____
(Month / Day / Year)

Discography:

Release Date:

Albums: _____

Record Label: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

BEST NEW ARTIST

MALE, FEMALE, AND GROUP CRITERIA

Best New Artists must have recorded no more than 3 CD's. Qualifying must have at least 10 tracks or an Extended Play (EP) with at least 5 tracks. Artists and groups in this category will not be able to nominate in any other category except for Collaboration of the Year category only if the new artist recorded on the established artist album. Once an artist and/or group wins in one of the following categories, they will no longer qualify or be eligible in the Best New Artist Male, Female, or Group categories. The following are the Best New Artist categories.

- Best New Artist - Male
- Best New Artist - Female
- Best New Artists - Group

After verification of eligible nominees by the Nominating and Screening Committee, nominees will be placed on the Official Artists' Voting Ballot.

Entries received after the deadline will not be included in the final tabulation.

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

BEST NEW ARTIST - MALE

Eligible Artist / Material

Artist / Group: _____

Album Title: _____

Release Date: _____
(Month / Day / Year)

Discography: _____ Release Date: _____

Albums: _____

Record Label: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

BEST NEW ARTIST - FEMALE

Eligible Artist / Material

Artist / Group: _____

Album Title: _____

Release Date: _____
(Month / Day / Year)

Discography: _____ **Release Date:** _____

Albums: _____

Record Label: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

BEST NEW ARTIST - GROUP

Eligible Artist / Material

Artist / Group: _____

Album Title: _____

Release Date: _____
(Month / Day / Year)

Discography: _____ Release Date: _____

Albums: _____

Record Label: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

46th Annual Tejano Music Awards

VIDEO of the Year

Eligible Artist / Material

Artist / Group: _____

Video Title: _____

Producers Name: _____

Release Date: _____
(Month / Day / Year)

Discography: _____ Release Date: _____

Albums: _____

Record Label: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____