

Be in the Know

Spring 2026



Grand Auction 2026 *Diamonds in the ROUGH*



2026 Champions of Youth
*Mike & Ellen Way and
Sandy & Jeff Taylor*

The year 2026 marks the 60th anniversary of Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley, and what better way to commemorate our silver jubilee than with our annual Grand Auction. This year's theme, *Diamonds in the Rough*, was a perfect setting to honor Mike and Ellen Way, and Jeff and Sandy Taylor of Prime Time International, as this year's Champions of Youth. The evening commenced with guests being greeted by BGC of CV Club kids and the

Heatwave band, followed by hosted cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the Welcome Reception and Silent Auction featuring 200 items.

This year, more than 600 guests enjoyed a lavish evening at the Grand Hyatt Indian Wells, participating in the bidding for exciting live auction items and raising their paddles to generate essential funds for the organization.

Thank you to this year's generous event sponsors:



John & Joan Foster

Mathis Home (Title), Prime Time International (Dinner), Toyota of the Desert & Honda of the Desert (Silent Auction & Welcome Reception), Denise Maddux (Wine), Margo Ritter (Valet), Rondi Edwards (Live Auction), Moller's Garden Center (Florals), Shields Date Garden, Vintage Nursery, and WD Young & Sons (Bid Paddle). Congratulations to our Best of Live winners, John & Kathy O'Keefe of La Quinta Country Club and our \$10,000 Mathis Home Shopping Spree winners, Dave & Tonya Strickland with Shields Date Garden.



*Dr. Quinton Egson &
Dina Dargis*

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our auction committee and all those who contributed items, as well as to everyone who dedicated their time and efforts to ensure the success of this event. To Sandy Taylor, our auction Chair for the past 16 years, we extend our thanks for consistently exceeding expectations with your creativity, which has created an auction atmosphere for all to appreciate and enjoy. We are grateful to all who participated in the evening, including our volunteers and staff, and to those who were unable to attend but still provided their support for the event; we sincerely thank you. Our Grand Auction stands as our largest annual event. Your ongoing support is essential for us to fulfill our mission to save and enhance the lives of the young people in our community!



*Fred Fagundes,
Tim Stupka & Mike Way*





2026 Youth of the Year
Carlos Mendoza
Mecca Club Member



2026 Grand Auction
"Thank You!"

Congratulations to Carlos Mendoza, Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley's 2026 Youth of the Year! It started at the age of 8 when Carlos joined the Club after spending two years in foster care. Initially, he faced difficulties in forming friendships, was subjected to bullying due to his quiet nature, and dealt with a speech impediment. However, he found a sense of purpose, confidence, and discipline through boxing at the Club. As he transitioned into middle school, Carlos encountered increased challenges stemming from negative influences in his life. Fortunately, Ray Amador, Unit Director for the Mecca Club,

intervened and became a mentor to Carlos, assisting him to manage his anger, cope with anxiety, make positive life choices, and foster accountability. Carlos became a participant in the Passport to Manhood (Palabra) program, where he began to prioritize his education with the ultimate goal of graduating high school.

Additionally, he joined the Torch Club and Keystone Leadership programs offered at the Club, where he learned the significance of service and responsibility. His enthusiasm and participation in soccer and football instilled in him the values of discipline, teamwork, and leadership. Juggling these various activities has equipped him with time management skills and a strong work ethic. Currently, Carlos is a senior in high school with aspirations to graduate and pursue a trade school education.



Ray Amador, Mecca Unit Dir.
& Carlos Mendoza

Message from our Board Chair...

We extend our gratitude to everyone who participated in our Grand Auction on March 14th, as well as to those who contributed through donations or volunteered their time. As summer rapidly approaches, we wish safe travels to those departing or journeying elsewhere, and we appreciate your ongoing support throughout the year. Thank you for all you do!

Lee Osborne

Upcoming Events



Tony Reagins
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF COACHELLA VALLEY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Scholarship Fund
Golf Tournament
Friday, May 1, 2026
The Golf Club at Terra Lago



SAVE THE DATE
 September 18–20, 2026

Southwestern Growers
Invitational



Bermuda Dunes Country Club



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF COACHELLA VALLEY

Save the Date
Grand Auction 2027

Saturday, March 13, 2027
Grand Hyatt Indian Wells

For more information contact
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