# AMAE

### Fresno County... Do you know an exceptionally skilled and effective educator?

## Nominate an outstanding educator for AMAE's 2026 Educator of the Year – Fresno Chapter!

#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Association of Mexican American Educators (AMAE), Inc., is to ensure equal access to financial resources for a quality education for Mexican American/Latino students at all levels, validate and affirm cultural and linguistic diversity, advise local/state boards, legislators, administrators, and faculty on educational and financial policy, work in partnership with parents and communities for the benefit of our students, and advocate for ongoing recruitment, retention, support, and development of Mexican American/Latino educators and all others committed to a top-quality education in the 21st Century for our students.

#### History of El Día del Maestro

Mexico has been celebrating El Día del Maestro (Day of the Teacher) every May 15<sup>th</sup> since 1918. According to Past State AMAE President Magdalena Mellen, in 1917, a group of students in San Luis Potosi began a tradition of honoring their favorite and oldest teacher, Sr. Isidro, on May 15, his birthday. As time passed, the tradition of recognizing teachers spread throughout Mexico. Here in California, the Day of the Teacher was entered into legislation at the request of the Association of Mexican American Educators.

Ms. Mellen states, "Día del Maestro is a day to honor and support the many individuals who accept the challenge of educating today's youth." In 1985, the California legislature declared May 11<sup>th</sup> as California's Day of the Teacher. AMAE, throughout the state of California, continues the tradition of celebrating the Día del Maestro.

AMAE will continue the tradition by honoring its winners at the:

#### AMAE's Día del Maestro Banquet

Date: Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Time: 5:30 p.m. (No Host Bar)

Location: Clovis Veterans Memorial District

808 4<sup>th</sup> Street Clovis, CA 93612

Cost: \$55.00 per person / \$440.00 per table of 8

Mail nominations to the following by February 21st, 2026

AMAE of Fresno, Educator of the Year Committee 6708 N. Woodson Ave. Fresno, CA 93711 or e-mail nominations and or questions to Armida Espinoza at armiespinoza@hotmail.com (559) 287-7238

<sup>\*</sup> Tickets may be purchased by contacting Lisa Delapena @ (559) 917-5224