

# Donald Benavidez

## ***Professional Bio***

Donnie Benavidez has been a guitarist for over 26 years playing various forms of music from Rock, Classical to Flamenco. He acquired a B.A in guitar performance in 1997 and shortly after moved to Albuquerque to study flamenco guitar with Pedro Quadra and Eric Patterson. He recently finished state licensing credentials for teaching and is certified as a K-12 general music, guitar and choir teacher. Donnie performs occasionally with various flamenco artists and solo events around town. Although new to teaching, he comes from a family of educators and has a wealth of resources to utilize.

## ***Educational Philosophy***

Donnie believes that every person should experience music in their scholastic years, whether it is through singing or playing an instrument. If music is instructed with a hands on approach, it can only help to enhance the overall sentiment of the learning experience.

“Just as Jesus created wine from water, we humans are capable on transmuting emotion into music.” Carlos Santana

