

Benavidez Short Biography

Hailed by *Fanfare Magazine* as “a true virtuoso of his instrument”, Justin Benavidez is the newly appointed Associate Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at the Eastman School of Music. He previously held a similar faculty position at Florida State University. In the summer, he teaches and performs at the Round Top Summer Music Festival in Round Top, Texas.

Benavidez has performed across North America, Europe, and Japan. He has been featured numerous times on APM’s *Performance Today* radio program. His debut solo album, *Emblems*, won Silver Medals in the Classical Album and Solo Instrumentalist categories of the Global Music Awards. The *International Tuba Euphonium Association Journal* described it as “an impressive and highly entertaining record” on which Benavidez “shreds with enthusiasm, exuberance, and precision”. His second album, *Storyteller*, also won Silver Medals in the Classical Album and Solo Instrumentalist categories of the Global Music Awards. *Fanfare Magazine* described it as “splendidly eloquent [...] a masterclass in expressiveness” with a sound that is “gloriously warm and comforting”.

As an orchestral musician, Benavidez has performed as tubist with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic, Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, and Utah Symphony. He was previously the principal tuba of the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra.

Benavidez is a Melton Meinl Weston and Denis Wick performing artist.

Benavidez Full Biography

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Benavidez has been a prizewinner of multiple international solo competitions. He is the only tubist to have been awarded the New Horizons Fellowship and the Orchestral Fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival where he was a student for six summers, held the principal tuba chair in the festival orchestra, and was the winner of the prestigious Aspen Music Festival concerto competition. Benavidez was the distinguished recipient of the Horace H. Rackham Merit Fellowship for doctoral studies at the University of Michigan and was presented with the UM Paul Boylan Award for outstanding accomplishments and significant contributions in the field of music.

As a scholar, Benavidez was awarded the McKnight Faculty Fellowship to complete his research on the most significant solo repertoire for tuba, culminating in a critical volume that will be published by Oxford University Press. He serves as editor-in-chief for the *ITEA Journal* and was the editor for *Flow Studies* through Mountain Peak Music, a daily routine regimen for tuba.

As one of today's leading educators, Benavidez is frequently invited to present master classes and perform as a guest recitalist at preeminent universities, workshops, and conferences. Notable invitations have included Indiana University, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Michigan, the Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo, the Bern University of the Arts in Switzerland, the Lyon Conservatory of Music, the Paris Conservatory of Music, the United States Army Band Tuba Euphonium Workshop, and multiple International Tuba Euphonium Conferences. He was awarded the Florida State University Teaching Award in 2021. Benavidez's students have distinguished themselves through numerous accomplishments and awards, including first place prizes at international competitions, assistantships for graduate study, performing positions with professional ensembles, and teaching positions at secondary and collegiate institutions.

Benavidez is a Melton Meinl Weston and Denis Wick performing artist. He performs on his Meinl Weston 2182W F tuba and Nirschl York CC tuba.