



## BENJAMIN AYSAN—TURKISH CALLIGRAPHER



Benjamin Aysan is an artist and teacher from the city of Van in eastern Turkey. He has lived in America since 2010 and has spent his time in this country advocating for his culture and serving his community. Ben has also practiced traditional Turkish calligraphy since 2013. He works in both Arabic and Latin lettering.

In Turkey, Arabic calligraphy is called *Hüsn-i Hat*, or “good writing”. It has been practiced for hundreds of years. To this day, Islamic artists decorate the walls of mosques with passages from the Quran. They make calligraphic works with pens made from reeds and ink made from soot. Many modern calligraphers like Ben now use mechanical pens and italic versions of European letters.

Ben is available to teach workshops and create custom pieces at his email, [bunyaminaysan@gmail.com](mailto:bunyaminaysan@gmail.com). He designed this kit alongside the Heritage Arts department of Rivers of Steel. Kits were distributed through the Carnegie Library of Homestead.

This project by Rivers of Steel is supported by the Campbell Education and Community Foundation, in partnership with the Carnegie Library of Homestead.



Are you a folk or traditional artist? Are you looking for other cultural experiences to explore? You can visit [riversofsteel.com](http://riversofsteel.com) or contact our Heritage Arts Coordinator Jon Engel at [jengel@riversofsteel.com](mailto:jengel@riversofsteel.com) for more information.

**RIVERS  
OF STEEL**

623 East Eighth Avenue  
Homestead, Pennsylvania 15120  
412.464.4020 [riversofsteel.com](http://riversofsteel.com)