

Bi+Pride 2022: Speeches in English

(chronological order)



1. Frank's Bi+Pride Speech

- initiator of the Bi+Pride
- active bi+ activist
- teacher in Hamburg
- co-founder of the initiative TeachOut
- author of queer stories for children
- and a lot more

Bi+Pride 2022 - the second Bi+Pride in Germany. Do we actually say "der Bi+Pride" or "die Bi+Pride"? We could not find anything clear. Maybe genderfluid. So: Second Bi+Pride in Germany.

I am so proud of you, I am so proud of us. It's great that you are all there!

Visibility is so incredibly important. For us bisexuals, pansexual, polysexual, omnisexual, multisexual, biromantic, panromantic, homo- and heteroflexible, queers and allies.

It means a lot to me that this year our Orga team has again has put this together again this year. Many. Thanks to all of you - Karin, Christoph, Alex, Charly, Andreas, Daniele, Bettina, but also new Silvia and Isabel. And then Nadia and Yas as moderators. And DJane Luise Bass. And without our angels and other helping hands it would not work. It's nice that you exist!

Thanks to our sponsors - and here we don't have to be ashamed of ourselves, because they are great associations and organizations:

BiNe - Bisexuelles Netzwerk e. V., the LSVD, Hamburg Pride, the Equality Authority, IWWIT from the Aidshilfe and Echte Vielfalt or the Ministry of Social Affairs of Schleswig-Holstein.

It was a hell of a lot of work. And so many hours went into the organization. But when I think about the reactions last year that people felt finally and for the first time really comfortable and felt like they belonged at our Bi+Pride, then it was worth it.

This year again. Nice that you are all there!

This year we have managed something new: Sign language will be interpreted. And we also have a speech by a Black Activist: thanks to Ewane for being there. And Rosa speaks for people with disabilities. I am so proud of you!

But unfortunately, we didn't find any queer refugees to give a speech, although we have been looking very hard for the second year... If someone is here and spontaneously wants to speak, please contact us or use the open mic at the end of the demo.

The Bi+Pride is not absolutely inclusive. Unfortunately, no. But we do everything we can to make it as inclusive as possible. Help us keep moving forward. Become a member of the orga team. Share your ideas with us. Help shape 2023. Do not hesitate. We are looking forward to seeing you.

And I will never get tired of emphasizing that the Trans*Community is interwoven with the Bi+Community. We stand side by side and behind each other and are there for each other.

Unfortunately, there are again enough tears for trans* people to cry this year. Shit.

We demand that the action plan at the federal level be supported with all of our democratic voices, that all of our bi+ amendments are included, dear Sven Lehmann, that bi+ asylum seekers do not hide in an opposite-sex partnership, because that violates the ECJ. That the health care system should know the specifics of bi+ people. That especially bi+ women are protected from assault. That queer participation is also implemented in broadcasting and media institutions. That education about bi+ is provided at schools. And that Bi flags are hoisted in Germany and beyond and ensure visibility.

Happy Bi+ Pride! Bi five!



2. Veo's Bi+Pride Speech

- On TikTok "Veoja".
- 25 years old, from Hamburg and has 720,000 followers on TikTok.
- bisexual and genderfluid, and openly shows and discusses this on TikTok and in live streams.
- Veo also teaches people about LGBTQ+.

My dears!

I am really immensely happy that today we could and still can celebrate the Bi+Pride together and demonstrate together. Because, let's be honest, how often have we had to hear:

"Make up your mind", "Actually, you are gay/lesbian" or "I don't enter into a relationship with bisexuals". I do not enter into a relationship with bisexuals, they cheat"!

Prejudices and statements that have nothing to do with sexuality itself. A sexuality does not make you a cheater. A sexuality is not a decision, we cannot "decide", because it is not a decision.

Not only do we, like all other queer people, have to assert ourselves in the face of the heteronormative world. We also have to assert ourselves within our own community. A struggle that some sexualities and gender identities experience. We all know the discrimination. We all want to be accepted for our own sake. We know the problem, and yet there is a lot of discrimination within our community.

We need to stick together, stand up together for all of our rights, not just for our own. Because we are not alone in this fight.

We will never be alone in this. We will never be alone in this fight.

Let us all make ourselves strong together. Not only for ourselves, but also for our neighbors! Because no matter which part of the community you belong to: You are right and good, just the way you are! Your sexuality is right, your gender identity is right. YOU are right.



3. Nadine Primo's Bi+Pride Speech

- influencer
- author
- bi+activist

Hello Hamburg, I am happy to be here today.

With my work as a bi activist and freelance writer, I have been pursuing the goal of creating more visibility for the topic of bisexuality/Bi+ for years. So I'm especially happy to see so many faces.

I'm simply trying to be the role model I wished having earlier. If I had, I'm sure I would have been out sooner and asked myself a few less questions; experienced a few less crises of meaning.

There are still experiences of discrimination that we are subjected to in everyday life. This is supported not only by the results of several studies dealing with the mental health status of members of the queer community, but also by your personal negative experiences you might have had in the past.

We are a part of the lgbtqia+ community. Statistically the biggest, but by far not the best known group. No wonder so much ignorance and prejudice continues to be present. Even within the queer community, there is occasional prejudice and hostility.

So it's especially important to me that we all remember once again that we should join together. That we focus on what we want to achieve together, rather than what makes us different; drives us away from each other - labels us differently.

Only together we can ensure that all people can live freely; can live out their lives. Without having to fear rejection, violence - whether psychological or physical - degradation because of their gender; their sexual identity; their sexual orientation, their origin or their faith.

And now I wish us all a wonderful day, an awesome demo and many beautiful moments and encounters. I am happy about every person who is here today and wants to celebrate together with us. Let's have fun and take care of each other! Cheers.



4. Ewane's Bi+Pride Speech

- Musician and Social Entrepreneur
- Born in Cameroon
- Grown up in two different worlds. On the one hand in a privileged world in Lüneburg and on the other hand in a world with a lot of depths and domestic violence in Hamburg.
- Visionary

Dear all,

There must be a jolt through all spheres of our society. By this I mean a jolt towards the courage to break through old ways of thinking from a time when the oppression of those who think differently was still completely accepted.

To take up this courage, to fill the open as well as positive spirit of our times with life, to be able to shape the analog and digital networking between us people worldwide fairly, on an equal footing, is a historic task!

We adults can serve as role models for every person of school age, for every person under the age of six - in other words, for those of kindergarden age - in order to give a generation the opportunity to develop an attitude through which they can meet

all people, regardless of their sexual orientation, on an equal footing.

For this task, we can use digital media to show ourselves. Artists:, musicians: and producers: as well as activists: have these possibilities to make freedom, equality and equal rights visible. But we have to use analogous possibilities as well to accomplish this task. The atomization of people in our time, especially people in cities, must be countered with open spaces, with new centers of publics. The Corona pandemic is not causally responsible for the ghosting of our inner cities, but it has made us all feel this trend of transforming inner cities; spaces of the public sphere that were previously less about meeting and more about consumption. This development is one of those many opportunities of our days that we must consciously seize in order to create livable places where exchange, openness and encounter are lived. An example to make this a bit more tangible is shown to me by the refugees from Syria. These Syrian people have outstanding practical skills, skills for which they cannot yet receive public recognition at the moment: because there are hardly any places to enable them to exchange with each other and, above all, with the other people in our society.

Whether a man loves a man, whether a woman loves a woman, or opposite-sex people, whether a person is pan-sexual, all this should not create barriers. But this can only be ensured if we all make ourselves visible. Visible in institutions. Visible in politics. Visible in hospitals. Visible in the city. Visible on the street and visible on the Internet.

It's not a challenge, it's an opportunity. Setting the right course now.

Now we are generating attention through digital media - and with that we have a democratic power option. We are a generation that can now reach more and more chief posts and push the right buttons for more acceptance and normality on a political and social level.

I was born in 1988, so fortunately I grew up in the digital age and with an open diversity of music and song lyrics. This has shown me that people from a time long ago, have a mindset that is not normal, an unfair mindset.

My assumptions were strengthened by the fact that I was able to get to know people from all over the world through the Internet, for example through Facebook, and was thus able to experience many humane and just points of view, giving me the courage to break through entrenched patterns of discriminatory ways of thinking through art, through my role model function as a black musician in Germany, and to fill justice with life.

In my function as a role model, I would like to promote democracy. This includes meeting all people, regardless of their sexual orientation, religion or origin, on an equal footing.

Together, with great role models from the arts and society, we can break through the discrimination that the majority in this country has only become aware of as an integral part of our society in recent years - people who are different have been aware of this fact since early childhood!

Thank you for your attention!



5. Rosa's Bi+Pride Speech

- Bisexual, married to a man -
- moved from Switzerland to Hamburg 2 years ago
- Wheelchair user with assistance dog
- Actively advocates for more inclusion
- Assists people with assistance dogs with access problems
- Can be found with her own assistance dog Elvis on Instagram
@space_poodle_elvis

We are all here today to advocate for more visibility for bi+sexual people. Too often we are forgotten, ignored or not taken seriously. People wonder if we really exist, or if we just "haven't decided yet."

I would also like to use my speaking time for people with disabilities. Because we too are often forgotten. Even though sexual orientations and gender identities also exist in great variety within the disabled community, the dialogue - if at all - still begins with the question: "Can you even have sex at all?". Disabled bodies are not considered normal, not considered desirable. Sexuality and intimacy are simply unimaginable.

This can have fatal consequences. If the image dominates that a disabled person's autonomously sexual activity seems absurd, then there is little space for dialogue. There is little education or official places to reach out to. We all know how difficult it can be to connect with like-minded people as a bisexual person. To connect with like-minded people, to be seemingly invisible.

For people with disabilities there are some additional barriers. In order to be able to participate in an event like today, additional obstacles have to be overcome. Depending on the event, we need sign language interpreters, who have to be available and paid. The venue and the way to it must be wheelchair accessible. Many are dependent on assistance, with which one then also first comes out and - the recurring theme being taken seriously. These are just a few examples.

We depend on others to think of us, listen to us and plan for us.

For those affected, invisibility is not only frustrating, but also dangerous. On average, 5% of all adult women have experienced violence themselves. Among women with disabilities this figure is significantly higher at 75%. Adult women with disabilities are also up to three times as often as non-disabled women. For men with disabilities, the figures are somewhat lower, but still significantly higher than those of non-disabled men. Violence is primarily perpetrated where there are dependencies and power imbalances. Let us think here of the approximately 200,000 disabled people living in institutions in Germany and the approximately 330,000 disabled people who work in workshops.

Even if sexuality is a taboo subject, people question themselves and their preferences. This does not mean that there are fewer queer people. But there is a lack of help and support, and people are left alone with their questions and problems.

We are all here today to ensure more visibility. Let's make sure that all bisexual people are invited. Think about people with disabilities when organizing events.

Ask, listen and think outside the box. Let's make the bisexual community together as accessible as possible, so that no one has to remain invisible. Thank you.



6. Alva Träbert's Bi+Pride Speech

- speaks for the federal board of the LSVD (Lesbian and Gay Association in Germany)

- not provided –



7. Becca's Bi+Pride Speech

- speaks on behalf of the Church Out initiative

Hi, I'm Becca.

... I'm standing here today because I'm part of the Out In Church initiative. Who of you can relate to that?

I'm standing here today because I'm studying theology - and I'm an active Girl Scout. So I volunteer for the Catholic Church and plan to do that full-time someday. I'm also queer - somewhere on the bi+spectrum.

I'm standing here today because since February this year, I'm one of many Catholic full-time and volunteer queer people who are publicly outed. We did that with a campaign that initially had over

100 people making an impact. This year, it even won the Honorary Pride Award here in Hamburg - and with a film whose makers received the Catholic Media Award in August. The film is called "Wie Gott uns schuf" (~*How God created us*) and can be found in the ARD Mediathek. There you can also find individual videos of about 100 people, who all make a personal outing. An outing that is also a testimony of faith.

Because we tell of experiences of discrimination and pain that we have suffered at the hands of the Catholic Church. And at the same time make visible that we believe. And not only that; we are all in relationships of dependence to the Church - to a Church that we love.

And I have the impression that we have already achieved a lot with our campaign: many people within church structures are beginning to see our experiences of discrimination, and people outside now understand a bit more why we nevertheless attach our hearts to this church. We have achieved a lot

simply by being VISIBLE. In doing so, we have taken space for ourselves - and perhaps opened a door for people who wonder if they are welcome.

We have done something we cannot get behind. And in doing so, we have freed ourselves - of secrets that could have cost some their jobs and everyone their ideas for the future. And above all, we have freed ourselves of the fear that we felt before - and for years.

And for the most part, we got back joy, pride, recognition, solidarity, understanding and, above all, a little bit of freedom.

So here I stand today: Catholic and queer, out and proud! Of all of us!



8. Arndt Klocke's Bi+Pride Speech

- member of the State
Parliament and member of
the NRW GRÜNEN
parliamentary group since
2010

- not provided -



9. Falko Droßmann's Bi+Pride Speech

- speaks as a Hamburg SPD
member of parliament and
spokesman of the Working
Group for Queer Policy in the
German Bundestag.

- not provided -



10. Christ*ph's Bi+Pride Speech

- speaks on behalf of the board of BiNe, the bisexual network e. V.

- not provided -