

Bio Leyb Elias

Leyb Elias was born in 1997. Leyb attended the Otto-Falckenberg Schule from 2016 to 2020, and attended multiple further education courses. Leyb won the Studienpreis der Migros-Kulturprozent. They currently live in Berlin. A few years ago, Leyb came out as non-binary.

Leyb has been a professional actor since 2020 and has performed in various productions for television, film, and theatre.

Apart from acting Leyb is politically active as queer rights activist among other things, striving to achieve visibility for multiple marginalized groups and communities in and outside the performing arts industry.

Together with their sister Hannah they are engaged in work of remembering in the third generation after the Holocaust, speaking in front of people or taking part in formats on how to shape commemoration and memory work

Leyb is a grandchild of Bernd (Buddy) Elias, a first cousin of Anne Frank. Leyb's grandfather Buddy liked to tell Leyb and their sister Hannah stories, including about his favorite cousin Anne Frank, who was four years younger than him. He gave his two grandchildren Anne Frank's diary when they were twelve years old. Leyb has read the diary several times and feels a responsibility connected to Anne's history:

"Through the phenomenon that Anne has become, I have been given a voice. I feel that I have no choice but to act. Because hate, discrimination, and violence are not limited to one time, one place, or one people. Anne believed that we can all make a difference. And she was right when she wrote the most meaningful thought: 'How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world!'"

At the request of the Anne Frank House and EveryMedia, Leyb collaborated in 2025 on a new eight-part series, *Anne Frank was here*. In the series, Leyb visits the places Anne Frank once visited and takes the viewer along in Anne's footsteps. The series is a moving journey featuring special encounters and personal reflections, complemented by historical footage. The series will be released on 16 April 2026 on <https://www.youtube.com/annefrank>.

