

Stephan Kaps

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BIOGRAPHY

Stephan Kaps, 40 years old, is head of cultural department at Volkshochschule Hannover, Germany, a UNESCO City of Music where he started in 2014. Before studying fine arts at Hochschule für Bildende Künste in Braunschweig he followed a training as breathing, speech and voice teacher method Schlaffhorst-Andersen. He finished his MA in adult education at TU Kaiserslautern with a Eurovision themed thesis. Since several years, Stephan organizes events with ESC as topic. If he had to choose his favourite song, it will be a tight between “Wunder gibt es immer wieder” (Katja Ebstein) and “Dancing Lasha Tumbai” (Verka Serdutchka), but as we all learned: “Ein Lied kann eine Brücke sein” (Joy Fleming, “A song can be a bridge”).

ABSTRACT

The Eurovision Song Contest and its relevance in the context of adult education” was the title of the master thesis of Stephan Kaps. It starts with a quote of Joy Flemings 1975 entry “Ein Lied kann eine Brücke sein” and the Eurovision Song Contest is such a bridge, where every not it like a brick that you need to connect different parts of the world. The main questions where, how the ESC can be a relevant factor and a topic within adult education. What can people learn from this contest? What political aspects does this non-political event have? How can you use the ESC as vehicle to teach about politics and trans-culture? How queer is the contest?

Focus in the lecture will be a short presentation of the findings if the master thesis followed by an exchange of thoughts and relevant topics how you might use the Eurovision Song Contest in an adult education setting.