

Team Canada's Quinn Makes History as First Nonbinary, Transgender Athlete to Win Olympic Gold

An athlete made history at the Tokyo Olympics Friday, not only by winning a gold medal but by being the first openly transgender athlete to do so. Quinn, 25, is a midfielder on Canada's women's soccer team, which beat Sweden 3-2 in a penalty shootout.

Canada won its first gold medal in women's soccer on Friday at #Tokyo2020, making one of the team's starters, Quinn, the first openly transgender and nonbinary athlete to win an Olympic medal.

— The New York Times (@nytimes) August 6, 2021

Quinn, who uses only one name, played soccer for Duke University and now plays for the OL Reign professional women's soccer team, based in Tacoma, Washington. In 2020, this biologically female player came out on social media as nonbinary (neither male nor female, outside the binary gender norms laid out in Genesis 1:27) and transgender, revealing her preferred pronouns as they/them, *People* reports.

After Canada's women's team defeated the U.S. in the semifinals earlier in the week, Quinn reported receiving "messages from young people saying they've never seen a trans person in sports before."

"Athletics is the most exciting part of my life and it brings me the most joy," Quinn told CBC Sports. "If I can allow kids to play the sports they love, that's my legacy and that's what

I'm here for."

Quinn also made history earlier in the Tokyo Games as the first transgender, nonbinary person to compete in the Olympics. On July 22, the athlete posted to Instagram about the experience: