

Angelina Usanova

Biography

Angelina Usanova is a 26-year-old Ukrainian eco-activist, philanthropist, musician, yoga master, as well as Miss Universe Ukraine 2023 and Miss Eco International 2024. Vegan.

Early Years and School Days

Angelina was born on the 7th of August 1997 in Kyiv, Ukraine, into a family of educators. Both of Angelina's parents are teachers, and her grandmother is an honored teacher of Ukraine.

She grew up surrounded by kindness and love. At one point, Angelina's grandmother revived an ancient Ukrainian carpet embroidery technique and created embroidered paintings using this method. This led to the establishment of a family business, in which Angelina, like her younger brother, participated as a child. It was here that she first learned the values of dedicated work, persistence, and creativity.

When it was time for school, her parents enrolled Angelina in Peace School No. 211, associated with UNESCO. Little did anyone know that one day Angelina Usanova would become an activist and philanthropist, fully embracing UNESCO's values, which perfectly reflect her own beliefs. Even as a child, she gravitated towards helping people and caring for every living creature around her, becoming an ambassador for numerous charity projects at her school.

‘On est de son enfance comme on est d'un pays’
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

English class was part of the curriculum from the first year of school, and Angelina consistently earned top marks in her studies. She graduated from the school with distinction, receiving a Gold Medal.

Additionally, the school placed a strong emphasis on environmental protection. Angelina takes particular pride in her involvement in the ‘European Schools for

Living Planet' project in 2012, when she was 15 years old. Organized by the World Wildlife Fund and the Erste Foundation, this initiative aimed to inspire youth to advocate for nature and develop solutions to environmental issues. As a leader of the Ukrainian team for this project, Angelina represented her country in Romania alongside other European school teams. Their project, focused on cleaning the Dnipro River, earned victory for Ukraine.

Alongside her regular schooling, Angelina began studying piano and composition at the music conservatory at the age of 7. She spent 7 years of studies there and also graduated with a Gold Medal.

A few notable achievements: at just 7-8 years old, during her first year at the music school, Angelina performed her debut solo piano concert, playing pieces by Bach and Beethoven. In the same year, she participated in a major city contest for young pianists. Since then, she has continued to participate in contests and concerts annually as both a pianist and composer, earning laureate awards in Ukrainian and international competitions, achieving numerous victories.

She excelled both academically and musically. In recognition of her outstanding academic and musical achievements, she received multiple financial scholarships from the city government as a 'Talented Youth'.

Angelina fondly recalls her time at the Peace School as the catalyst for her dreams of experiencing other countries and cultures through international engagement. The school's primary focus was on promoting peace, fostering connections with children from different nations by exchanging letters, gifts, and drawings. 'I remember us kids drawing beautiful islands to send messages to our friends abroad, and I saw those islands as dream destinations on our planet Earth, seemingly out of reach,' Angelina recollects.

Academic and Professional Development

After a vibrant school life, the future activist entered Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv to study linguistics on a budgetary basis. However, she soon decided to quit her studies there when she relocated to Europe. Angelina successfully passed the entrance exam and was admitted to a University in

Switzerland to study biotechnology. This is where she began learning French and German and initiated her study of Japanese, thus expanding her linguistic repertoire.

While living in Switzerland, Angelina actively engaged in charity work as a volunteer. Switzerland, known as a haven for refugees, provided her with the opportunity to volunteer in a kindergarten with African children whose families had sought refuge from Northern and Central Africa in Switzerland.

As a multifaceted talent, while living in Switzerland, Angelina participated in marathons organized by the World Wildlife Fund to raise funds for animal welfare. She delved into the world of technology and became an auctioneer for a prominent Swiss cryptocurrency company. Additionally, she pursued photography, receiving guidance from globally renowned photographers and expanding her studies to include photo tours in Iceland and beyond.

Angelina's childhood dreams came true during this period of time – she visited more than 64 countries around the globe, enriching her understanding of various cultures and peoples.

At the age of 21, Angelina realized that biotechnology was not her true calling, despite her keen interest in the human body and health studies. Instead, she felt a genuine interest in yoga, viewing it as her life's mission and philosophy. This courageous decision to embark on a new path again was guided by her inner compass, a trait she had always possessed.

She was 22 years old when the pandemic began. Angelina returned to composing music and painting while delving deeper into the study of yoga.

Achievements and contributions

Music

As a result of what resumed during the pandemic, Angelina Usanova's [SoundCloud](#) now features over 10 original songs that she composed and performed. Many of them are also available on her [YouTube](#) channel, accompanied by music videos, alongside Angelina's podcast about femininity.

Angelina's passion for music serves as an extension of her philanthropic spirit, providing a platform for self-expression, empowerment, and advocacy for peace and ecology. Her dedication to femininity, as reflected in her YouTube podcast, underscores her commitment to empowering women and promoting self-discovery.

Angelina's song 'Earth' was released on Earth Day, April 22nd, and is dedicated to the importance of treating nature with care and love, and preserving our common home. Now, her new song 'Truth is Love' is set to be launched at WIBA, the World's Influencers & Bloggers Awards in Cannes on May 24th.

Currently, Angelina is collaborating with a professional producer to further her career as a singer. 'By the way, most of my songs are inspired by documentary movies about our planet,' Angelina admits.

Yoga

Angelina is committed to making yoga her life's path. She underwent training at the Sivananda Austria Ashram, completing the first level for 'yoga teacher' twice. Each time, she spent a month in the Austrian Alps, immersing herself in yoga philosophy and fundamentals. Last year, Angelina traveled to India to attain the highest level in yoga, studying in the Himalayas and delving into the teachings of ancient sages. It was during this journey that she earned the title of Yoga Acharya, having studied Sanskrit.

That was the period when the full-scale war started in Ukraine. Angelina dedicated herself to working with monks and attended His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama's 88th birthday celebration in Dharamshala on Sunday, July 9th, 2023.

Angelina's journey has been deeply transformative, with yoga playing a pivotal role in this evolution. Initially seeking inner introspection, yoga became an integral part of Angelina's life, surprisingly leading her to the Miss Universe Ukraine casting. Her deep connection with yoga paved the way for her public persona, blending with her advocacy for sustainability and well-being.

Books

Inspired by so many insights, she began writing her first children's book, 'My Home'. Concerned about the younger generation, Angelina aims to educate children on treating their bodies and our planet Earth properly. The book 'My Home' was first published in Ukrainian last autumn and now it's translated into English, French, German, and Spanish to reach a wider audience of children.

Currently, Angelina is working on two more books: one is a nonfiction book, and the other is a culinary book titled 'How to Be Vegan Not to Die', which is dedicated to her efforts in promoting healthy and delicious vegan eating. 'A vegan diet is the most ecologically friendly way of eating, among other benefits,' Angelina says. She is passionate about promoting sustainable living through veganism and feels like sharing with more people the idea of tasty and meaningful vegan food.

Eco Advocacy

Amidst the turmoil of war and environmental crisis, Angelina Usanova is channeling her efforts towards social causes, driven by her passion for ecological preservation and sustainable living. The environmental devastation wrought by the conflict in Ukraine, as well as the worldwide issue of plastic usage harming ecology and wildlife, is one of Angelina's major concerns as an activist. This concern is reflected in her music video for the recently launched song 'Earth' and her participation in Miss Eco International, driven by the desire to make a positive change. Angelina is devoted to persuading people to reduce their use of plastic and utilize personal belongings in a sustainable manner. 'We should be planting trees to make our planet greener and healthier, instead of depleting its resources and spreading plastic,' Angelina emphasizes. This sphere is a particular focus of Angelina's efforts, and she aims to further enhance her impact in this area.

Charity

(See Attachment 1 for list of events held)

‘The war caught me in ashrams in Austria,’ Angelina shares, ‘where I was studying. Then my friend and I immediately organized humanitarian aid for Ukrainians - we assisted with housing, food, and medicine. Later, I continued my volunteer work by organizing charity concerts.’

Angelina is devoted to assisting and uplifting Ukrainian children who have been deeply affected by the ravages of war. Her philanthropic efforts stem from a sincere desire to alleviate suffering and bring joy to those in need. Angelina supports schools, hospitals, and orphanages in Ukraine, and during the war period, she performed concerts in France and Switzerland, singing and playing the piano, to promote peace in Ukraine and raise funds for charity.

Collaborating with her Miss Universe sisters, she launched the @SM4Good (social media for good) initiative on Instagram, aimed at harnessing social media for charitable deeds.

Angelina Usanova has established a charity foundation to assist talented Ukrainian children in pursuing their musical talents. The foundation will organize music festivals in Ukraine and Europe to support the young generation of Ukrainians in developing their musical talents worldwide. ‘Happiness is a birthright,’ Angelina always says. As a musician herself, she understands firsthand how crucial it is to have opportunities to develop one's talent.

Angelina’s work for the sake of peace and eco-initiatives, such as building retreat centers for Ukrainians, reflects a commitment to post-war recovery. Two retreat centers are being built currently, one nestled in the Carpathian mountains, and another one in the USA. The concept is innovative and transcendental, featuring mirrored buildings in the forest, symbolizing the reflection and unity between our inner and outer selves and nature, as well as spiritual renewal and harmony. These centers aim to facilitate post-war recovery, offering solace and healing to Ukrainians, whose health is immensely impacted by the war.

Reconstruction of a fountain – a gift for the city of Kyiv

During the pandemic, Angelina managed the ‘Wake Up Ukraine’ project. Every Saturday morning at 6 am, participants gathered for training sessions all around the country. In Kyiv, the main venue for the training sessions was around the

fountain. ‘The fountain was in rather poor condition,’ Angelina explains, ‘and I wanted to reconstruct it to make it a place of strength for people. The reconstruction began even before the invasion. During the war, I made some adjustments. When I heard the story of a woman whose husband had died in the war, we decided to create sculptures of a man and a woman in the center of the lotus, symbolizing the eternal energy of love and harmony that never dies. Today, the fountain is called ‘Renaissance’. It was where I was crowned Miss Universe Ukraine and was launched on the very same date.’

Media

(See Attachment 2 for links)

Angelina's commitment to effecting tangible change in the world, along with her influence in fashion, has garnered her widespread acclaim and recognition in the media. She graced covers of Vogue Beauty Ukraine, ELLE Ukraine, L'Officiel Monaco, was featured in Times Monaco, Forbes Portugal, Forbes France, L'Officiel Cyprus, etc.

She was invited to grace the covers of L'Officiel Austria and Vogue Travel Czech, both in print, scheduled to be featured in August and October of this year, respectively.

Titles and Awards

‘I am just a girl who, by the way, never dreamed of a crown, title, or the role of ‘Miss’ in society’

Angelina Usanova

Still, Angelina Usanova rose to prominence upon clinching the title of the 72nd **Miss Universe Ukraine** in 2023. Her captivating presence at the Miss Universe competition in El Salvador in November 2023, adorned in a national costume

symbolizing a Bereginya, the Mother with a child, mesmerized both spectators and judges alike. Presently, a documentary film depicting the experiences of Ukrainian refugees through the perspective of Miss Universe Ukraine is being filmed by a production company based in the USA.

Angelina was crowned **Miss Eco International 2024** in Cairo in April after surpassing 42 candidates. As a Queen, she is committed to advancing environmental awareness and ecotourism. Angelina entered the contest with a deep sense of purpose and determination, intending to shed light on the ecological impact of war in Ukraine.

Thanks to her successful charitable project @SM4GOOD on Instagram she was called for an award at **WIBA**, the World's Influencers and Bloggers Awards, which will be held on 24th of May in Cannes. Her new song 'Truth is Love' is set to premiere at WIBA.

The General Directorate of the All-Ukrainian Scientific Research Center for Effective Management, together with the Council of Experts of the International Program 'Leaders of the 21st Century,' has decided to award Angelina Usanova with the international **Order of Queen Anna 'Honor of the Homeland'** and the international **Order of Saint Sophia** for her outstanding public activity, charitable efforts, and successful professional endeavors.

The laureates of the **Order of Saint Sophia** are women who, through their professional, charitable, and social activities, contribute to the development of all spheres of modern life in Ukraine. They are informal leaders in various fields and influence the public life of the country. Ukrainian women who inspire and motivate.

The **Order of Queen Anna 'Honor of the Homeland'** is established in honor of Queen Anna Yaroslavna – daughter of the Grand Prince of Kyiv Yaroslav the Wise and Queen of France – with the aim of recognizing outstanding women of modern Ukraine. It is awarded for remarkable contributions in various fields of public activity, including state, industrial, social, scientific, educational, cultural, philanthropic, and other spheres. It is presented with appropriate protocol honors under the State Flag of Ukraine in the presence of an armed military honor guard, a general, and senior officers of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

accompanied by the National Presidential Orchestra of Ukraine of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine." The Awarding ceremony will be held on the 20th of June in Kyiv, Ukraine.

‘My dedication to music, exemplified by my recent song releases, serves as a conduit for raising awareness and fostering unity. Music remains integral to my life, enabling me to express my femininity and contribute to a brighter future for all, especially children. Happiness is a birthright, and I believe beauty comes with a mission. What could be a more beautiful mission than making our world better, peaceful, and more sustainable for all of us?’

Angelina Usanova

Attachment 1

List of charitable events held by Angelina Usanova during 2023-2024:

October 2nd, 2023

Leusden, Netherlands (outside of Amsterdam)

Angelina visited ‘The Cube,’ a Refugee Center based in the town of Leusden, just outside of Amsterdam. The Cube was established by a local business named AFAS Software and houses Ukrainian refugees as they acclimate and settle in the Netherlands. Angelina met with the Ukrainian families, the support staff, and the local Mayor who helped permit the conversion of the building to a refugee center.

December 10th, 2023

Nice, France

Angelina organized a concert and raised awareness and funds for Ukraine at the Chateau De Cremat. Local Ukrainian dignitaries attended the event and participated in a night of performances and music in support of Ukraine.

December 12th, 2023

Warsaw, Poland

Angelina visited SWRK Pontes, an Art Therapy Class for Ukrainian women. She met with the local Ukrainian women and enjoyed the opportunity to make art in one of the classes; they also sang ‘Shchedrik.’

December 13th, 2023

Torun, Poland

Angelina traveled to Torun and hosted a dinner for local Ukrainian refugee women displaced by the war. They spoke about their experiences.

December 14th, 2023

Torun, Poland

Angelina visited the Good for Good Foundation where she helped prepare donated goods to be shipped to Ukraine. While there, Angelina met with Tatiana Dembska, the CEO of the foundation, and also joined her for an interview on Ukrainian Radio Torun to discuss her advocacy for the Ukrainian Cause. Angelina also attended a press conference with representatives of various organizations and institutions that support refugees in Torun. It was held during Polish elections to motivate Polish citizens to support aid to Ukraine. While in Torun, Angelina visited two Ukrainian integration centers. First was the Polish-Ukrainian Home, an integration center where children learn about both Polish and Ukrainian cultures to help them integrate into their new countries. The second was Connector, which helps integrate Ukrainian mothers who have fled and live in Torun.

March 16th, 2024

Stockholm, Sweden

Angelina visited the UNHCR Headquarters in Stockholm and met with Ms. Annika Sandlund Bio Link, who is the High Commissioner for Refugees in the Nordic and Baltic Region. Angelina discussed ongoing support for Ukrainians displaced and living in the Nordic countries.

March 19th, 2024

Copenhagen, Denmark

Angelina visited a Ukrainian youth group meeting. She talked with the youth and listened to their stories and how they are coping in their new surroundings.

March 20th, 2024

Copenhagen, Denmark

Angelina visited the Danish Refugee Council - [Website](#) and met the Secretary General of the Danish Refugee Council, Charlotte Slente - [Bio](#). They discussed the support their organization is providing Ukrainians in Denmark and the impact it is having on those refugees.

March 22nd, 2024

Vienna, Austria

Arriving in Vienna, Angelina met with Danya and Dzivinya at their art studio. They discussed their studio and their experience as ex-pat artists.

March 23, 2024

Vienna, Austria

Angelina organized a concert and raised awareness and funds for Ukraine at the Palais Ferstel. It was attended by Ukrainians, dignitaries, and was a night of support for Ukraine in music and art.

March 24, 2024

Vienna, Austria

Angelina visited the Community Center Train of Hope - [Website](#), where she met with kids, read them books, performed a small concert for them, and attended their yoga class. Angelina was able to hear the kids' stories and celebrate their culture with them through music, art, and yoga.

Attachment 2

Mass Media about Angelina Usanova

Leading Ukrainian media, prime selection

Vogue Beauty, print & online, cover & article

<https://vogue.ua/article/beauty/byuti-trend/na-odnomu-podihu-angelina-usanova-pro-zhittya-na-shalenyi-shvidkosti-55043.html>

Elle, digital cover & article

<https://elle.ua/ludi/interview/mis-vsesvit-ukraina--2023-angelina-usanova-pro-vlasne-bachennya-krasi-blagodiynist-ta-proekti-spryamovani-na-dopomogu-ukrainyam/>

European and USA media

<https://see.news/angelina-usanova-crowned-miss-eco-intl-2024>

L'Officiel Monaco, digital cover & article
<https://www.lofficielmonaco.com/woman/angelina-usanova-philanthropic-pursu-its-and-global-impact>

L'Officiel Ibiza, digital cover & article
<https://www.lofficielibiza.com/portraits/who-is-angelina-usanova-ukrainian-singer-philanthropist>

L'Officiel Cyprus, digital article
<https://www.lofficiel.cy/woman/angelina-usanova-miss-universe-ukraine-2023-announced-sm4good-initiative>

Times Monaco
<https://www.timesmonaco.com/miss-universe-ukraine-angelina-usanova-hosts-charity-gala-for-ukrainian-children/>

Forbes France
<https://www.forbes.fr/brandvoice/proteger-les-faibles-est-le-devoir-des-forts-retour-sur-la-soiree-caritative-organisee-par-miss-univers-ukraine-2023-a-paris/>

Forbes Spain
<https://www.forbespt.com/uma-harmonia-de-beleza-e-benevolencia-a-gala-de-angelina-usanova-no-coracao-de-franca/> (Spanish&English)

<https://www.folitique.com/post/beyond-the-crown-angelina-usanova-s-reign-of-fashion-and-benevolence>

<https://lookbook.paris/angelina-usanova-miss-universe-ukraine-2023/>

<https://www.pageantpress.com/miss-universe/miss-universe-ukraine-2023-angelina-usanova/>

<https://world360news.com/angelina-usanova-selected-miss-ukraine-universe-2023-online-mode-crowning-later>

<https://timesriviera.com/elegance-redefined-angelina-usanovas-philanthropic-soiree-in-the-heart-of-france-chateau-de-cremat-nice/>

https://news.yahoo.com/ukraine-angelina-usanova-stuns-mother-160600113.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLnNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAACEIgXltftHtZ9V40uo_ihMujih5acXh7JhOecplTz3nEO163J3Ydjkesx_On1CszA8M-u3SrRbxplj9v07RfVe0MZLDcXi4pSHPZ6jcTN7ENvA3DJH1RwbqHpbXiKrBZa4yCcgUXq7xBkjdHFIvNBmYgVqiE6fo7bpncznE57

<https://conandaily.com/2023/11/18/angelina-usanova-biography-13-things-about-miss-universe-ukraine-2023/>

<https://www.sarkarinaukriexams.com/angelina-usanova-net-worth-usa-bio-py>

<https://pageant-mania.forumotion.com/t19688-angelina-usanova-ukraine-2023>