

Ariana Grande

Who is Ariana Grande?

Ariana Grande is an American singer and actress. She was born on 26th June 1993. Her mother is called Joan, her father is called Edward and she has an older brother named Frankie.

What Did Ariana Do as a Child?

Ariana loved to act and sing when she was young. She spent lots of time at a children's theatre group. This is a place where children practise and perform shows on stage. Ariana was very good at doing this and she won the part of the lead character, Annie, in her first ever show.



When Did Ariana Become Famous?

When she was just 8 years old, Ariana began singing all around Florida. She even sang on a cruise ship! Her singing was so good that a local ice hockey team asked her to sing the national anthem at one of their games. It was shown on television across America.

In 2009, Ariana got the role of Cat Valentine in the popular TV show 'Victorious'. The show was really successful. Almost 6 million people watched it and Ariana became famous around the world.

Even though she was enjoying acting, Ariana knew that she really wanted to make her own music. She flew across the country to Los Angeles and met with her managers. She told them that she wanted to make her own album. Her managers thought that it would be a hard thing to do because she was so young but they believed in her and started working on her music.

What Albums Has Ariana Made?

Ariana has released five albums so far:

- The first album was called 'Yours Truly'. It was released on 30th August 2013.
- Her second album, 'My Everything', was released on 25th August 2014.
- Ariana's third album was called 'Dangerous Woman' and it was released on 20th May 2016.
- Her fourth album, 'Sweetener', was released on 17th August 2018.
- The fifth album was called 'Thank U, Next' and released on 8th February 2019.

Did You Know...?

- It took Ariana three years to record her first album. She wrote some of the songs on the album herself.
- Ariana originally wanted to call her third album 'Moonlight' but she changed her mind and named it 'Dangerous Woman' instead.
- When Ariana was in the TV show 'Victorious', she had to dye her hair red every two weeks.
- Ariana's favourite singers are Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston.



Questions

1. On which date was Ariana Grande born? Tick one.

30th August 2013

20th May 2016

26th June 1993

2. What is the name of Ariana's mother? Tick one.

Frankie

Joan

Annie

3. How old was Ariana when she began singing around Florida? Tick one.

6

7

8

4. What was the name of Ariana's second album? Tick one.

Yours Truly

Dangerous Woman

My Everything

5. Fill in the missing words in this sentence:

Ariana loved to _____ when she was young.

6. Where did Ariana fly to when she met with her managers?

7. Why do you think that Ariana's managers believed in her?

Answers

1. On which date was Ariana Grande born? Tick one.

- 30th August 2013
 20th May 2016
 26th June 1993

2. What is the name of Ariana's mother? Tick one.

- Frankie
 Joan
 Annie

3. How old was Ariana when she began singing around Florida? Tick one.

- 6
 7
 8

4. What was the name of Ariana's second album? Tick one.

- Yours Truly
 Dangerous Woman
 My Everything

5. Fill in the missing words in this sentence:

Ariana loved to **act and sing** when she was young.

6. Where did Ariana fly to when she met with her managers?

Accept the answer 'Los Angeles' only.

7. Why do you think that Ariana's managers believed in her?

Accept any reasonable inference as to why Ariana's managers believed in her, including (but not limited to):

- **They knew that she was talented.**
- **They knew she had what it took to be a success.**
- **They loved her singing so they knew that other people would.**
- **She had worked hard on other projects and shown them that she was committed.**
- **She was already famous from her TV acting so they thought she'd be able to be successful.**

Ariana Grande

Early Life

Ariana Grande-Butera was born in Florida, on the 26th June 1993 to her mother, Joan, and her father, Edward. Ariana's parents and her older brother, Frankie, had moved from New York to Florida just before she was born.

As a child, Ariana loved to sing and perform and she spent much of her time at a children's theatre group. She played the lead character, Annie, in her first ever performance and went on to star in shows such as **'The Wizard of Oz'** and **'Beauty and the Beast'**.



Rise to Fame

People always liked listening to Ariana sing. At the age of 8 years old, Ariana began performing on cruise ships and in venues all around Florida. It was at this age that she first appeared on television singing the USA's national anthem, 'The Star-Spangled Banner'.

When Ariana was just 13 years old, she starred as a cheerleader called Charlotte in the musical '13'. However, it wasn't long until Ariana became serious about creating her own music. She flew across the country to Los Angeles and met with her managers. She told them that she wanted to make her own album.

In 2009, Ariana got the role of Cat Valentine in the popular TV show 'Victorious'. The show was a hit with almost 6 million viewers and Ariana became famous around the world. Although she loved acting and her role on the show, Ariana knew that music was more important and she still wanted to become a professional musician.

Musical Success

Ariana has released five studio albums to date. The first, 'Yours Truly', was released on 30th August 2013. It had taken her three years to record it and she wrote many of the songs on the album herself.

Straight after the release of 'Yours Truly', Ariana began to record her second album, 'My Everything'. When it was released on 25th August 2014, it went straight to number one, just as 'Yours Truly' had the year before.

Ariana began recording songs for her third studio album, 'Dangerous Woman', in 2015. The album was released on 20th May 2016 and it entered the charts at number two. Ariana's fourth album, 'Sweetener', was released in August 2018 followed by her latest album, 'Thank U, Next' in February 2019 proving that Ariana's musical career remains as successful as ever.

Did You Know?

- Ariana helped to set up a singing group called Kids Who Care when she was just ten years old. The group raised over half a million dollars for charity.
- Over 117 million people follow Ariana on Instagram.
- Ariana looks up to her favourite singers: Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston.



Questions

1. Which one of these people is **not** a member of Ariana's family? Tick one.

- Edward
 Charlotte
 Joan

2. Draw a line to match the album name to the year it was released.

Dangerous Woman
Yours Truly
My Everything

2013
2014
2016

3. In which theatre show did Ariana play the lead character? Tick one.

- Beauty and the Beast
 Annie
 The Wizard of Oz

4. In which TV show did Ariana play the character Cat Valentine? Tick one.

- Nickelodeon
 My Everything
 Victorious

5. Which song did Ariana sing during her first television appearance?

6. Why did Ariana fly to Los Angeles when she was 13?

7. Why might Ariana look up to Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston?

8. Explain why it might have taken Ariana three years to record the album Yours Truly.

Answers

1. Which one of these people is **not** a member of Ariana's family? Tick one.

- Edward
 Charlotte
 Joan

2. Draw a line to match the album name to the year it was released.

Dangerous Woman	2013
Yours Truly	2014
My Everything	2016

3. In which theatre show did Ariana play the lead character? Tick one.

- Beauty and the Beast
 Annie
 The Wizard of Oz

4. In which TV show did Ariana play the character Cat Valentine? Tick one.

- Nickelodeon
 My Everything
 Victorious

5. Which song did Ariana sing during her first television appearance?

Accept the answers 'USA's national anthem' or 'The Star-Spangled Banner' only.

6. Why did Ariana fly to Los Angeles when she was 13?

Accept either of the following answers:

- **To meet with her managers.**
- **To tell her managers that she wanted to make her own album.**

7. Why might Ariana look up to Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston?

Accept any reasonable answer as to why Ariana might look up to Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston, including (but not limited to):

- **They are good singers.**
- **They are good at what they do.**
- **They are successful in the job that she wants to have.**
- **They are exceptionally talented within their industry.**

8. Explain why it might have taken Ariana three years to record the album **Yours Truly**.

Accept any reasonable inference as to why it may have taken so long, including:

- **Because she wrote some of the songs herself and that is a difficult thing to do.**
- **Because she wanted to make sure it was perfect.**
- **Because she was busy with other acting jobs at the same time.**

Ariana Grande

Early Life

Ariana Grande-Butera was born in Boca Raton, Florida, on the 26th June 1993. Her mother, Joan, ran a successful telephone and alarm company and her father, Edward, owned a graphic design company. Ariana's parents and her older brother, Frankie, had moved from New York to Florida just before she was born.

As a child, Ariana loved to sing and perform. When she wasn't attending Pine Crest School, Ariana spent her time at a children's theatre group. She played the lead character, Annie, in her first ever performance and went on to star in shows such as 'The Wizard of Oz' and 'Beauty and the Beast'.

At the age of 10, Ariana helped to create a children's singing group called Kids Who Care. The group performed at charity events and raised over half a million dollars for good causes in 2007 alone.



Rise to Fame

Many people enjoyed listening to Ariana sing. At the age of 8 years old, Ariana was already performing on cruise ships and with popular **orchestras** all around Florida. It was at this age that she first appeared on national television singing the USA's national anthem, 'The Star-Spangled Banner', at a Florida Panthers ice hockey match.

In 2008, when she was just 13 years old, Ariana first appeared on **Broadway**, starring a cheerleader called Charlotte in the musical '13'. It wasn't long until Ariana became serious about creating her own music. She flew across the country to Los Angeles and met with her managers. She told them that she wanted to make her own **R 'n' B** album.

In 2009, Ariana got the role of Cat Valentine in the popular TV show 'Victorious'. The show was a hit with almost 6 million viewers and Ariana quickly became famous around the world. Although she loved acting and her role on the show, Ariana knew that music was more important and again set her sights on becoming a professional musician.

Musical Success

Ariana released her first studio album, 'Yours Truly', on 30th August 2013. It had taken her three years to record and she wrote many of the songs on the album herself. The album was an instant success, selling 138,000 copies in its first week and going straight to number one on the charts in the USA.

Straight away, Ariana began to record her second album, 'My Everything'. When it was released on 25th August 2014, it sold 169,000 copies in its first week and rocketed to number one, just as 'Yours Truly' had the year before.

Ariana began recording songs for her third studio album, originally called 'Moonlight', in 2015. However, by the time the album was released on 20th May 2016, she had renamed it 'Dangerous Woman' and it entered the charts at number two.

In 2016, Ariana had already prepared some songs that would feature on her fourth album, 'Sweetener'. This album was released on 17th August 2018 and won Best Pop Vocal Album at the Grammy Awards.

Ariana's fifth album, 'Thank U, Next' was recorded between October and December 2018 and released on 8th February 2019. In promotion of her fourth and fifth albums, Ariana began a world tour in March 2019.

Glossary

Broadway – A street of professional theatres in New York.

Orchestra – A group of musicians playing instruments together.

R 'n' B – Short for 'rhythm and blues'. A type of music.



Questions

1. **'The album was an instant success...'** What does the word instant mean? Tick one.

- Something which is unexpected
- Something unpleasant
- Something which happens quickly

2. Match each question to the correct answer.

What was the name of Ariana's third studio album when it was released?
What was the name of the studio album that Ariana released in 2014?
What did Ariana originally want to call her third studio album?

Moonlight
Dangerous Woman
My Everything

3. Name two things that Ariana did when she was 8 years old.

- _____
- _____

4. Fill in the missing words from this sentence:

"When she wasn't attending _____, Ariana spent her time at _____."

5. Find and copy a word which tells you that Ariana's mother ran a company which did well.

6. Why do you think that Ariana became famous around the world so quickly?

7. What might Ariana do over the next three years?

8. Give an example of something Ariana has done to help other people.

Answers

1. **'The album was an instant success...'** What does the word instant mean? Tick one.

- Something which is unexpected
- Something unpleasant
- Something which happens quickly**

2. Match each question to the correct answer.

What was the name of Ariana's third studio album when it was released?	Moonlight
What was the name of the studio album that Ariana released in 2014?	Dangerous Woman
What did Ariana originally want to call her third studio album?	My Everything

3. Name two things that Ariana did when she was 8 years old.

Accept two of the following answers only:

- **Performed on cruise ships.**
- **Performed with popular orchestras around Florida.**
- **First appeared on national television.**
- **Sang The Star-Spangled Banner at a Florida Panthers ice hockey match**

4. Fill in the missing words from this sentence:

'When she wasn't attending **Pine Crest School**, Ariana spent her time at **a children's theatre group.**'

5. Find and copy a word which tells you that Ariana's mother ran a company which did well.

Accept the word 'successful' only.

6. Why do you think that Ariana became famous around the world so quickly?

Accept answers which discuss that Ariana's fame was due to the success and popularity of the TV show Victorious, in which she played Cat Valentine, e.g. I think that she became famous so quickly because she was in a popular TV show and 6 million people watched her.

7. What might Ariana do over the next three years?

Accept any reasonable and sensible prediction about what Ariana may do over the next three years based on her life so far as discussed in the text, including:

- **Release another album**
- **Tour/hold concerts**
- **Return to her acting career and get another role on TV**
- **Appear in another show on Broadway**

8. Give an example of something Ariana has done to help other people.

Accept any example from the text which shows Ariana helping others, such as: She started Kids Who Care and they raised a lot of money for other people.