



MARIA PRAGIAS (MARIA ELLIS)

AGE: 24

LOCATION: LONG ISLAND, NY

HT: LONG ISLAND, NY

GENRE: POP / R&B

TT: [@mariaellismusic](#)

TT FOLLOWERS: 76.4K

TT LIKES: 1M

IG: [@mariaellis_](#)

IG FOLLOWERS: 7.9K



ABOUT...

- Maria started her music journey at 3-years-old, when she first began playing piano. By the time she was 9-years-old, her piano teacher couldn't instruct her anymore – she kept bringing original music to the lessons, as she had already conquered every classical piece the teacher put in front of her. She started singing as early as she could talk, which completely shocked her parents – but they knew their daughter was destined for great things musically. Maria comes from a Greek heritage, with both grandparents immigrating from Sparta and Athens.
- Since she was 15-years-old, Maria has been taking vocal lessons with the coach who works with Lady Gaga, Christina Aguilera and Bono, among countless other stars. Maria graduated from Berklee College of Music in 2019, which she says was an eye-opening experience. Maria had a major opportunity to perform at one point and found out that she was passed over for it because they thought she was "just pretty," and didn't take into account her talent. Since then, she has been motivated to prove that she has the skills to back up her looks.
- Maria started posting on TikTok as a way to spread her music and pass the time during the pandemic. She now stands at 76K followers and is thankful for every single fan. She says the past two years have been enlightening, considering all the time spent alone in her home during quarantine. Although it was tough not being out there on stages, this period of time allowed her to crank out lots of new music. She has released seven original songs and an EP, all independently on streaming platforms.
- She knows that in order to expand her music career, she has to get out of Long Island. She was ready to move to Los Angeles in March 2020, but the pandemic had other plans. Maria is hoping this competition will lead to incredible opportunities and the ability to actually record music with her favorite artists – not just cover their songs on TikTok.

