

## YOUR VIEW

by Ellie Kidwell, Miss American Angus



## Leading Ladies

*Today more than ever, women are found in some of the most important leadership positions in the world. Just this year the first-ever woman has taken the position as vice president of the United States, an exciting moment in history for women.*

Within the Angus industry, we have some of our own amazing leaders. From the American Angus Auxiliary to all of the women on the American Angus Association staff, and especially to those working on cattle operations across the country, there are tons of amazing women to look up to.

As the 2021 Miss American Angus, I am serving as one of the leading ladies in our industry. It is a tremendous honor to be Miss American Angus, but it comes with challenges, as all leadership positions do. The pressure to always be perfect, look my best and be the best role model I can be is tremendous, but that is what makes all of our leading ladies so special. They face these challenges head-on and take on every challenge set before them.

Women in leadership positions have to work harder than ever to preserve this status we have worked so hard to attain. Becoming a leading lady was not always so easy for us. It is truly amazing how far we have come and all that we have accomplished.

Succeeding as leaders in our society allows us to act as good role models for those around us. Everyone has a “leading lady” in their life, whether it be a mother, grandma, sister, mentor

or even a woman of power that they look up to. We look up to these ladies as successful leaders in our society.

Whether we realize it or not, the effect these people have on us shapes us into the people we will become. I know without some of the leading ladies in my life, I would not be where I am today.

Now I find myself in a position where I have the potential to have an effect on people’s lives just as these individuals did for me. It is a huge responsibility, and one that I am excited to be taking on this year and hopefully for many years to come.

Not only are women in our industry some amazing leading ladies, but in our business, there are some other “ladies” leading the way to our success. The millions of Angus cows that drive our industry certainly deserve their own credit.

Every day our cows are working hard on our farms to make our lifestyle worthwhile. Our females are phenomenal animals, both in the

show ring and the pasture as purple-banner winners, superior donors, and good reliable momma cows. When I think of strong females in this industry, I think of a good Angus cow

with a calf at her side.

The progress we have made in recent years in the quality and consistency of our cattle is impressive and because of this, the Angus ladies

are leading the way when it comes to setting the new standards for the cattle industry.

The Angus industry does not fall short when it comes to having its fair share of strong, powerful female figures. I am sure it is not hard to think of someone in this industry that fits this description to you. The amazing women and good cows in my life are part of what makes Angus so special to me. **AJ**

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