

FILM DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, WRITER

VOLODYMYR MULA

Volodymyr Mula was born in the town of Horodenka, Ivano-Frankivsk region, Ukraine, on October 22, 1989.

In **June 2006**, he graduated from the Horodenka Gymnasium with a gold medal. He then entered the Faculty of Physical Engineering at the National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute". Six years later, Volodymyr Mula received a Master's Degree in "Materials Science & Engineering".

In **September 2009**, Volodymyr Mula founded a new Ukrainian-language online publication called TeleProstir. The website served as a platform for various forms of media content, including news, articles, and multimedia elements. The success and growth of TeleProstir later played a significant role in the establishment of a full-fledged production company named TeleProstir Studio.

In **April 2011**, Volodymyr Mula received his first accreditation for the Eurovision Song Contest, held in Düsseldorf, Germany. During this event, he took the initiative to launch live broadcast studios that provided prompt and up-to-date coverage of the popular international music festival. These live broadcasts significantly enhanced the event's media coverage, keeping audiences informed about the latest developments, performances, and happenings throughout the Eurovision Song Contest.

In **June 2014**, Volodymyr Mula covered the FIFA World Cup in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, working for several media outlets, including the Ukrainian "1+1" TV channel, the TSN web portal, Lviv Radio, and Hromadske TV. This experience led to a more permanent collaboration with Hromadske TV, where he produced a full series of reports about Rio de Janeiro. Additionally, he created informative and entertaining series titled "*Baltic Countries*" and "*American Dream*", likely showcasing various aspects of the Baltic region and exploring the dreams and aspirations of individuals in the American context.

In **January 2015**, Volodymyr Mula embarked on a personal project, creating a documentary film titled "American Dream". He invested his own efforts and financed the project at his own expense, showcasing his passion and commitment to filmmaking. The positive reception and impact of "*American Dream*" encouraged him to continue his documentary work. The following year, he released a sequel titled "*The American Dream: In Search of the Truth*".

In **June and July 2016**, Volodymyr Mula served as a special correspondent for BBC News Ukrainian during UEFA Euro 2016. Following this, in August of the same year, he covered the Summer Olympic Games held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Through his work as a special correspondent for both UEFA Euro 2016 and the Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Volodymyr Mula made significant contributions to sports journalism, bringing the excitement of these international sporting events to audiences in Ukraine and beyond.

In **February 2018**, Volodymyr Mula took on the role of a reporter for ICTV, a major television network in Ukraine, during the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games.



PURSUIT OF A DREAM

In **April 2018**, Volodymyr Mula embarked on a project to create a documentary film celebrating the achievements of Ukrainians who had the remarkable distinction of winning the NHL Stanley Cup. The film, titled *"UKE"*, was named after the Ukrainian heritage of the players who accomplished this significant feat in the National Hockey League. The production faced challenges, particularly related to funding, which caused filming to be halted multiple times. Despite these obstacles, the Ukrainian State Film Agency provided support, enabling the project to continue. With the agency's assistance, the film was completed and released in theaters across Ukraine on **December 3, 2020**. The documentary's theme of highlighting Ukrainian athletes who achieved success on the international stage resonated strongly with audiences in Ukraine. Its release and subsequent success as the highest-grossing documentary in Ukraine underscored the public's interest in stories celebrating the accomplishments of fellow Ukrainians. It is also notable that *"UKE"* is the first Ukrainian film available for viewing in its original language on four global platforms simultaneously: Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, Google Play, and YouTube Movies & Shows.



*On January 18, 2020, in Saint Louis, USA, movie director & producer **Volodymyr Mula** and "The Great One" **Wayne Gretzky** are holding a Ukrainian flag after the interview for the **UKE** documentary*

In **September 2021**, Volodymyr Mula was recognized for his outstanding contributions to cinematography, significant creative achievements, and high level of professional skill when he was awarded the prestigious title of “Honored Art Worker of Ukraine”. This title is a distinguished honor conferred by the Ukrainian president upon individuals who have made exceptional and noteworthy contributions to the arts and culture of Ukraine.

In **December 2021**, Volodymyr Mula successfully completed the production of “Football Nation”, a documentary film that explores the history and achievements of Ukraine’s National Football Team. The film was created with the support of the Ukrainian State Film Agency, highlighting the significance and recognition of the national team’s 30th anniversary.

In **April 2022**, Volodymyr Mula worked as a director and field producer on the documentary series titled We’re *“The Zoomers: Inside The World Of Today’s Teens”* for the CNA television network. In the project, four teens from China, Indonesia, Singapore, and Ukraine each define their own futures — on their own terms.

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Volodymyr Mula & Anne Applebaum



Volodymyr Mula & Chrystia Freeland



Volodymyr Mula & Lubomyr Romankiw



Volodymyr Mula & Kelly Hrudehy



In **August 2022**, Volodymyr Mula, at the invitation of British director and producer Alex Gale, joined the international documentary project *"Football Must Go On"* as a co-director. This four-part documentary follows the captivating journey of "Shakhtar" Donetsk, a Ukrainian football club, as they compete in the 2022-23 UEFA Champions League season against the constant backdrop of war. The series premiered on **September 12, 2023**, on the Paramount+ platform.

In **June 2023**, Volodymyr Mula joined Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovyy's initiative and became an ambassador for the "Unbroken Sport" project.

In **July 2023**, the director was awarded the Volodymyr Bodenchuk Medal for "Sports and Journalism" in recognition of his significant contribution to the development of national sports journalism, professional excellence, and support for advancing Ukrainian sports, particularly football.

In **January 2024**, the book titled *"Wayne Called Me"* by Volodymyr Mula, which details the creation of the *"UKE"* documentary, was published in Ukraine.

In **May 2024**, at the 45th Sports Emmy® Awards ceremony at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall in New York City, the director received the highest U.S. television award from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS), the Emmy, in the "Outstanding Documentary Series" category for the television documentary project *"Football Must Go On"*.