



100 Resources for DIY Musicians

Updated for 2010



Written and compiled by Greg Rollett Gen-Y Rock Stars and Label 2.0

For marketing inquiries, consulting or more information on Greg, please contact us at marketing@genyrockstars.com

To join Label 2.0 – please visit http://evolvor.com/services/label-20/join-now/





The Story Behind the 100 Indie Musician Resources

When I sat down to compile the original 100 Social Media Resources for Musicians in August of 2008, I was in the car driving home from an indie music conference in Atlanta where I had joined some really cool people on stage to talk about the state of music marketing. As the panel went on and questions came in from the crowd it was evident that many musicians had no idea what was happening around them on the web.

The free resources, the community and the ways to share ideas, media and create a community of fans. Many were still very reliant on Myspace, even though the number of "fans" were jumping ship like it was the Titanic.

As 2009 came and went, I was fortunate to share the original 100 Social Media Resources For Musicians will thousands of indie bands, songwriters, music industry professionals, producers, managers, artists and really anyone else with ties to the music business.

For the new updated version I am looking to get you focused on the core places you need to be to get your music career on track. While there are still 100 resources in this guide, I tried to build them into parts that make sense for your career. They are no longer all related to social media, as Internet Marketing and creating a sustainable online business have consumed the latter half of the year for the teaching we are doing for musicians.

I also feel that you no longer need to be on 100 social networks, nor ever need to know about 100. What you do need are the tools and places to best use your time, start collecting fans and start making a business from your music.

This includes building and branding your own website and using it as a homebase. This has never been easier and the tools I am going to share make it fun and effortless.

This includes building a strong mailing list, one that gives you results, analytics and split tests your messages.

This includes PAYING for advertising, and knowing when and where to do that.

This includes listening to the people that have the best and most applicable things to say about the music industry and frankly there are very few from the last time I wrote this that will still make the list.

This includes multimedia sites. Having music is no longer enough. You need to put a focus on creating content with multimedia from videos to pictures to presentations to article writing and podcasts.

There is hope for the music industry. There is a great chance that you can make a living with your music. The tools are here. How you use them will either help you succeed or have you in the same place a year from now as you are today.





I hope that you enjoy this report. I had a great time making it. If you enjoyed it, please share it with a friend, another musician or someone that can use some help.

Also feel free to visit GenYRockStars.com as we offer many valuable articles, videos and interviews to help your music career grow.

Lastly, if you are serious about your music career, we have an amazing educational training program, Label 2.0, that will help navigate you through these online tools and really apply them to your music. You can sign up here.

-Greg Rollett Music Marketer GenYRockStars.com and RockStarLifestyleDesign.com





Musician Resources

Part 1 – The Essentials	5
Part 2 – Email Marketing	6
Part 3 – Band Management	7
Part 4 – Social Networks and Communities	8
Part 5 – Streaming Sites and Music Communities	11
Part 6 – Music Collaboration Sites	13
Part 7 – Music Industry Blogs	15
Part 8 – Marketing and Tech Blogs + Resources	16
Part 9 – Artist Tools	16
Part 10 – Google Tools	21
Part 11 – Video Resources	22
Part 12 – Mobile Resources	24
Part 13 – Shopping Carts and Selling Your Music	26
Part 14 – Twitter Tools	30
Part 15 – Build Your Own Community and Memberships	33
Part 16 – Music Charts and Rankings	34
Next Steps	35





Part 1 - The Essentials

Building and Branding Your Own Website

Go Daddy – Grab a domain name for less than \$10 a year. This is imperative. You need to own your brand. If your band name happens to be taken, think of getting yourbandnamemusic.com or something similar. I would also buy the domain names for your album names and if you are thinking about really pushing a single, get that as well. Mini sites work great in this environment and can play home to contests and feedb3ack from fans. http://bit.ly/8s1VnA



Host Gator – I have now been using and recommending Host Gator for 2 years. The reason is simple. As many sites as you have, they will host them all on 1 account for \$8 / mo. This means you can have your main site and any others hosted here, no matter the traffic, the size or the content. http://bit.ly/5xt7MJ







Wordpress – Wordpress is the end all be all of creating strong websites with unlimited potential. The content management side of the software is so easy to use and with all the plug ins you can essentially put anything on you can think of on your site from Twitter to Flickr to SEO optimizing with the click on a button. http://www.wordpress.org



Part 2 - Email Marketing

Aweber – For musicians and online businesses, you need a dedicated email service to send out your emails, give you analysis of open rates and click throughs and also give you ways to create forms that match your site. No one does this better than Aweber. http://aweber.com/?319463



FanBridge – Created to handle email marketing for musicians they are dedicated to creating an environment that is user friendly and music-centric. They offer a great solution that is 2nd only to Aweber. http://bit.ly/88azjt



Champion Sound – With some great packages to get started and utilize at live shows and with mobile phones, Champion Sound is a great email solution as well. http://www.championsound.com/





Part 3 - Band Management

PulseAmp – Having backstage access to this software, there are some great features to get your band organized from contacts to inventory to keeping track of your press. http://www.pulseamp.com/home.php





Bandize – Bandize helps bands take control of their careers by giving them an intuitive, simple way to get organized. At \$15 a month it will keep even the most scatterbrained musicians in line. http://bandize.com/



Indie Band Manager – Indie Band Manager is software that sits on your desktop and helps to manage your promotion, booking, merch, pitches and so much more. http://www.indiebandmanager.com/



Music Arsenal - Use Music Arsenal to manage and schedule your upcoming projects, plan your tours, find new places to promote your music and more. The service is free to try and offer an upgrade for \$16 / mo that includes a complete music industry directory and contact list. http://www.musicarsenal.com/

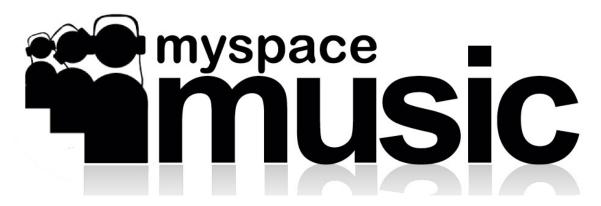






Part 4 - Social Networks and Communities

Myspace – Still the only place in the world where you can find every band on the planet. Create a strong profile filled with information and your best music. Do NOT make this your main website, but rather a tool for people to find your music because it is familiar to them. Look for MySpace Music to do some cool things since they acquired iLike and iMeem. http://www.myspace.com



Facebook – The leading social network on the planet is still not the most user-friendly for musicians, but is still a place to set up shop. Setup an artist page and not a group. Look for applications to add your music from Reverbnation or iLike. http://www.facebook.com

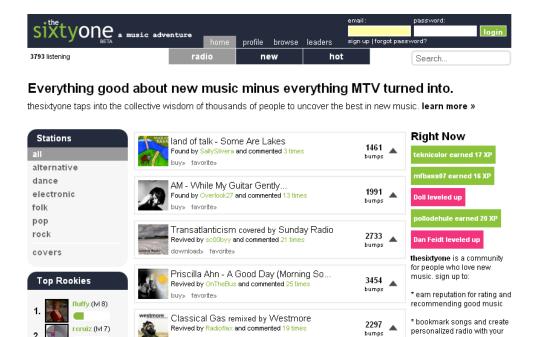


Twitter – The wave of musicians using Twitter to connect with fans is crazy and I only anticipate it to get better. The wave of services to share music on Twitter keeps growing and we have added an entire section on Twitter Apps for music below. http://www.twitter.com





The Sixty One - A music adventure community where good music gets boosted up, and bad music disappears. I liken it as a Digg for music. http://www.thesixtyone.com



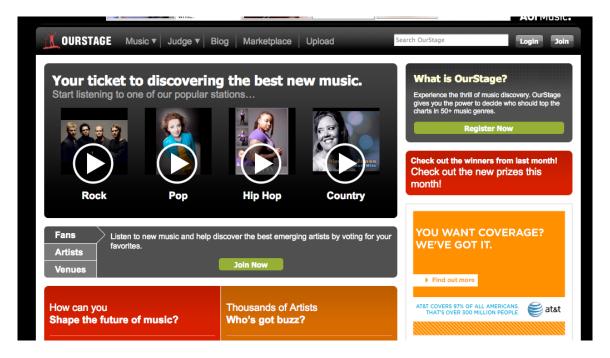
Bebo - Bebo is a social media network where friends share their lives and explore great entertainment. Great for UK marketing. http://www.bebo.com







OurStage – Music discovery and community for all genres. They also have a great iPhone app for connecting with artists on the go. Owned by the AOL Network. http://www.ourstage.com



Plugola - A social music community and marketplace for indie music artists and their fans. Sell your music and let fans take advantage of their affiliate tools and make money selling your songs. http://www.plugo.la/

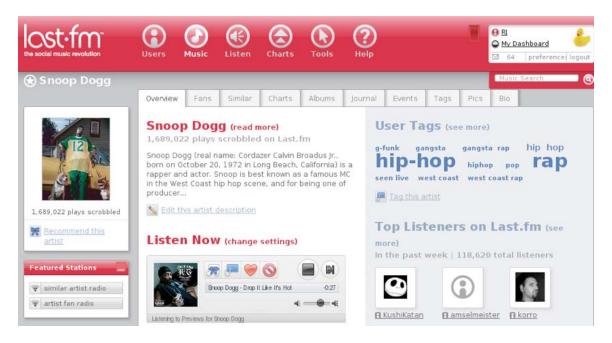






Part 5 - Streaming Sites and Communities

Last.FM - Last.fm is a music service that learns what you love... Every track you play will tell your Last.fm profile something about what you like. It can connect you to other people who like what you like - and recommend songs from their music collections and yours too. http://www.last.fm/



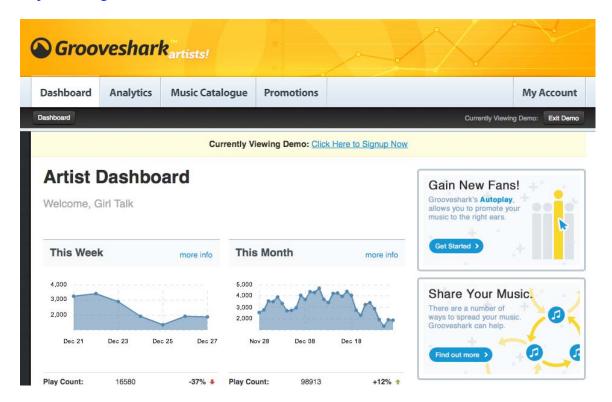
Pandora – The online streaming radio giant continues to grow, gaining new users in all genres and allowing any indie musician with a physical CD available on Amazon to be in their rotation. Not to mention their iPhone app that is still the most popular music app. http://www.pandora.com/



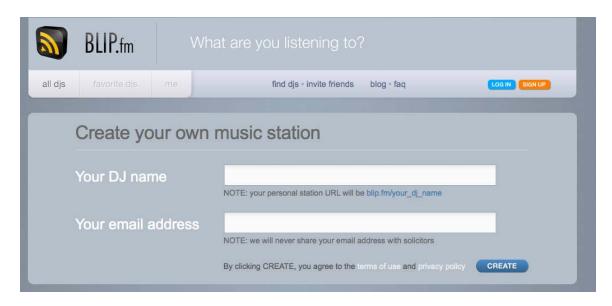




Grooveshark – This growing service is not only growing in terms of its listeners (which is creeping towards Pandora), they are also leagues ahead with their artist tools. From paid plays, to Adobe Air apps, paid memberships to partnering with many top music industry providers, they are going to have a great year in 2010. http://artists.grooveshark.com/



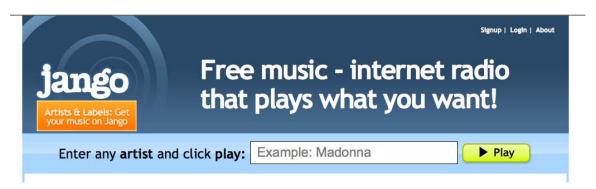
Blip.FM – A place to create your own radio station and share it over Facebook, Twitter, Last.FM, Friend Feed and others. Also discover music based on other DJ's and tastemakers. http://blip.fm/





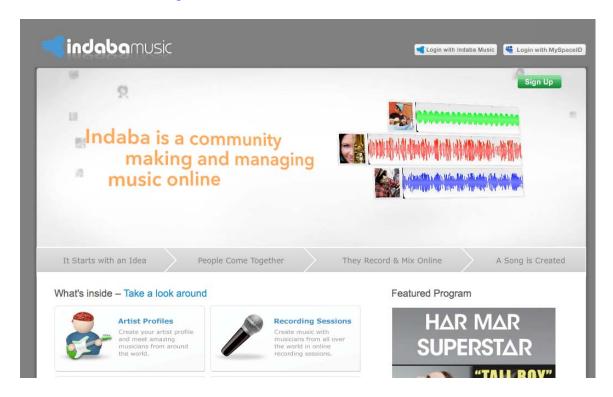


Jango – Internet Radio that plays what you want. Also comes equipped with Jango Airplay, a pay per play music advertising platform. Great way to share your music with their 1.2 million monthly visitors. http://www.jango.com/



Part 6 - Collaboration Sites

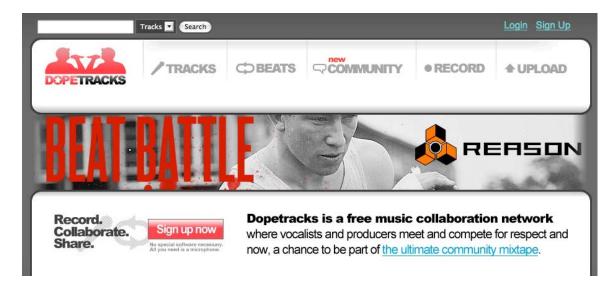
Indaba - A place for musicians to find one another, create and remix music, and showcase their work. http://www.indaba.com



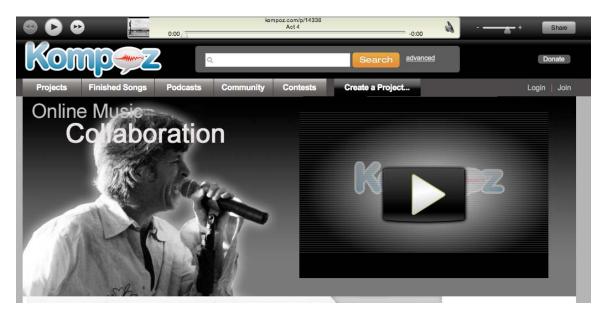




DopeTracks – A free music collaboration network where vocalists and producers meet and compete. Has a hip-hop and pop focus. http://www.dopetracks.com/



Kompoz – Share music tracks and collaborate with support for ProTools, Garage Band, Sonar, Remix and more. This is a great tool to share pieces within your own band over the internet or to meet new musicians to create great tracks. http://www.kompoz.com/







Part 7 - Music Industry Blogs

Hypebot – Best and most up to the minute coverage of the entire digital music industry, written by booking superstar Bruce Houghton. http://hypebot.com/

Indie Music Tech – Tech music news by Duncan Freeman (founder of BandMetrics). http://indiemusictech.com/

Music Think Tank – Collective of music industry thought leaders. Allows for indies to write articles as well. http://www.musicthinktank.com/

Audible Hype – Best hip-hop industry blog, period. Want to release an indie hip-hop album, learn from Justin Boland of World Around Records. http://www.audiblehype.com/

Crazed Hits – The music industry's leading online A&R Blog. http://www.crazedhits.com/

Digipendent – Site run by indie music marketer Danny Dee. Practical music industry advice. http://www.digipendent.com/

Creative Deconstruction – Written by Refe Tuma, an artist and music industry visionary, there is some great insight and actionable posts to get you inspired to market your music. http://www.creativedeconstruction.com/

New Rock Star Philosophy – Great site written by 2 indie music veterans. They also have a free eBook that is golden reading material. http://newrockstarphilosophy.com/

Elect Music – Music industry blog written by Kevin English. The guy has crazy experience and writes some great stuff. http://electmusic.com/

Hype Machine – The largest collective of MP3 blogs anywhere. Target these bloggers to get some good airplay. http://hypem.com/

Evolvor and Gen-Y Rock Stars – Eric, my partner at Label 2.0 still finds some time to blog about the music industry and my site that looks at indie music and internet marketing. http://evolvor.com and http://evolvor.com and http://evolvor.com and http://evolvor.com and http://evolvor.com and http://evolvor.com and http:





Part 8 – Social Media, Marketing and Tech Blogs + Resources

Mashable – It's like my daily newspaper for social media news. http://mashable.com

TechCrunch – Batman to Mashable's Superman. Great social media and start up news. http://www.techcrunch.com

Seth Godin – A new thinking marketing genius. Sometimes even has something to say about the music business. http://sethgodin.typepad.com/

Chris Brogan – If you want to learn how to do Social Media right, this is your guy. Now a NYT Best Selling author. http://www.chrisbrogan.com

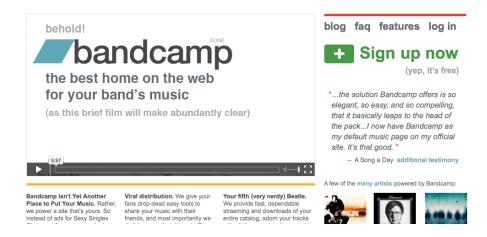
ProBlogger – Want to learn more about this blogging stuff? Darren at ProBlogger is your guy. http://problogger.net

Copy Blogger – Need to write copy online? Brian Clark has been doing it for eons. I'd listen to him. http://www.copyblogger.com

AllTop – This is not a specific blog, but rather a compilation of all the top blogs online broken down by category. Start exploring right away. http://www.alltop.com

Part 9 - Artist Tools

BandCamp – This site has risen up in the past year as the leader in direct to fan digital downloads. They ended the year by adding support for physical packages. With its sleek interface, custom website and NO FEES, this is going to be the difference maker for indie musicians in 2010. http://bandcamp.com/







Artist Data – ArtistData provides solutions to automate the monotonous updating of artist websites, social network profiles, concert databases, Twitter, official news feeds, iCal, local press, fan newsletters, and even tour books. When an artist updates on ArtistData site, ArtistData updates all their sites. Very nifty and awesome. http://www.artistdata.com/



TubeMogul – TubeMogul is the killer tool for those that truly want to automate their video uploading process. Upload your videos to TubeMogul and they will do the rest to ensure your video gets posted to YouTube, Blip, Facebook, Myspace and tons of other video sites. http://tubemogul.com/







Reverb Nation – The mecca of online marketing tools for musicians. From gig finders to video widgets to email services. If you want to learn how to use their tools, Eric and I have compiled training to navigate and use everything Reverb has to offer inside of their dashboard. http://www.reverbnation.com/



Band Metrics – The leader in giving you analytics on your fans from music sites and related information. The site allows you to identify fans, measure their engagement with your music see hot markets and so much more. http://bandmetrics.com/







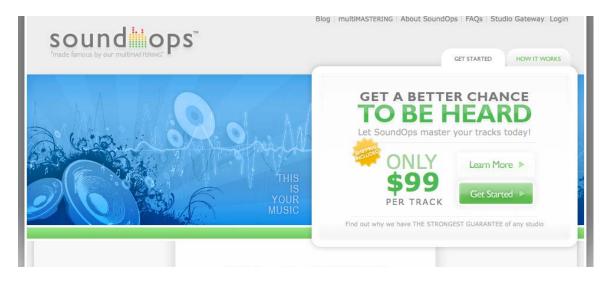
Rock Dex - analyzes and presents the information from 1000's of music websites and collects data on any artist, such as blog posts, tweets, plays, and much more to you in one convenient dashboard that gives you a high level view of what is happening online with the artists that are important to you. http://rockdex.com/



SoundCloud – Sending tracks as an attachment is so tacky and pisses many people off, especially if it was unsolicited. Use SoundCloud to send your tracks. Very clean and user friendly. http://soundcloud.com/



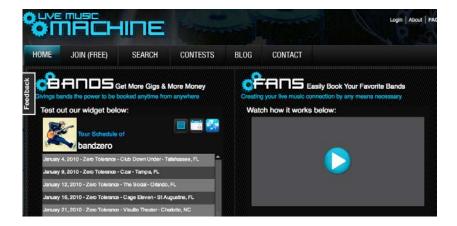
SoundOps – If you need your tracks mastered, this is the coolest site to get it done. Send over your tracks online and within a few days you will have 3 different mastered versions of your music to choose from. Awesome digital mastering service. http://www.soundops.com/







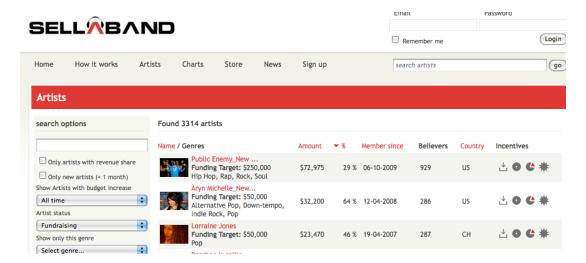
Live Music Machine – New way to book gigs based on your fans and crowdsourcing. http://www.livemusicmachine.com/



Wanduta – A free resource for musicians to help them find health insurance, travel discounts, promotional opportunities and so much more. http://www.wanduta.com/



Sell A Band – Have your fans invest in your career. Really cool concept that I see growing in the coming months. http://www.sellaband.com/



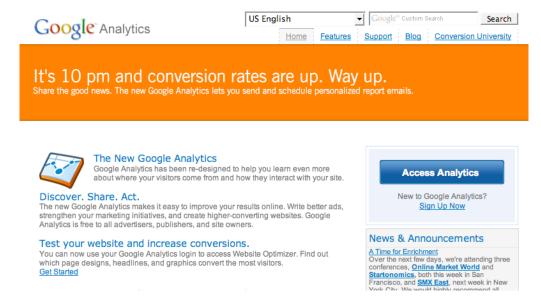




Part 10 - Google Tools

Google Alerts – Have Google send you an email every time your band name is mentioned online. Add other keywords and monitor everything important that is happening online. http://google.com/alerts

Google Analytics – The ultimate statistics for your website. Learn every detail of what is happening on your site, from where fans came from, what keywords they use in search engines, how long they hung out and so much more. And it's free! http://google.com/analytics



Google Reader – All those blogs I mentioned up above can be managed using Google Reader. Learn about RSS Feeds and you will be pleasantly surprised about how you can manage nearly everything you read online. http://reader.google.com

GMail – The most professional and robust free email service provider. You can ever send and receive email from a POP3 or any other mail client. By far the best place to manage personal emails online. http://mail.google.com

Google Keyword Tool – See how many times people search certain words and key phrases on Google. https://adwords.google.com/select/KeywordToolExternal





Part 11 - Video Resources

YouTube - world's largest video sharing community, a Google property that streams over a billion videos a day. http://www.youtube.com

Viddler - video sharing community that allows for in video comments. http://www.viddler.com

Blip.TV - distribute your videos as podcasts to iTunes for free. Also has publicity and monetization features as well as custom players with a Pro account. What we use in Label 2.0. http://www.blip.tv

Revver - video sharing site that allows you to take in ad revenue from your videos. http://www.revver.com

UStream - live streaming video site with real time chat. http://www.ustream.com

Vimeo – Great high quality video sharing site with both free and pro accounts. Best site to upload HD videos. http://www.vimeo.com

Animoto - Music videos from your pictures and images. They format your pictures to match the intensity of your music. Free accounts give you a 30 second video. Upgrade for longer songs and more features. http://animoto.com/

Justin TV - Life streaming site. Create your own channel and start communicating with your fans via video and chat in real time. Stream your shows live as well. They have also introduced pay per view channels as well. http://www.justin.tv/

Flickr – This is the premiere photo sharing site. These index in Google very well and they also allow you to use and let others use your images with creative commons licenses. Also allows for video upload. http://www.flickr.com/

Screentoaster – Record your screen for free. Great for giving tours of your website or showing fans how they can support you or buy your music. http://www.screentoaster.com

Camtasia – The best screen recording software with effects, zoom, editing and sharing capabilities. http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.asp





Flip Video Camera – The most essential piece of non music hardware you can own. This little camera packs a bite, recording HD video and popping right into your computer to upload to YouTube. If you are not doing video in 2010, you are not going to do anything in the music business. http://bit.ly/5d6GPX



Kodak zi8 – For those looking to take their video to the next level this is the tool. Takes full HD video and has an input for a microphone to capture sound at whatever quality you want. This is what we are shooting all of our new videos with. http://bit.ly/74Bjqy







Part 12 – Mobile Resources

Mofuse - Create mobile websites, track your stats and get iPhone optimized. Works best if you have blog and RSS feeds running into it. Can be put on custom domain for free and host AdSense to make a few cents on advertising. http://www.mofusepremium.com/



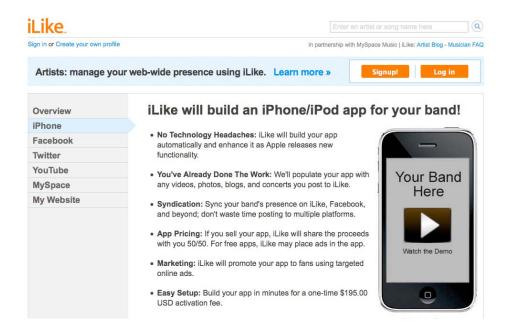
Mobile Roadie - Bands create their own custom iPhone applications which can include content like photo galleries, streaming music files, YouTube videos, upcoming concert listings, lyrics, news, Twitter and RSS feeds, and even interactive features like a "wall" where fans can post comments and photos. The app can also link to Ticketmaster and LiveNation ticket sales information and to the band's album(s) on iTunes. http://bit.ly/6gQVjN







iLike iPhone App Creator – iLike will build your iPhone app, syndicating your content form iLike, Facebook, Myspace and more. One time \$195.00 activation fee. http://bit.ly/MrTUI

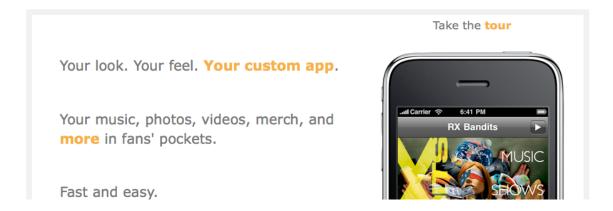


Mob Base – iPhone app creation for musicians to build their mobile fanbase. Cheaper option than Mobile Roadie and iLike. http://www.mobbase.com/



Stay connected to your fans with a MobBase iPhone App.

Build, manage, and update your custom iPhone App in no time.







Kyte – Create mobile apps for the iPhone, Blackberry, Nokia and Android. So far the only company I know offering turnkey development for all of these mobile platforms. http://www.kyte.com/platform/pg/kyte_mobile_app_frameworks



Part 13 - Shopping Carts and Selling Your Music

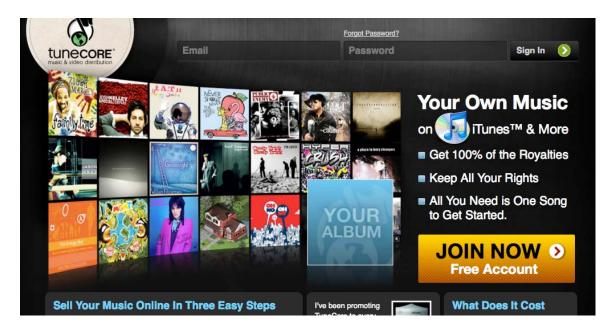
PayPal – The original is still the best. Take payments, subscriptions, donations and more. http://bit.ly/8AKr2W

WaTunes – Another digital distribution service. Offer iTunes distribution for free! http://watunes.com/





TuneCore – Digital music distribution. Get your music on iTunes, Amazon, Rhapsody and so much more. http://www.tunecore.com/



CD Baby – The front-runner in selling physical CD's online and drop shipping them to your fans. They offer some great artist services as well as digital distribution. Now owned by DiscMakers, they have paid over \$111 million to indie artists. http://members.cdbaby.com/



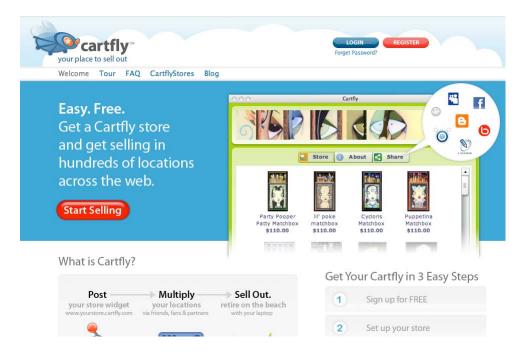




AudioLife – Drop ship CD's and merchandise without ever ordering inventory. Need 1 shirt and 4 CD's – just order what you need. Great artist focused company that should be in your business plan for 2010. Create stores and sell your products and get the money directly into your PayPal account. http://audiolife.com/



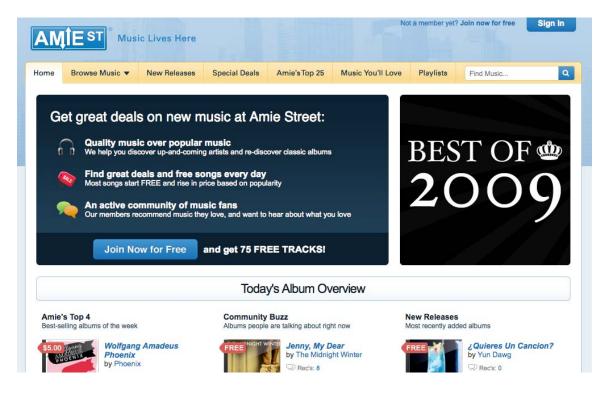
CartFly - Sell your merch, transaction through PayPal, paste the widget everywhere, they take 3% of the transaction. http://www.cartfly.com







AmieStreet - Amie Street is pioneering the concept of "social music retail." We've combined a digital music store with a social network focused entirely on discovering and buying new music. http://www.amiestreet.com



Nimbit – Direct to fan selling of digital as well as physical products. Grab your store and take it mobile on any website, blog or social network. http://www.nimbit.com





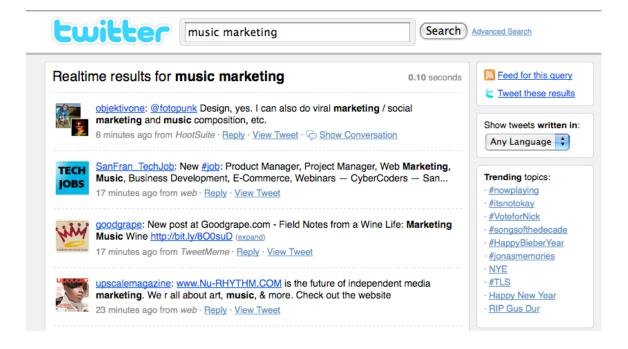


1Shopping Cart – The leader in setting up your own shopping cart. Also has the ability to manage affiliates and contacts via email. This is the complete solution to running an online business. http://bit.ly/4Urixv



Part 14 - Twitter Tools

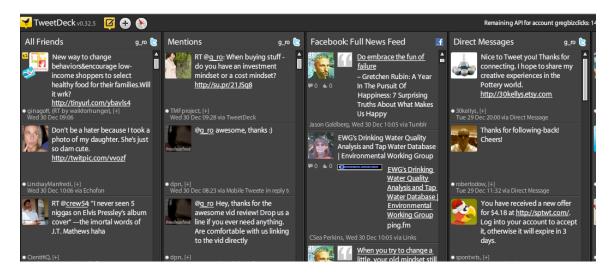
Twitter Search – The real power in Twitter lies in its real-time search ability. This means you can see what fans are saying at your shows – at your shows! You can also break down the searches into location, emotion and other features. http://search.twitter.com



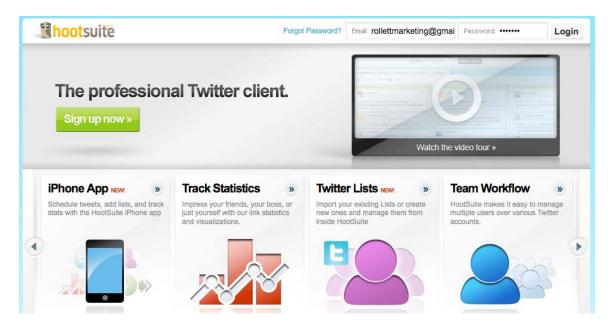




TweetDeck – The ultimate application to manage your Twitter account, Twitter searches, Facebook, LinkedIn and Myspace. This tool is going to be a lifesaver in 2010 if you do not already swear by it. http://www.tweetdeck.com



Hootsuite – This is another tool to manage your Twitter account as well as analyze stats of your Tweets, schedule messages in advance and manage multiple accounts from one platform. http://www.hootsuite.com



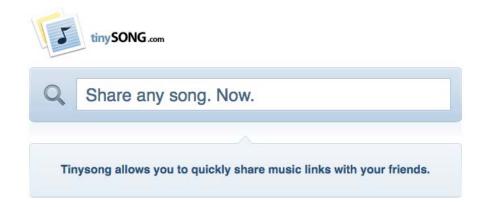




Ping.fm – One of the biggest challenges in the new social landscape is to update all your accounts when you have something new to say. Ping.fm will allow you to update all your status updates through one account. Highly recommended. http://ping.fm



TinySong – A URL shortener made by Grooveshark to link people directly to your music inside of Grooveshark. http://www.tinysong.com



Su.pr and Bit.ly – URL shortening services. With an increased emphasis on short messages, you don't want to post your URL with 150 characters anymore. These services will shorten them to let your messages fit as well as track the clicks and other stats. http://su.pr and http://

Sponsored Tweets – Get paid to Tweet. For any musician with a fanbase on Twitter this is an easy way to make some good money by sending sponsored messages on Twitter. http://bit.ly/4mOccl





Part 15 - Build Your Own Communities

Ning – The fastest way to create your own social network. Used by Ashed Roth, Buckcherry, Pitbull and others. They offer a free and paid version of the service. http://ning.com



Wishlist – Turn your Wordpress site into a membership site easily with this plug-in. We have used this on many of our own sites as well as artist sites for fan clubs, exclusive content, password protected releases and more. http://bit.ly/5lkahu



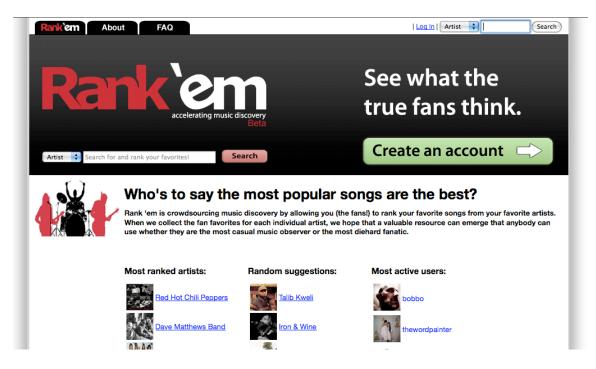
aMember – This is a membership script that can be used on any website that uses PhP code. They also have a rocking Wordpress Plugin. http://www.amember.com/p/



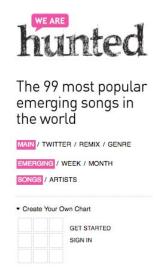


Part 16 - Charts and Rankings

Rank 'em – Startup project from Athens, GA, Rank 'em allows fans to rank the most popular songs from their favorite artists. http://www.gorankem.com/



We Are Hunted – Indie music charts that take their rankings from Twitter, Blogs, P2P networks. Great way to see if your social campaigns are working. http://wearehunted.com/









Indie Hit Maker – Do you sell a lot of CD's at your live shows? This service tracks those sales and charts you on Billboard. If you are a touring musician, you need this product! http://bit.ly/5gU5i6



Next Steps

After reading this guide to all the tools, resources and communities, the next step is to take action. That could be signing up for one of the services. It could be re-working your website. It could be reaching out to bloggers or creating a real marketing plan.

No matter the next step, be sure to take action.

Feel free to pass this report to your friends, other bands or people in the industry that you feel would benefit from it.

If you would like to continue your education in the music business please

- Check out Label 2.0 http://evolvor.com/services/label-20/join-now/
- Consider one-on-one or group consulting.

For more information, please contact Greg at <u>marketing@genyrockstars.com</u>.

Greg Rollett

Music Marketer and Editor at Gen-Y Rock Stars

Greg Rollett