



Coalition for the Future of Music

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Jenny Toomey
Executive Director

The history of the American music industry is a disheartening one, which largely details the exploitation of artists and musicians by opportunists and those without the musicians' best interests at heart.

Michael Bracy
Government Relations
Director

For too long musicians have had too little voice in the manufacture, distribution and promotion of their music on a national and international level and too little means to extract fair support and compensation for their work.

Walter McDonough
Legal Director

Manufacturing and distribution monopolies concentrate the power of over 90 percent of music sold into the hands of four labels. With huge media mergers continuing to consolidate the decisions of what to play and promote, it becomes more and more difficult for artists to gain exposure through the few remaining coveted radio spots.

Brian Zisk
Technologies Director

Historically, musicians have had one of two unattractive choices:

1. Align themselves with major label exploiters and agree to unfair compensation in the hopes of one day reaching a national audience; or
2. Resign themselves to working with indies and a life in the shadows.

Enter the Coalition for the Future of Music.

The Coalition for the Future of Music is a not-for-profit collaboration between leading independent musicians and experts from the worlds of technology, public policy and intellectual property law. The Coalition seeks to educate the media and policymakers about music/technology issues, while also bringing together key stakeholders in an effort to come up with creative solutions to some of the challenges in this space. The Coalition also aims to identify and promote innovative business models that will help independent musicians benefit from new technologies.

We build this organization as an attempt both to address pressing music/technology issues and to serve as a voice for musicians in Washington, DC, where critical decisions are being made regarding musicians' intellectual property rights without a word from the artists themselves.

No longer will corporate media and big money be able to frame the discussion of music solely in terms of their industries, as we draw together the strongest voices in the technology and independent music communities to address questions of music in the marketplace with a clear-eyed focus on the interests of the artists.

www.futureofmusic.org