

1. Taylor Swift

Taylor Swift is a prominent figure in the music industry, known for her exceptional songwriting skills and commanding influence. With a career spanning over a decade, she has consistently topped the charts and garnered a massive global fan base. Her massive following of “Swifties” has even lobbied for investigations against sites such as Ticketmaster, whose site crashed after an unexpected influx of potential buyers during the presale for Swift’s Eras tour. She is also known for her innovative approaches in navigating the music space, recently starting to rerecord many of her albums to ensure that she owns the masters of them, a move that has influenced aspiring artists in the space.

2. Drake

Aubrey Graham is one of the most prominent figures in the music scene today, being the best selling artist of all time in terms of digital sales. He is a Canadian rapper and singer who is currently on his “*It’s all a Blur*” tour, whose presale came under heavy scrutiny due to its exclusivity with Ticketmaster that led to multiple delays and price gouging. In addition, his stance on AI, which he has come out as strongly opposing, has influenced many industry peoples opinions on the matter. Graham is also known for his beef with Pusha T, which led to him publicly announcing the birth of his son Adonis.

3. Kanye West

Kanye West is a multi-billion dollar American rapper, singer, songwriter, record producer, and fashion designer. Having sold 160 million records through his 25 year career, he has become one of the most prominent figures in the rap industry. During his successful career, he has made multiple adversaries, most notable being Taylor Swift, whose VMAs speech he interrupted in 2009 and has dissed on multiple songs such as “*Famous*”, a Billboard Hot 100 hit. Partnering with Ticketmaster on multiple exclusive tours, his popularity has led to the recently created AI music scene to use his distinct voice as a leading tour-de-force to influence music for the future.

4. Justin Bieber

Justin Bieber is a Canadian singer known for his genre-melding artistry and global influence in modern-day music. His rise to global fame started when he released “*Baby*” in 2010 at 16 years old, becoming an overnight sensation whose popularity has never dwindled. His continued success has led to multiple Ticketmaster exclusive presales for his tours, which have gone pretty smoothly so far. His continued success is mainly due to Scooter Braun, an American record executive who found and signed Bieber when he was just 13 years old. Braun’s controversies with Taylor Swift leading to the rerecording of her albums has led Bieber’s continued involvement with Braun to be heavily scrutinized by the public.

5. **Kendrick Lamar**

Kendrick Lamar is a highly influential rapper and songwriter, acclaimed for his poignant lyrics and social commentary. Lamar's introspective and politically charged music has earned him numerous awards and critical acclaim, making him a significant force in the rap industry. “*K-Dot*” has had very outspoken views on AI, dissing it on one of his best-selling tracks: *HUMBLE*. In the song, he expresses his opinion on being sick of the Photoshop, and to show [him] something natural. However, Kendrick has not only voiced his opinion on AI and fakeness once, as on one of his most recent features, “*America has a Problem*”, Lamar claimed that even AI needs to practice cloning [Kendrick], emphasizing that a storyteller can not be replicated.

6. **Bad Bunny**

Benito Ocasio is a Puerto Rican reggaeton and Latin trap sensation whose innovative music has transcended language barriers, garnering global acclaim. With a distinctive sound and an unapologetic approach, he has become a prominent figure in the music scene. His popularity has led to multiple worldwide tours, with Ticketmaster exclusive deals leading to probes by investigative bodies into massive delays for tickets for his tour. In addition to this, Bad Bunny has expressed his thoughts on AI with no shy of the truth as he went on a furious rant about a viral AI TikTok song that used his voice.

7. **Britney Spears**

Britney Spears is an American singer often referred to as the “Princess of Pop” due to her influence in the revival of teen pop during the late 90’s and early 2000’s. With over 150 million records sold worldwide, she is one of the world’s best-selling music artists. Throughout her extensive career, she has been in numerous controversies, especially with her conservatorship and mental health issues. Even through continued success, these controversies travestied her career, as entities such as Live Nation helped try and monetize her success during the difficult time, leading to a difficult relationship between the two sides.

8. **The Weeknd**

Abel Tesfaye is a Canadian singer, songwriter, and record producer, being one of the most prominent artists in the world right now, peaking at over 106 million monthly listeners. By his stage name, The Weeknd, he has single handedly amassed 7 number 1 hits and 97 songs on the Billboard top 100. Embracing AI technologies, he has explored innovative ways to enhance his music production and elevate the generality of his production. His distinctive voice has led people on TikTok to replicate his voice with AI and has led to an AI grammy nominated song using his voice, with no intervention from Abel himself. In addition, The Weeknd’s *After Hours till Midnight* tour is one of the biggest of the decade, amassing over \$350 million in ticket revenue, however, the revenue was from an exclusive partnership with Ticketmaster.

9. Playboi Carti

Playboi Carti, born Jordan Terrell Carter, is a trailblazing figure in the hip-hop scene, recognized for his unique approach to music and distinctive fashion sense. Emerging from Atlanta, Carti gained prominence with his experimental sound, characterized by ethereal beats, ad-libs, and an unorthodox delivery. He will be embarking on his *Antagonist* tour in 2024, which has garnered some controversy over alleged Satanic messaging in his set. He has announced his new album, *Music*, to come out in 2024, but Carti's popularity has led to many AI Carti songs, which has led fans to not know if their favorite artist has actually dropped a song.

10. SZA

Solána Imani Rowe, an American singer and songwriter, is renowned for her distinctive fusion of R&B, soul, and hip-hop influences. Achieving a notable milestone, SZA's "*SOS*" album secured the No. 1 spot on the Billboard 200, and her latest single "*Kill Bill*" has contributed to her ongoing success. SZA started the third leg of her *SOS* Tour across North America in September 2023, offering fans an exclusive presale opportunity through Ticketmaster. Despite generally maintaining a low profile, SZA has had multiple controversies with her fans, having a history of being insecure with critiques of her music.

11. Travis Scott

Jacques Webster II, the distinguished American rapper and songwriter known for his unique style and impactful albums like "*Astroworld*," has significantly shaped the landscape of hip-hop and rap through his dynamic performances. However, Travis's 2021 *Astroworld* festival took a tragic turn when a crowd surge led to injuries and fatalities, resulting in the loss of ten lives and prompting immediate investigations. Not too long before this tragedy, an AI-crafted music artist named "Travis Bott" emerged from a company called Space150, seamlessly embodying the distinctive style of Travis Scott. This bot dropped a single titled "*Jack Park Canny Dope Man*," unexpectedly becoming a hit with thousands of plays on various music platforms.

12. Beyonce

Beyonce Giselle Knowles-Carter is an American singer, songwriter, and businesswoman who has become a cultural icon of the 21st century due to her exceptional artistry and profound performances. Labeled as one of the greatest vocalists of all time, she is the first solo artist to have their first seven studio albums debut at #1 in the United States and the most successful black touring act in history. Her exceptional success has led to multiple sold-out worldwide tours, using Ticketmaster for exclusive presales to help her fans get easy access to tickets. Her success has also led to multiple controversies, most recently being her usage of an ableist slur in a song off her recent album "*Renaissance*."

13. Jay-Z

Shawn Carter is an American rapper, record producer, and entrepreneur who has been labeled as the greatest rapper of all time by many publications. His involvement in the creative and commercial success of many artists such as Kanye West through his entertainment company Roc Nation and other ventures has led him to become the wealthiest musical artist in the world. He is also one of the most influential people in the world, and has been a part of Live Nation since 2008, being an exclusive partner of the company. Even through his success, he has also received much criticism for his relationship with his wife, Beyonce, and his prior disses on artists such as Kanye West and Nas.

14. Morgan Wallen

Morgan Wallen is a country music artist known for his distinctive voice and chart-topping hits. He's made a significant impact on the country music scene and has attracted a devoted fan base. His rise to fame started as a contestant on *The Voice*, with his continued success since then leading to record-breaking achievements such as having the most songs on the *Billboard* Hot 100 at one time. His continued success has also led to Ticketmaster exclusive presales for his tours, which has faced much scrutiny by fans who have to wait in long queues for a ticket. However, he has come under much criticism due to a video showing his usage of a racial slur while talking to a friend, which almost derailed his multimillion-dollar career.

15. Tyler The Creator

Tyler Okonma has been in the music industry for quite some time, but has recently started to take the world by storm with his unique sense of style and composition. With ripe beginnings as a part of Odd Future, he had come under criticism early in his career for his overly violent and disrespectful comments and lyrics. Recently, Tyler The Creator denied the fact that he would be releasing new music coming 2024, which prompted AI music users such as ghostwriter977 to produce new songs using Tyler's AI voice without his permission. He also is the founder of the Camp Flog Gnaw music festival and the Golf Wang fashion brand, which has contributed to his continued success in the industry.

16. James Hetfield

James Hetfield is the co-founder, rhythm guitarist, and lead vocalist of the heavy metal band Metallica. Metallica gained immense popularity as one of the most influential heavy metal bands, known for their albums and powerful live performances. Metallica has a massive fan base and has had a contentious history with Ticketmaster since the '90s, which resulted in a legal battle. Hetfield has remained skeptical of Ticketmaster's practices and has voiced concerns regarding their dominance. However, critics have argued that Metallica's battle with Ticketmaster was more about financial gain than actual concern for fans, given their large-scale tours and ticket prices.

17. Eddie Vedder

Eddie Vedder is the lead vocalist and one of the founding members of the rock band Pearl Jam. Pearl Jam gained fame in the '90s and has maintained popularity with successful albums and tours. Pearl Jam has had a history of vocal opposition against Ticketmaster's monopolistic practices and high service fees, even testifying in front of Congress about the issue. Vedder has also reiterated concerns about Ticketmaster's control over the live events industry. However, critics have argued that Pearl Jam's stance against Ticketmaster was more self-serving or attention-seeking than genuinely altruistic, given their own commercial success and high-profile concerts.

18. Bruce Springsteen

Bruce Springsteen, known as "*The Boss*," is an iconic American singer-songwriter and rock musician. He has achieved legendary status through critically acclaimed albums, legendary live performances, and a devoted fan base. Springsteen has had public disputes with Ticketmaster in the past, particularly during the 2009 "*Working on a Dream*" tour when fans faced ticketing issues and price concerns. However, critics have claimed that Springsteen's previous disputes with Ticketmaster were strategically used to garner sympathy and portray him as a defender of his fans for marketing purposes and to maintain his image as a working-class hero.

19. 21 Savage

Shéyaa Joseph is a renowned figure in the rap and hip-hop music scene, recognized for his distinctive style and powerful lyrics. With a background rooted in Atlanta, 21 Savage's music often reflects the challenges and experiences of his upbringing. Recently receiving his *VISA* after years, he is free to tour the world and perform for his fans internationally. He is just coming off a collaborative tour with Drake, which suffered some controversy due to delays and price gouging by Ticketmaster during the exclusive presale. Even through this, however, his upcoming Europe tour is being sold exclusively on Live Nation.

20. Ariana Grande

Ariana Grande-Butera is an American singer, songwriter, and actress known for her powerful vocals and successful pop and R&B music career. She holds the fourth-highest number of entries for a female artist on the Billboard Hot 100, with an impressive total of 73 chart entries, including seven number ones and 20 top-10 hits. The two-time Grammy Award winner collaborated with Ticketmaster for her 2019 "*Sweetener*" World Tour and previous tours. However, this tour didn't fare so well as she faced numerous accusations, particularly regarding the use of AI to "enhance" her voice during the performances.

21. Bruno Mars

Bruno Mars, a global music sensation, has crafted a narrative of resilience that extends beyond the stage. His journey includes overcoming personal and professional challenges, a testament to his unyielding spirit. Bruno Mars' engagement with AI reflects his adaptability to emerging trends in the music industry, with many AI users on Tiktok trying to replicate Mars' voice in an attempt to go viral. However, he has been criticized in the past for his cultural appropriation, which he has religiously denied. On his *24k Magic Tour*, Bruno Mars sold his tickets exclusively with Ticketmaster, leaving fans with only one certain ticketing platform.

22. Lana Del Rey

Elizabeth Woolridge Grant, the American singer-songwriter known for her dreamy and cinematic style blending vintage aesthetics with modern themes, has faced notable recognition, including securing a spot on Rolling Stone's 200 Greatest Singers of All Time in 2023 and earning acclaim from Rolling Stone UK as The Greatest American Songwriter of the 21st century. Recently releasing a cover of "*Take Me Home, Country Roads*" in December 2023, Lana Del Rey embarked on a collaborative tour with Ticketmaster in August 2023. However, her journey has not been without challenges. In 2022, Lana Del Rey faced a lawsuit from Bolaño and Drove, alleging the unauthorized use of a 17-second excerpt from their work "*Sky*" in her 2012 music video for "*Summertime Sadness*." Additionally, she has faced accusations of racism, adding complexity to her career.

23. Ed Sheeran

Ed Sheeran is a Grammy-winning British singer-songwriter known for his chart-topping hits and acoustic pop sound. He has attained massive popularity through viral performances, hit albums, and sold-out stadium tours. His popularity has led to run-ins with AI usage of his likeness, with him coming out and saying that he finds the usage of it as weird. He is a proponent of banning AI from the music industry entirely, and is coming off increased popularity from the release of his last album in September. In the past, he has been criticized for his music being formulaic and commercially oriented, with many critics emphasizing that it lacks depth or originality.

24. Nicki Minaj

Onika Tanya Maraj-Petty, a Trinidadian-American rapper, singer, and songwriter, is celebrated for her impactful contributions to hip-hop and pop music. With 47 BMI awards, Nicki Minaj's "*Super Freaky Girl*" made her the first female rap artist since 1998 to top the Hot 100, securing her third overall number-one single in the US. Nicki Minaj's 2024 *Pink Friday 2 Tour*, in collaboration with Ticketmaster, spans North America and Europe, including festivals like Rolling Loud California and Dreamville; presale tickets have been available since December 12th. Throughout her career, Nicki Minaj has been involved in various conflicts with celebrities and fellow musicians, including Taylor Swift, Cardi B, and allegedly over seven other top artists.

25. Cardi B

Belcalis Marlenis Almánzar, known as Cardi B, is an American rapper, singer, and songwriter who rose to fame with her 2017 debut single "*Bodak Yellow*," topping the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Recognized for her bold personality and music success, she has earned several accolades, including a Grammy Award for Best Rap Album. Recently, as of November 22, Cardi B has taken legal action against a company using AI to imitate her voice without consent. Despite her achievements, Cardi B has also faced tensions with Nicki Minaj, resulting in a publicized feud and an altercation between the two.

26. Frank Ocean

Even while not dropping an album in 8 years, Christopher Edwin Breaux has been the face of alternative R&B, leaving an indelible mark on the global stage through his distinctive contributions to the industry. His hit album *BLOND* shifted the narrative of how open artists were to their music, and during that vulnerable state, many fell in love with his craft. However being distant for 8 years can get many restless, and after his Coachella incident, where Frank canceled his show last second leaving fans furious, he's taken a massive hit from the media. Frank Ocean has not been seen since, leading many in the AI music scene to use his distinct artistry to feed the hunger of many of his fans, which Frank has not spoken out on yet.

27. Brent Faiyaz

Christopher Brent Wood is a pivotal figure in the music industry, especially in the realm of the R&B music industry. Born in Colombia, Maryland, his influence extends across both traditional and cutting-edge facets of the music landscape. Coming off his worldwide "*It's a Wasteland*" tour, which took full advantage of Ticketmaster exclusive presales, he's dropped a new album, *Larger than Life*, to mediocre reviews. Wood has been criticized in the past for his toxic lyrics and his usage of derogatory terms, which has led critics to perceive him as running out of material.

28. Rihanna

Robyn Rihanna Fenty, a Barbadian singer, actress, and businesswoman, gained global acclaim with hits such as "*Umbrella*" and "*Diamonds*," and is known for her versatile music style and fashion-forward image. AI-generated covers of popular songs mimicking Rihanna's vocals have garnered praise and gone viral. Despite over seven years since her last album, reports suggest a major comeback in 2024 with a world tour in collaboration with Ticketmaster and the release of two new albums. However, her lingerie line, Savage X Fenty, has faced legal issues, with allegations of defrauding customers resulting in a \$1 million fine as of 2022.

29. Harry Styles

Harry Styles is a British singer-songwriter and former member of the boy band One Direction, known for his solo career and distinctive fashion sense. He first achieved popularity as a member of One Direction, launched a successful solo career with hit albums and singles. He has not been directly associated with Ticketmaster or AI controversies, but has a significant brand and just finished his 2nd solo tour in July 2023, with an exclusive pre-sale through Ticketmaster for it. His transition from a boy band member to a solo artist has attracted some criticism regarding the authenticity of his music and his artistic evolution.

30. Pusha T

Terrence LeVarr Thornton is an American rapper and songwriter from Virginia Beach who rose to prominence as being a part of Clipse in the 2000s, which led him to widespread success and the global scene. He is the maker of many different commercial successes, such as the McDonald's jingle and the Arby's theme song. He has achieved critical acclaim as a solo artist as well, being a key associate of Kanye West and the former president of GOOD Music until 2022. Thornton has had many run-ins with AI, most notably being an AI diss track on Jim Jones that used his voice which led to increased tension between the two sides. Pusha T is also known for his beef with Drake, which led him to force Drake to publicly announce the birth of his son, Adonis.