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ARTIST MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ON THE INTERNET

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to an artist management system on the Internet, more particularly, to the artist management system on the Internet which makes scouting new artists and supporting them on the Internet easy.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In entertainment offices, when scouting a new artist, a scout visits directly an activity spot like an amateur live concert, tries to look for amateurs from every field, selects only the artist that seems to have talent, assists the artist to make his debut as a new face, and manages the artist.

However, when scouting a new artist, it takes a great deal of labor because a scout must visit directly an activity spot, like an amateur live concert. Also, it is difficult to get a trend toward how general users like the artist because the new artist tends to be selected by the liking of the scout. In addition, prior to this invention, it is inconvenient to secure a fund for the new artists' activity and management was troublesome.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In order to obviate the aforementioned inconveniences, terminal equipment which processes each artist's information is provided for each artist, and terminal equipment to use artists' information is provided for plural general users, and an administration company is provided with processing means to connect to both artist's terminal equipment and general user's terminal equipment by way of Internet communication. By using the processing means, artists' information from each artist is registered at the administration company,

the registered artists' information is served to said general user, by this, the artist is supported.

According to the present invention, artists' information from each artist is registered at an administration company, and the registered artists' information is served to the general user, which supports the artist. As a result, there is no need for a scout to visit an activity spot, like an amateur live concert, when scouting a new artist. Thus labor is reduced, and a trend toward an artist that general users like can be obtained, and securing funds for the new artists' activity and management becomes easy. Thus, it becomes easy to scout a new artist on the Internet and a new artist is easily supported.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is an artist management system for the Internet;

Figure 2 is part of an artist management system for the Internet;

Figure 3 is a block diagram showing each computer;

Figure 4 is a flowchart of an artist management system for the Internet;

Figure 5 shows a connecting arrangement between an artist and a general consumer;

Figure 6 shows a connecting arrangement between an administration company and a general investor;

Figure 7 shows a connecting arrangement among an administration company, a general investor, and an Internet bank;

Figure 8 shows an arrangement where labels are produced and sent to the second general consumer;

Figure 9 shows an arrangement permitting use of the system; and

Figure 10 shows other variations for the system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Embodiments of the present invention will now be described in specific detail with reference to the drawings. Figures 1-10 illustrate an embodiment of the present invention.

In Figure 1, reference numeral 2 denotes an artist management system on the Internet. The artist management system on the Internet 2 includes an artist 4, an administration company (COMPANY) 6, a first general consumer 8, a general investor 10, and a second general consumer 12.

The artist 4 is an amateur who possesses information, such as one or a combination of music, images, and animation.

As shown in Figure 1, the artist 4 are a plurality of artists (for example, four artists, A-D), that is, artists 4A-4D. Each of these artists A-D will have an artist computer 14A-14D, or terminal equipment which is used by the artist 4A-4D in order to process each artist's information. The artists computer 14, as shown in Figure 3, includes artist's side processing portion 14-1, artist's side sending portion 14-2, and artist's side receiving portion 14-3.

As shown in Figure 3, the administration company 6 is provided with an administration company computer 16 as a processing means (server) to connect to each artist computer 14 by way of the Internet.

The administration company computer 16 includes administration company's side processing portion 16-1, information registration portion 16-2, label making portion 16-3, administration company's side sending

portion 16-4, and administration company's side transmission portion 16-5.

The first general consumer 8 is a member of a fan club, for example. The first consumer 8 is one of a plurality of general consumers (for example, four consumers, A-D), that is, consumers 8A-8D. Each of these consumers A-D will have a first general consumer computer 18A-18D, or terminal equipment which is used by the general consumers 8A-8D in order to use artists' information.

The first general consumer computer 18, as shown in Figure 3, includes the first general consumer's side processing portion 18-1, general consumer's side sending portion 18-2, and the first general consumer's side receiving portion 18-3.

The general investor 10 represents a plurality of investors (for example, five investors A-E), that is, the general investors 10A-10E; each of these investors A-E will have a first general investor computer 20A-20E, or terminal equipment which is used by the general investor 10A-10E to use artists' information.

The first general investor computer 20, as shown in Figure 3, includes investor's side processing portion 20-1, investor's side sending portion 20-2, and investor's side transmission portion 20-3.

The second general consumer 12 represents a plurality of the consumers (for example, four consumers, A-D), that is, the second general consumers 12A-12D; each of these consumers A-D will have a second general consumer computer 20A-20E, or terminal equipment which is used by the second general consumer 12A-12E to use artists' information.

The second general consumer computer 22, as shown in Figure 3, includes second general consumer's side processing portion 22-1, second general consumer's side sending portion 22-2, and second general consumer's side receiving portion 22-3.

As shown in Figure 1, the artist computer 14 and the administration company computer 16 are connected by way of a first Internet communication line 24-1. The administration company computer 16 and the first general consumer computer 18 are connected by way of a second Internet communication line 24-2. The administration company computer 16 and the computer for general investors 20 are connected by way of a third Internet communication line 24-3. The administration company computer 16 and the second general consumer computer 22 are connected by way of a fourth Internet communication line 24-4.

In addition, as shown in Figure 7, the administration company computer 16 is connected to the Internet bank 26 by way of a fifth Internet communication line 24-5.

Furthermore, as shown in Figure 9, the administration company computer 16 is connected to the computer which the plurality of users (four, for example) 28A-28D have, that is, the computers 30A-30D, by way of a sixth Internet communication line 24-6.

In this embodiment, the information from the artist 4 is registered at the administration company 6, and the registered artists' information is sent to each general user, and the artist 4 is supported by this.

Next, the operation of the embodiment will be described with the flow chart of Figure 4.

As shown in Figure 2, the amateur artist 4 sends a demonstration to the administration company 6, and pays a registration fee to the administration company 6 (step 102).

The administration company 6 registers the artist 4 (or registers the artist's career, the goal of activity, and other comments), for example, every month that is a term of a registration, and registers the artist's demonstration, and also manages to separate the artists into a genre and the number of registrations (step 104).

As shown in Figure 5, both the artist 4 and the fan club member of the first general consumer 8 are directly connected, and the first general consumer 8 listens to the demonstration, votes in the contest, and sets a rank according to the results of the vote (step 106).

In this case, prize money is given. For example, the first winner is given 300,000 yen, the second is given 200,000 yen, the third is given 100,000 yen.

In addition, as shown in Figure 6, the administration company 6 serves the general investor 10 with a free search of the artist and sends part of a demonstration within a predetermined time (for example, ten minutes) (step 108). The general investor 10 offers an investment (for example, 50,000 yen as a unit) (step 110).

Offering the investment can be divided into several times or shares. In addition, the administration company 6 makes a list for an investment chart.

When there was an offer of investment from the general investor 10, a contract between the administration company 6 and the general investor 10 is made for a one-third of copyright or a one-third of neighboring rights (both except a cost or fee), for

example (step 112). However, in this contract, the artists' appearance on the concert or other appearance, or merchandising right is extra.

Then, as shown in Figure 7, the administration company 6 contacts both of the general investor 10 and the Internet bank 26, and makes sure of each investment balance and charge in detail.

On the other hand, in case the artist 4 desires, or there is no desire of investment but the administration company 6 makes labels, a contract between the artist 4 and the administration company 6 is made for a half of copyright or a half of neighboring rights (both except a cost or fee), for example.

In addition, the administration company 6 can establish a term of an investment application, for example within a month, and register during the period. The administration company 6 can cancel the registration of the artist 6 who is not invested.

In addition, the administration company 6 registers a list of investment status, a list of sending status, a hit chart, a list of detailed investment charges, a list of copyright charges or neighboring rights charges, royalty for each month, and allotment (step 114).

The administration company 6, as shown in Figure 8, produces as well as sends homepages, magazines, and so on (step 116). Then, the homepage of each artist 4 is produced according to a genre, an artist, a title, and contents. Also, the contents of homepages, magazines, and a hit-chart which includes the number of access counts and download counts are produced. In addition, homepages and magazines, which charge a fee, are sent to the second general consumer 12.

In addition, as shown in Figure 9, the administration company 6 establishes a permission for artists' appearances in commercial messages, concerts, and others, or permission for merchandising rights with the user 28 as an application (step 118).

In addition, as another variation of contract, the administration company 6 can establish a manager for the artist 4, a promoter, a producer, a mixer, and an arranger, as shown in Figure 10.

Furthermore, as shown in Figure 2, the administration company 6 can send the artist 4 the status of contest-voting by the first general consumer 8, results of contest-voting, the status of investment by the general investor 10, status of contract, a list of sending status, a hit-chart, a list of investment used in detail, a list of copyright income and neighboring rights income, and a royalty total for each month, and allotment (step 120).

As a result, artists' information from each artist is registered by an administration company, said registered artists' information is served to the general user, which supports the artist. As a result, there is no need for a scout to visit an activity spot like an amateur live concert when scouting a new artist. Thus labor is reduced, and a trend toward the artist whom general users like can be obtained. Securing a fund for the new artists' activity and management becomes easy, and it becomes easy to scout a new artist on the Internet and a new artist is easily supported.

Moreover, the present invention can be widely applied not only to management of the artist, but also to a creative activity such as a novel, a comic, and an

animation, or to an activity of demonstration such as a theatrical performance, a movie, a star, and a model.

I claim:

1. An artist management system on the Internet, wherein, terminal equipment which processes each artist's information is provided for an artist, and terminal equipment to use artists' information is provided for plural general users, and an administration company is provided with processing means to connect to both the artist's terminal equipment and the general user's terminal equipment by way of Internet, by using said processing means, artists' information from each artist is registered at said administration company, the registered artists' information is served to said general users, the users support the artists by subscribing to artist homepages or magazines, investing in the artist, contracting with the artist for commercial appearances and concerts or contracting to gain permission for merchandising rights.

2. A method for managing artists on the Internet with an administration company, the administration company performing the steps of:

processing and registering artists' information for access at an Internet web site of the administration company;

providing the artists' information to a plurality of general users; and

offering on the Internet web site, an opportunity for general users of the website to subscribe to artists' homepages or magazines, access demonstrations of artists' work or invest in selected artists.

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