

MUSIC

Breaking Big: 10 new artists to hear now

Get to know (Sandy) Alex G, Olivia Holt, Charlie Worsham, and more.

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▶▶▶ *Who's topping the charts, going viral, and ruling our earbuds? Each month, EW introduces the freshest music talent you have to hear now. Below, get to know (Sandy) Alex G, Olivia Holt, Charlie Worsham, and more.*

Olivia Holt



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The Backstory: You might recognize the 19-year-old's single "History" from the Today's Top Hits playlist on Spotify, where the song racked up more than 60 million streams without the support of Top 40 radio. There's a lot to love about the track, from its tropical house-flavored beat to its gummy hook, but Holt thinks the message has resonated most. "It comes from a real life experience of mine, and to put that out in the world for people to listen to is a little terrifying," she says. "The reaction I've been getting since the song has come out is insane. People are really connecting with it and are telling me how they've been through a similar situation. It was comforting, knowing I wasn't alone and that people are being moved by my music."

Why She Rules: Transitioning from child star to a grown-up artist isn't easy, but Holt — who starred for years on the Disney Channel series *Kickin' It* — is refreshingly candid about how she plans to navigate that minefield of change. "It definitely has been a challenge for me, but I feel like it's all in baby steps," she says. "Just like how I may not be ready for something and need to ease my way into it, my fans are the same away, so it's all a process. I've decided I'm just going to take one day and a time and not make any rash decisions and be mindful of who I am. I don't want to just shock people with something crazy to let them know I'm now mature and ready."

Next Up: She's been in the studio working on new music and hopes to have a single out by the end of the year. "I've been experimenting with new sounds every day," she says. Holt also continues to juggle acting projects: She'll share a screen with Renée Zellweger in the upcoming movie *Same Kind of Different as Me*, and next year she'll star in the [Marvel television series *Cloak & Dagger*](#) on Freeform. —Nolan Feeney