Enough with the downloading. It's time to demand free things directly from bands.

The Austerity Program is running a contest because they really believe that you need more things. Here's how to help them help you:

STEP 1. Figure out your answers to some, none or all of these questions -

Give three (3) examples of Jim Traficant neologisms. Get a Brazilian wax, leaving only an "AP"behind. Photograph it. Based on Jewish law, who was the first Jewish New York City mayor? Name 5 bands the Austerity Program has played with live since forming. Al Gore was born on March 31, 1948. What pivotal event occurred 9 months earlier? How many times does Justin claim we have listened to ODB on our sole American tour? Who would have become president if Andrew Johnson had been (justifiably) removed from office?

STEP 2. Send that to contest at austerityprogram dot com.

STEP 3. Win:





2nd Place - First two demo CD-Rs with handmade packaging.

1st Place (NYC Metro) - Your own Austerity Program show.

1st Place (rest of world) - 1/4" analog reel master of Black Madonna. CRAND PRIZE -

Your own Austerfty Program song. Details are on the back. Deadline is 8/21/2007. BLACKMADONNAISOUTAUGUST210NHYDRAHEAD.

AUSTERITY PROGRAM CONTEST

The Austerity Program full-length "Black Madonna" comes out on August 21st. To celebrate, we (the band) are running a contest. Answer the following questions as well as you can before 8/21 and your name will be entered. On the CD's release date, we'll select names from the pool as winners. The more answers you get correct and the more bonus points you get (see below) and the sooner you do it - all of these things increase your chance of winning.

But the most important thing is that you send an e-mail with - if nothing else - some indication that you want to be included in the running.

Give three (3) examples of Jim Traficant neologisms. Get a Brazilian wax, leaving only an "AP"behind. Photograph it. Based on Jewish law, who was the first Jewish New York City mayor?

Name 5 bands the Austerity Program has played with live since forming. Al Gore was born on March 31, 1948. What pivotal event occurred 9 months earlier? How many times does Justin claim we have listened to ODB on our sole American tour? Who would have become president if Andrew Johnson had been (justifiably) removed from office?

And what do you win? Oh, brother, what you WIN -

SUOLISEIDONS

3rd Prize: AP Care Package (5 winners) - **One copy of the Black Madonna CD, one t-shirt, and one promo poster**. Written dedications to you on any/all of it if you so desire.

2nd Prize: Demo-rama (3 winners) - **2 early demos in original packaging: the fireworks CD and the razor CD.** All of the songs here have either been released sounding better or ditched for QC reasons. But you'll have the CD-R versions as we originally sent out to people in the complicated, handmade packaging.

Ist Prize: Non-Metro version (1 winner) - **Full-analog reel-to-reel recording of "Black Madonna".** On one RMGI 911 reel, recorded at 7.5 ips, IEC or NAB Equalization (your choice). Recorded directly from the reels we shipped to the mastering house, meaning pristine and unmastered. Hand lettered song titles, information and dedication to you. For those who never intend to play it (probably because it's a pretty esoteric format), the box will fit VERY nicely among your 12" vinyl.

1st Prize: Metro region (1 winner) - **We'll come and play a show for you.** Pick a spot within 100 miles of 511 Grand St, Brooklyn, figure out a time that works for all of us and we'll haul all of our stuff out and play a show there - the whole record start to finish. Since we're a drum machine band, we can play pretty much anywhere at any volume. You're responsible for setting up the logistics (i.e. clearing it with your parents) - we'll be there to play music. Note: this has to be a free show - no one gets paid for the performance.

Grand Prize (1 winner) - **Your own Austerity Program song.** We'll talk with you about the details as you describe them, which could include lyrics, style of song, instrumentation, riffs to rip off, "make it sound like the Gin Blossoms" - WHATEVER YOU WANT. (Well, nearly whatever. Things that we are not skilled enough to play or that are clearly bad ideas - racist lyrics, Billy Joel covers - will be vetoed.) 30 days later, we will deliver that song to you. We will keep a dub of it for sentimental reasons, but the tracking and mixdown masters will be yours (along with a CD-R .aiff file). You can do whatever you want with it - claim you wrote it, license it for Grand Theft Auto Eight, play it over a boombox standing out in front of your ex-boyfriend's house - it's your song.

Fine print? Four things. First, no one who's speficically thanked (by name or direct association) on the CD is eligible for entry. Second, we came up with the contest and all decisions about to who and how the prizes are allocated are up to us entirely. We'll do our best to be fair, but those with an overdeveloped sense of entitlement are being warned to stay cool. Third, we will not give any contact information about anyone to anyone - but we will probably add you to our e-mail list if you enter (unless you ask us not to). Finally, no more than one prize per person. Like that's gonna be a problem. Oh, and we may find reading all this later that we screwed something up, so we reserve the right to change things. We'll keep things current on our website.

All entires must be e-mailed to contest at austerityprogram dot com. Cutoff time for entries is 11:59:59PM East Coast Time on August 20, 2007.

B o n u s A picture of you in front of your local jail with a "Free the AP 2" sign. If you get a guard to hold the sign, you get double points.



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A video of you on the Today show

promenade, up front, next to that guy Lenny who is there every day, holding

an Austerity Program sign. Extra bo-

nus points if you talk with Al Roker

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