

## Elmo THUMM

Contributed by Kayla Robertson  
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Friday night the a cappella band Elmo THUMM from Southeast Michigan performed at Lake State's beautiful Arts Center, or as they put it, up here at the North Pole. To help welcome parents and alumni alike, the quintet performed a series of pop, oldies, and original pieces for a warm crowd of over 300 people. There was even a period of time afterwards for attendees to chat with the performers and have their CDs signed. Paul Ellinger, the newest member of the group (joined in 2000), is a former student of Lake Superior State University and he helped to add a comfortable and relaxed air to the performance. The show seemed a bit informal but all the same very fun and interesting.

The performance was unique in that they were an a cappella band. This means that they performed without the assistance of a band. They used a set of cymbals, a wood block, and a creation of their own: the THUMM stick. The band has two lead vocalists, although they all take turns performing the melody to different selections. The members are Adam Westmoreland, Paul Ellinger, Greg Vaden, Jason Miller, and Ed Pendleton.

The group performed hits such as "Under the Boardwalk", "Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)", and "Stuck in the Middle with You". One of the most interesting aspects of the performance was the band's ability to blend songs. One particularly interesting (and entertaining) number was the band's take on "Walking on Sunshine" which broke off into "If I were a rich man" from Fiddler on the Roof.

Elmo THUMM The band was so well-received that they played an encore of "We're an American Band". If you are interested in hearing the band you can check out their website at [www.elmothumm.com](http://www.elmothumm.com).