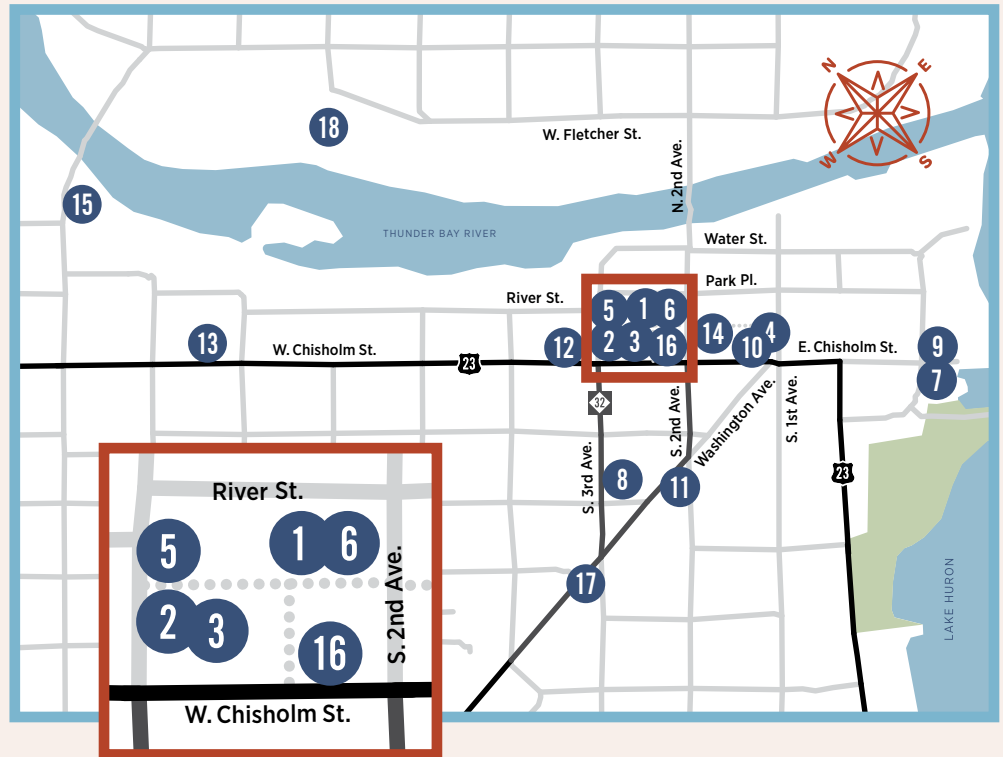


DOWNTOWN ALPENA, MICHIGAN
FRESH WAVES MURAL DIRECTORY

**STREET ART
 WITH FRESH
 VIBES**

Facilitated by the Alpena Downtown Development Authority, the Fresh Waves Mural Project adorns downtown with a variety of public art by local and national artists. Take a stroll, take your time, and take a selfie (or two)!



Woman on the Beach

LOCATION 119 N. 2nd Ave. (behind Harborside Cycle & Sport)

ARTIST Sous La Ciel, Ann Arbor, MI. Made possible through the support of The Sunset Project

From the artists: “No matter the season, between Thunder Bay, Starlight Beach, and the sandy shores of Lake Huron, the call for vitamin D is strong. There’s a calm that goes along with sitting at the water’s edge. Whether canoeing in the river, playing in the sand, or strolling along the shore, the fresh air of this ‘fresh coast’ will keep viewers yearning for more.”



Jesse Besser Mural

LOCATION 133 W. Chisholm St. (behind HopSide Brewery)

ARTIST Tim Nijenhuis of Ninehouse Productions, Hamilton, ON

This mural was completed by artist Tim Nijenhuis, who also painted the mural on the side of Light of Hope Clubhouse in 2022. This mural highlights Jesse Besser who created the first hand-tamp block machine in 1904 as the area’s cement industry was growing. Alpena remains the world headquarters for the Besser Company, and the block industry remains a vital part of the area’s economy.



Flowers

LOCATION 123 W. Chisholm St. (behind Rusty Petunias Marketplace)

ARTIST Steffi Tsai of Have a Nice Day, New York City

From the artist: “My work is heavily inspired by the nature and communities that surround the particular project I am working on. By slowing down, taking notice of local characteristics, and pulling inspiration directly from the project’s surroundings, I aim to make the final results unique to the environment in which they will exist. I want to bring bold, colorful positivity to Alpena and bring people together with my mural!”



Welcome to Downtown Alpena

LOCATION N. 1st Ave. between Chisholm & River St. (alley powerbox)
ARTIST Mariah Brancheau, Lachine, MI

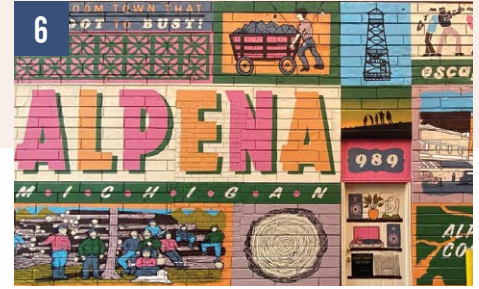
Mariah Brancheau's signature style showcases modern hand lettering, blooming florals, and vibrant colors. "As an artist, my purpose for all of my work is that others are inspired to be creative, find joy, and remember that they are loved. As an art teacher, my hope for my students (and all people) is that they would look for beauty and inspiration in everything and would continue to add to the beauty around them."



You are Art

LOCATION N. 3rd Ave. between Chisholm & River St. (alley powerbox)
ARTIST Mariah Brancheau, Lachine, MI

From the artist: "Organic shapes and vibrant colors flood the wall while flowers and leaves bloom around three small but powerful words: *You Are Art...* a reminder that everyone is beautifully created with a unique purpose and the ability to create beautiful things. My hope for this mural (as well as every piece I create) is that no matter who looks at it, they take a moment to pause and observe something vibrantly beautiful that ignites the creative spark inside them."



Alpena Postcard Mural

LOCATION 117 N. 2nd Ave. (alley behind Noise & Toys)
ARTIST Michael Ferrarell of Left Handed Wave, Chicago, IL

After studying screen-printing, Ferrarell took his street art from New York City to Los Angeles with cities in between. He shares, "Inspired by location and the elements contributing to the makeup of that space or community, the aim is to spark community engagement and creative growth through imagery that's not just aesthetically pleasing, but also educational and representative of the positives within a community."



Hello Alpena

LOCATION 400 E. Chisholm St. (at All Marine and Storage)
ARTIST Kayla Peake, Saginaw, MI

From the artist: "Art is the purest form of connection and I feel incomplete if I'm not creating. Michigan is so full of natural beauty, our anthropogenic dwellings should complement this beauty, not detract from it. My style of art is inspired by mid-twentieth century design, American traditional tattoos, and the natural beauty of our wonderful state. Northern Michigan has been my place of reprieve for my entire life and has given me so much joy and so many memories."



Alpena Flyer Mural

LOCATION 228 S. 3rd Ave. (at Light of Hope Clubhouse)
ARTIST Tim Nijenhuis of Ninehouse Productions, Hamilton, ON

This mural is painted on the side of the Light of Hope Clubhouse, an organization supporting individuals living with mental illness through meaningful work and relationships. From the artist: "I strive to be a positive force in the life of others. My art can make a difference in a negative context, creating beauty out of ugly things, or enhance a positive context, expanding opportunities to celebrate life."



Marina Mural Series

LOCATION Harbor Dr. (at the Alpena Marina entrance)

ARTISTS
Falling Water, Dual Shore | Danyael Dorr, Alpena, MI
A Sign Of Peace | Hope Reed, Alpena, MI
Summer | Mariah Brancheau, Lachine, MI
Branches, An Order Of Hope | Samantha Freske, Posen, MI
Rise | Sarah Bedford, Alpena, MI
Valor, Hold On | Tiffany Tracey, Alpena, MI
Dragon, Color Jungle | Angelina Villalobos, Seattle, WA



Wave Journey

LOCATION 125 E. Chisholm St.
(next to Cedar & Threads)

ARTIST Mark Piotrowski of
MARKedARTs, Bay City, MI

From the artist: “These waves are connected bands of evolving color that travel and wrap around each other in an infinite loop. These loops symbolize the cycles we go through on a continual basis everyday and every moment. From the act of taking a breath to progressing through the ebb and flow of our typical days, months, and years, these acts are the cycles that guide us through our daily travels.”



Risk Being Seen in All Your Glory

LOCATION 102 W. Washington Ave.
(beside SkellaFiT Personal Training)

ARTISTS Aaron Golbeck &
Alexxis Burroughs

Aaron Golbeck, an Alpena native, is a muralist with work across the country. In 2019, he helped the DDA bring the Fresh Waves project to life. To honor the project’s 5-year milestone, he painted a new mural over the old. Inspired by a real life moment, Aaron said, “I went to my buddy’s house and watched his kid play hockey. The mural [is] a dreamlike scene of the boy playing in the NHL.”



Moments That Watered Us

LOCATION 205 W. Chisholm St.
(beside PIF Cider)

ARTIST Britt Flood, Chapel Hill, NC

Britt Flood is another returning artist to our Fresh Waves project! In 2020, she painted her piece Together Again on the side of Thunder Bay Theatre’s warehouse. Unfortunately, it was destroyed in a 2023 fire. Britt returned in 2024 to paint a new piece in Downtown Alpena, calling it “an ode to moments of personal transformation that happen when we spend time by, with, and in the water. I enter the lake as one person and emerge as another.”



Flying Peacock

LOCATION 615 W. Chisholm St.
(Across from Dairy Queen)

ARTIST Eric Karbeling, Honolulu, HI

From the artist: “My work evokes a sense of joy, calm, and balance amidst chaos, inviting the viewer to get lost in and find inspiration in the way the imagery comes together. The experience of painting a mural in a new place is my absolute favorite thing as it allows for creating a truly unique connection with a community in a way I’d never experienced.”



A is for Alpena

LOCATION 108 N. 2nd Ave. (In the alleyway beside Colburn Outfitters)

ARTIST Sydneau Comepeau, Harrisville, MI

As a Northern Michigan artist and calligrapher, Sydney creates more of what she would like to see in the world: “colorful, unexpected moments of wonder.” Her mural features elements of both the Michigan state flag (a dancing stag and moose) and of Alpena (a warm, sunrise palette with partridges flying across Lake Huron). “Alpena” means “partridge” in the Ojibwe language.



Gone Fishing

LOCATION 304 N. 9th Ave.
(Beside Clem’s Bait & Tackle)

ARTIST George Eberhardt III, Grand Rapids, MI. Made possible through the support of The Sunset Project

Visible from the riverfront, the artist depicts a vibrant collage of freshwater fish, featuring species native to Northeast Michigan and the Great Lakes. Sponsored by The Sunset Project (a local non-profit committed to advancing creative opportunities) the mural aims to bring new life to a long-standing riverfront business and community staple for local outdoorsmen.



16
Make a Splash for Art: Community Mural Project

LOCATION 109 W. Chisholm St. (alley between Mangos & The Local Basketcase)
ARTIST Tony Hendrick, Grand Ledge, MI

Coordinated by Art in the Loft under the direction of Tony Hendrick, the mural depicts life underwater with a shipwreck, divers, and aquatic life. This “aquaspace” serves as the backdrop for 13 super-sized, colorful 3-D fish—each designed by members of the community and sculpted by the artist. It is a powerful statement about Alpena’s rich heritage, natural resources, and the innovative spirit of the people who shape our region.



17
Lasting Expressions Mural

LOCATION 204 W. Washington Ave.
ARTIST Samantha Freske, Posen, MI

Just as you enter Downtown Alpena, you see floral-themed murals adorning the walls of Lasting Expressions, a flower shop where Samantha Freske once worked as a designer. A painter since childhood, you can find her work throughout the community from additional murals and window art to two installations near the Alpena Marina as part of the 2021 Fresh Waves project.



18
Alpena Shipwreck Tour Mural

LOCATION 480 W. Fletcher St. (next to the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center)
ARTISTS Painted by Samantha Freske, Posen, MI. Designed by Makayla Armstead.

As the designer, Makayla Armstead depicted Alpena’s freshwater fascination with shipwrecks, lighthouses, and paddlers. Painter Samantha Freske then brought it to life. Fittingly, this collaborative mural is situated among local businesses that protect and promote our maritime heritage and resources, including Alpena Shipwreck Tours, Alpena Kayak Tours, the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, and the visitor center for Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary (TBNMS).