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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALPENA DDA SEEKING MURAL ARTISTS FOR FRESH WAVES 2022

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Alpena, MI - The Alpena Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is looking for artists who are interested in painting a vibrant mural in Downtown Alpena, Michigan this summer as part of its Fresh Waves project. Interested artists must submit an application by Monday, April 25, 2022 at midnight to be considered to paint a mural as part of this year's project.

Now in its fourth year, Fresh Waves is an arts initiative that was created in 2019 to introduce vibrant, one-of-a-kind artwork to Downtown Alpena. There is no theme or designated content for the murals as part of Fresh Waves; instead, the initiative celebrates art for art's sake and seeks artwork that brings a fresh perspective to the downtown landscape. In its first year, artists Aaron Golbeck and Chad Bolsinger painted the mural on the side of Family Enterprise, Inc. In its second year, artist Britt Flood painted her mural *Together Again* at Thunder Bay Theatre's warehouse on Fletcher St. and Mark Piotrowski painted his *Wave Journey* on Salon 125. In 2021, eight artists painted twelve murals on free-standing structures near the entrance to the Alpena Boat Harbor.

"For this year's project, our committee is planning to commission large-scale murals again on one or two walls within the DDA district," said DDA Executive Director Anne Gentry. "We've had artists from both Alpena and from around the country leave their mark on our downtown through Fresh Waves, and we're excited to bring more vibrant artwork to our downtown."

Artists interested in applying need to submit a completed application form, examples of their past work, and up to three concepts of a mural they would like to paint as part of the project. Compensation will be provided to artists for services rendered and supplies. Artists do not need to be based in Michigan to apply. Applications are also open for downtown property owners to be considered as a location for the mural(s). Both artist and location applications are due Monday, April 25, 2022 at midnight and can be viewed here: <https://www.downtownalpenami.com/fresh-waves-mural-project.html>

Those seeking more information about being a part of Fresh Waves should reach out to the DDA by calling 989-356-6422 or emailing anneg@alpena.mi.us