



**ALPENA  
DOWNTOWN**  
Development Authority



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ALPENA DDA LOOKING FOR MURAL ARTISTS TO PAINT IN DOWNTOWN ALPENA IN 2024

February 21, 2024

Alpena, MI - The Alpena Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is looking for artists who are interested in painting vibrant murals in Downtown Alpena, Michigan this summer as part of the Fresh Waves project. Interested artists have until Saturday, April 20, 2024 at midnight to submit their application to be considered to participate in the project this summer.

Now in its sixth year, Fresh Waves is a public arts initiative that was created in 2019 to introduce vibrant, one-of-a-kind artwork to Downtown Alpena. There have been 23 pieces of artwork completed throughout the downtown district by artists from all over the country through the project. In 2023, Fresh Waves had its largest year yet, commissioning 6 pieces of artwork by 8 artists throughout the alleyway that runs between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

“We are excited to grow the Fresh Waves project again this year thanks to funding support from the Michigan Arts & Culture Council,” said DDA Executive Director Anne Gentry. “With the DDA boundary expansion approved, properties along the Chisholm St. and North Second Ave. corridors are now able to apply as well. Last year, we had over 30 artists apply, and we can’t wait to see all the creative submissions this year.”

Artists interested in applying need to submit the following by Saturday, April 20, 2024 at midnight:

- Completed artist application form
- Link to online portfolio or samples of previous work
- A reference from a past commission
- Up to three concepts of what would be painted (could be a written description, rough sketch, or concept)

Selected artists will receive compensation for services rendered and supplies. Artists do not need to be based in Michigan to apply. Property owners within the DDA district are also encouraged to apply to have a mural painted on their building. Both applications 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 Office by calling 989-356-6422 or emailing [anneg@alpena.mi.us](mailto:anneg@alpena.mi.us)