

Aplomb art gallery to open at 262 Central Ave.



Danielle Festa is owner of Aplomb with The Aplomb Project, a gallery to uplift trauma survivors through the power of art. The nonprofit will be moving into a space in Derek Fisher's remodeled building on Central Avenue in Dover. She shows where some art will hang at the entrance.

Deb Cram/Foster's Daily Democrat

Aplomb, a contemporary art gallery to uplift trauma survivors through art will open its doors in the next few months.

The gallery is currently located behind Chapel + Main at 15 Mechanic St. The gallery is home to the 501(c)(3) nonprofit,

The Aplomb Project. Owner and contemporary portrait artist Danielle Festa said she paints trauma survivors to capture

their resiliency and uplift those who have experienced life-altering trauma. She then donates the

portraits to hang in

the subject's home, to remind them of their courage and joy.

Festa works with her subjects who apply on her website to be painted by going through what sorts of colors bring them

joy or make them most comfortable, and objects or scenes that ground them. In her new space at 262 Central Ave., she

will have the gallery located toward the front, with yearly installations, in addition to opportunities for people to

come in and paint. All proceeds go toward the nonprofit in supporting the organization, paint supplies and advocacy work.

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It started when Festa's cousin came to her about trauma she experienced in her childhood. Festa painted her and used

art as a way to pay tribute to her, and it turned into a much bigger project and passion.

"I realized there's a real need and want to embrace resiliency" of people who experienced trauma," said Festa in an interview Monday.

Festa's space is just over 3,000 square feet. She said she's so excited about her new space and plans to open soon.