



For immediate release:

Media contact:
Cynthia Quick, c.quick@ragdale.org
847.234.1063 x. 205

**SUPPORT RAGDALE - OPPORTUNITY TO WIN \$250,000
FROM CHASE COMMUNITY GIVING**

(November 8, 2011 – Lake Forest, Illinois)– The Ragdale Foundation, a non-profit organization which provides writers and artists with a place to work in a retreat setting, is in a national competition for donations ranging from \$25,000 to \$250,000 through the Chase Community Giving program. Chicago-area residents can help ensure the success of their favorite charity by simply voting for Ragdale through the Chase Community Giving program running on the Facebook platform. Through the utilization of the social media networks, the Chase Community Giving program has already directed more than \$15 million dollars toward charities nationwide.

“The Ragdale Foundation is constantly striving to make the arts more accessible to the public through its artists’ residency and community programs. Even the minimum Chase donation of \$25,000 would be a wonderful boost to our efforts,” said Executive Director, Susan Page Tillett.

The current round of the Chase Community Giving program is designed to benefit smaller and local 501 c-3 charities with operating budgets under \$1 million. The top eligible charity receives \$250,000 and the remaining 99 top charities earn \$25,000 through \$100,000 awards. More than \$3 million dollars will be distributed to top vote getters. Charities previously awarded grants through Chase Community Giving are not eligible for this round of competition.

Ragdale is competing with thousands of charities across the country for awards from Chase. With the support of local residents, volunteers, artists, and fans, Ragdale has the opportunity to get much needed resources to implement major improvements, such as the completion of The Ragdale House restoration.

How You Can Help

You can help The Ragdale Foundation win up to \$250,000 by simply “Liking” the Chase Community Giving program at: <http://apps.facebook.com/chasecommunitygiving/> and casting your vote to determine this fall’s winners between November 8 and November 22.

If you have questions about The Ragdale Foundation or would like to get involved, please contact info@ragdale.org or call Cynthia Quick at 847.234.1063 ext. 205.

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About Ragdale

Ragdale is located on Arts and Crafts architect Howard Van Doren Shaw's Lake Forest summer retreat, just 30 miles north of Chicago. Built in 1897, the Ragdale House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1976, Shaw's granddaughter Alice Judson Hayes transformed her family's summer home into an artist's community providing time and space for artists to create important new work. Today Ragdale hosts up to 200 artists, writers, and composers each year, making it the largest interdisciplinary artist's community in the Midwest and the fourth largest in the country. Noted past residents include Jane Hamilton, Alex Kotlowitz and Audrey Niffenegger. For more information on any of Ragdale's programs or Ragdale's history, please visit www.ragdale.org or call (847) 234-1063 x. 205.

About Chase Community Giving

Chase Community Giving is grant program inspiring a new way of corporate philanthropy by letting participants vote to help determine which small and local non profits will receive donations from Chase's philanthropy funds. The program has given away over \$15 million in grants to charities nationwide, with focuses including arts and culture; education and youth development; environment; animal welfare; health and social services; community development; medical research and awareness; recreation and sports; and international development.