



For Immediate Release:

**Ragdale Foundation to Host Bestselling Author
DAVE KING for Fellowship and Public Program**

LAKE FOREST – April 9, 2008 - The Ragdale Foundation continues its “Ragdale Presents” series **Sunday, May 18 at 3p.m.** with bestselling author **Dave King**, author of *The Ha-Ha*, and Ragdale’s **2008 Strnad Invitational Fellow**.

King will read from his novel and discuss his career and work. A book signing and dessert reception will follow.

Ragdale hosts this **free** program in partnership with the Lake Forest Book Store. Books will be available for sale at the event. The reading takes place in the Ragdale Foundation’s Barnhouse conference room at 1260 N. Green Bay Road, Lake Forest. Space is very limited and reservations are required. Call 847.234.1063 x. 205 to reserve.

The Ha-Ha has received wide recognition and several awards including being named one of the best books of 2005 by the *Washington Post*. In addition, *The New York Times Book Review* said of his book, “King’s writerly restraint serves his story well. His novel is unflinchingly believable. Neither showy nor histrionic, *The Ha-Ha* is full of emotional truth and establishes King as a writer of consequence.”

The **Strnad Fellowship** is one of several invitational endowed fellowships and is offered annually to a distinguished author.

Dave King will be in residency at Ragdale in May to work on his new book.

Ragdale is located in Arts and Crafts architect Howard Van Doren Shaw’s Lake Forest country estate, 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 colony 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 artists’ community in the Midwest and the fourth largest in the country.

#

For more information, contact:

Leslie Brown
(847) 234-1063 x205
l.brown@ragdale.org
www.ragdale.org