



## SHORT STORY AWARD FOR NEW WRITERS

### 1ST PLACE

Rachael Uwada Clifford receives \$2,500 for  
“What the Year Will Swallow.”

*Many people find themselves in trouble simply because they fail to go to bed early.*

Rachael Uwada Clifford is a writer and poet living in Baltimore. The daughter of Nigerian immigrants, she was born in Tennessee and grew up in Georgia and New Mexico. She received her MFA from the Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins University, where she also taught creative writing. She has received awards and fellowships from Cave Canem, Kimbilio, The Mastheads, and the Maryland State Arts Council. This will be her first publication.

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### 2ND PLACE

Douglas Kiklowicz receives \$500 for “I Used to Be Funny.”

*I wasn't bored. I had big things to avoid thinking about.*

Douglas Kiklowicz is a photographer, music producer, video game writer, and university instructor. His photos on climate change have been used by *National Geographic* and the *Guardian*. His music project, *Bloodwork: Exuberant Pop Music for the Depressed*, is exactly what it sounds like. His iPhone game *Buddy Bot: Slayer of Sadness* was described by reviewers as boasting “weirdly memorable characters.” And his photography book on the Trump presidency, *Tilting: An Instagram Lyric for Americans*, will be available this summer. Find him on Instagram: @kiklowicz or at [kiklowicz.com](http://kiklowicz.com). This will be his first published fiction.

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### 3RD PLACE

Ashley Alliano receives \$300 for “Do Something.”

*“It doesn't get more American than this,” he says.  
“I suppose not.”*

Ashley Alliano is a fiction writer and graduate of Spalding University's MFA Program in Writing. She lived in Orlando, Florida, for twenty-five years before moving recently to South Philadelphia. This will be her first publication.