

Statement of Additional Information June 28, 2024

PZENA MID CAP VALUE FUND Investor Class PZVMX Institutional Class PZIMX

PZENA SMALL CAP VALUE FUND Investor Class PZVSX Institutional Class PZISX

PZENA EMERGING MARKETS VALUE FUND Investor Class PZVEX Institutional Class PZIEX

PZENA INTERNATIONAL SMALL CAP VALUE FUND
Investor Class PZVIX
Institutional Class PZIIX

PZENA INTERNATIONAL VALUE FUND Investor Class PZVNX Institutional Class PZINX

This Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") is not a prospectus, and it should be read in conjunction with the Funds' Prospectus dated June 28, 2024, as may be revised (the "Prospectus"), of the Pzena Mid Cap Value Fund (the "Mid Cap Fund"), the Pzena Small Cap Value Fund (the "Small Cap Fund"), the Pzena Emerging Markets Value Fund (the "Emerging Markets Fund"), the Pzena International Small Cap Value Fund (the "International Small Cap Fund") and the Pzena International Value Fund ("International Value Fund"), (each, a "Fund" and collectively, the "Funds"), each a series of Advisors Series Trust (the "Trust"). Pzena Investment Management, LLC (the "Adviser") is the investment adviser to the Funds. A copy of the Prospectus may be obtained by contacting the Funds at the address or telephone number below or by visiting the Adviser's website at <a href="https://www.pzenafunds.com">www.pzenafunds.com</a>.

Pzena Funds c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services P.O. Box 701 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-0701 1-844-796-1996 (844-PZN-1996)

The Funds' audited financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024, and the unqualified reports of Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm, on such financial statements are included in the Funds' annual report to shareholders for the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024, and are incorporated by reference into this SAI. A copy of the annual report may be obtained without charge by calling or writing the Funds as shown above or by visiting the Funds' website at www.pzenafunds.com.

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#### THE TRUST

The Trust is an open-end management investment company organized as a Delaware statutory trust under the laws of the State of Delaware on October 3, 1996. The Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the "Declaration of Trust") permits the Trust's Board of Trustees (the "Board" or the "Trustees") to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest, par value \$0.01 per share, which may be issued in any number of series. The Trust consists of various series that represent separate investment portfolios. The Board may from time to time issue other series, the assets and liabilities of which will be separate and distinct from any other series. This SAI relates only to the Funds.

The Mid Cap Fund and Emerging Markets Fund commenced operations on March 31, 2014. The Small Cap Fund commenced operations on April 27, 2016. The International Small Cap Fund commenced operations on July 2, 2018. The International Value Fund commenced operations on June 28, 2021.

Registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") does not involve supervision of the management or policies of the Fund. The Prospectus of the Fund and this SAI omit certain of the information contained in the Registration Statement filed with the SEC. Copies of such information may be obtained from the SEC upon payment of the prescribed fee or may be accessed free of charge at the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>.

#### INVESTMENT POLICIES AND RISKS

The following information supplements the discussion of the Funds' investment objectives and policies as set forth in their Prospectus.

#### Diversification

Each Fund is diversified under applicable federal securities laws. This means that as to 75% of its total assets (1) no more than 5% may be invested in the securities of a single issuer, and (2) it may not hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of a single issuer. However, the diversification of a mutual fund's holdings is measured at the time the fund purchases a security and if a Fund purchases a security and holds it for a period of time, the security may become a larger percentage of the Fund's total assets due to movements in the financial markets. If the market affects several securities held by a Fund, the Fund may have a greater percentage of its assets invested in securities of fewer issuers. Accordingly, each Fund is subject to the risk that its performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of relatively few securities despite qualifying as a diversified fund.

## **Percentage Limitations**

Whenever an investment policy or limitation states a maximum percentage of each Fund's assets that may be invested in any security or other asset, or sets forth a policy regarding quality standards, such standard or percentage limitation will be determined immediately after and as a result of a Fund's acquisition or sale of such security or other asset. Accordingly, except with respect to borrowing, any subsequent change in values, net assets or other circumstances will not be considered in determining whether an investment complies with each Fund's investment policies and limitations. In addition, if a bankruptcy or other extraordinary event occurs concerning a particular investment by a Fund, the Fund may receive stock, real estate or other investments that the Fund would not, or could not, buy. If this happens, a Fund would sell such investments as soon as practicable while trying to maximize the return to its shareholders.

### **Market and Regulatory Risk**

Events in the financial markets and economy may cause volatility and uncertainty and affect performance. Such adverse effect on performance could include a decline in the value and liquidity of securities held by the Fund, unusually high and unanticipated levels of redemptions, an increase in portfolio turnover, a decrease in net asset value ("NAV"), and an increase in Fund expenses. It may also be unusually difficult to identify both investment risks and opportunities, in which case investment objectives may not be met. Market events may affect a single issuer, industry, sector, or the market as a whole. Traditionally liquid investments may experience periods of diminished liquidity. During a general downturn in the financial markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value and the Fund may lose value, even if the individual results of the securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests outperform the broader financial markets. It is impossible to predict whether or for how long such market events will continue, particularly if they are unprecedented, unforeseen or widespread events or conditions, pandemics, epidemics, and other similar circumstances in one or more countries or regions. Therefore, it is important to understand that the value of your investment may fall, sometimes sharply and for extended periods, and you could lose money.

Governmental and regulatory actions, including tax law changes, may also impair portfolio management and have unexpected or adverse consequences on particular markets, strategies, or investments. Policy and legislative changes in the United States and in other countries are affecting many aspects of financial regulation, and may in some instances contribute to decreased liquidity and increased volatility in the financial markets. The impact of these changes on the markets, and the practical implications for market participants, may not be fully known for some time. In addition, economies and financial markets throughout the world are becoming increasingly interconnected. As a result, whether or not the Fund invests in securities of issuers located in or with significant exposure to countries experiencing economic and financial difficulties, the value and liquidity of the Fund's investments may be negatively affected.

The Funds may invest in the following types of investments, each of which is subject to certain risks, as discussed below:

#### **Equity Securities**

Common stocks, preferred stocks, rights, warrants, convertible securities and American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") are examples of equity securities in which the Funds may invest.

All investments in equity securities are subject to market risks that may cause their prices to fluctuate over time. Historically, the equity markets have moved in cycles and the value of the securities in a Fund's portfolio may fluctuate substantially from day to day. Owning an equity security can also subject a Fund to the risk that the issuer may discontinue paying dividends.

#### Common Stocks

A common stock represents a proportionate share of the ownership of a company and its value is based on the success of the company's business, any income paid to stockholders, the value of its assets, and general market conditions. In addition to the general risks set forth above, investments in common stocks are subject to the risk that in the event a company in which a Fund invests is liquidated, the holders of preferred stock and creditors of that company will be paid in full before any payments are made to the Funds as holders of common stock. It is possible that all assets of that company will be exhausted before any payments are made to the Funds.

### Preferred Stocks

A preferred stock blends the characteristics of a bond and common stock. Preferred stock generally does not carry voting rights. It can offer the fixed dividends of a bond and the equity ownership of a common

stock. Unlike common stock, its participation in the issuer's growth may be limited. Preferred stock prices tend to fluctuate with changes in interest rates rather than the issuing company's business prospects. Preferred stock generally has priority claim over common stock: (a) in the receipt of dividends, and (b) should the issuer be dissolved, in any residual assets after payment to creditors. Although the dividend is set at a fixed annual rate, in some circumstances it can be changed or omitted by the issuer.

#### Rights and Warrants

A right is a privilege granted to existing shareholders of a corporation to subscribe to shares of a new issue of common stock and it is issued at a predetermined price in proportion to the number of shares already owned. Rights normally have a short life, usually two to four weeks, are freely transferable and entitle the holder to buy the new common stock at a lower price than the current market. Warrants are options to purchase equity securities at a specific price for a specific period of time. They do not represent ownership of the securities, but only the right to buy them. Hence, warrants have no voting rights, pay no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the corporation issuing them. The value of warrants is derived solely from capital appreciation of the underlying equity securities. Warrants differ from call options in that the underlying corporation issues warrants, whereas call options may be written by anyone.

An investment in rights and warrants may entail greater risks than certain other types of investments. Generally, rights and warrants do not carry the right to receive dividends or exercise voting rights with respect to the underlying securities, and they do not represent any rights in the assets of the issuer. In addition, although their value is influenced by the value of the underlying security, their value does not necessarily change with the value of the underlying securities, and they cease to have value if they are not exercised on or before their expiration date. Investing in rights and warrants increases the potential profit or loss to be realized from the investment as compared with investing the same amount in the underlying securities.

#### Convertible Securities

Traditional convertible securities include corporate bonds, notes and preferred stocks that may be converted into or exchanged for common stock, and other securities that also provide an opportunity for equity participation. These securities are convertible either at a stated price or a stated rate (that is, for a specific number of shares of common stock or other security). As with other fixed income securities, the price of a convertible security generally varies inversely with interest rates. While providing a fixed income stream, a convertible security also affords the investor an opportunity, through its conversion feature, to participate in the capital appreciation of the common stock into which it is convertible. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, convertible securities tend to trade increasingly on a yield basis and so may not experience market value declines to the same extent as the underlying common stock. When the market price of the underlying common stock increases, the price of a convertible security tends to rise as a reflection of higher yield or capital appreciation. In such situations, the Funds may have to pay more for a convertible security than the value of the underlying common stock.

#### **Foreign Investments**

Each Fund may make investments in securities of non-U.S. issuers ("foreign securities"), including issuers in emerging markets. Each Fund reserves the right to invest in Depositary Receipts ("DRs"), U.S. dollar-denominated securities, foreign securities and securities of companies incorporated outside the U.S., including those denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar.

Depositary Receipts. Depositary Receipts include ADRs, European Depositary Receipts, Global Depositary Receipts or other forms of DRs. ADRs evidence ownership of, and represent the right to receive, securities of foreign issuers deposited in a domestic bank or trust company or a foreign correspondent bank. Prices of ADRs are quoted in U.S. dollars, and ADRs are traded in the U.S. on exchanges or over-the-counter. While ADRs do not eliminate all the risks associated with foreign investments, by investing in ADRs rather than directly in the stock of foreign issuers, the Funds will avoid currency and certain foreign market trading risks during the settlement period for either purchases or sales. In general, there is a large, liquid market in the U.S. for ADRs quoted on a national securities exchange. The information available for ADRs is subject to the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards of the U.S. market or exchange on which they are traded, which standards are generally more uniform and more exacting than those to which many foreign issuers may be subject.

In sponsored programs, an issuer has made arrangements to have its securities traded in the form of depositary receipts. In unsponsored programs, the issuer may not be directly involved in the creation of the program. Although regulatory requirements with respect to sponsored and unsponsored programs are generally similar, in some cases it may be easier to obtain financial information about an issuer that has participated in the creation of a sponsored program. There may be an increased possibility of untimely responses to certain corporate actions of the issuer, such as stock splits and rights offerings, in an unsponsored program. Accordingly, there may be less information available regarding issuers of securities underlying unsponsored programs and there may not be a correlation between this information and the market value of the depositary receipts. If a Fund's investment depends on obligations being met by the arranger as well as the issuer of an unsponsored program, the Funds will be exposed to additional credit risk.

Brexit. The United Kingdom formally left the European Union ("EU") on January 31, 2020 (a measure commonly referred to as "Brexit"). Following the withdrawal, in December 2020, the United Kingdom and the EU entered into a new trading relationship. The agreement allows for continued trading free of tariffs, but institutes other new requirements for trading between the United Kingdom and the EU. Even with a new trading relationship having been established, Brexit could continue to affect European or world wide political, regulatory, economic, or market conditions. There is the possibility that there will continue to be considerable uncertainty about the potential impact of these developments on United Kingdom, European and global economies and markets. There is also the possibility of withdrawal movements within other EU countries and the possibility of additional political, economic and market uncertainty and instability. Brexit and any similar developments may have negative effects on economies and markets, such as increased volatility and illiquidity and potentially lower economic growth in the United Kingdom, EU and globally, which may adversely affect the value of the Funds' investments. Whether or not the Funds invest in securities of issuers located in Europe or with significant exposure to European issuers or countries, these events could result in losses to the Funds, as there may be negative effects on the value and liquidity of the Funds' investments and/or the Funds' ability to enter into certain transactions.

## **Foreign Currency Transactions**

The Emerging Markets Fund, International Small Cap Fund and International Value Fund may invest in foreign currency exchange transactions. Exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and foreign currencies are a function of such factors as supply and demand in the currency exchange markets, international balances of payments, governmental intervention, speculation and other economic and political conditions. Foreign exchange dealers may realize a profit on the difference between the price at which the Fund buys and sells currencies.

**Risks of Investing in Foreign Securities.** Investments in foreign securities involve certain inherent risks, including the following:

Political and Economic Factors. Individual foreign economies of certain countries may differ favorably or unfavorably from the United States' economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency, diversification and balance of payments position. The internal politics of certain foreign countries may not be as stable as those of the United States. Governments in certain foreign countries also continue to participate to a significant degree, through ownership interest or regulation, in their respective economies. Action by these governments could include restrictions on foreign investment, nationalization, expropriation of goods or imposition of taxes, and could have a significant effect on market prices of securities and payment of interest. The economies of many foreign countries are heavily dependent upon international trade and are accordingly affected by the trade policies and economic conditions of their trading partners. Enactment by these trading partners of protectionist trade legislation could have a significant adverse effect upon the securities markets of such countries.

Legal and Regulatory Matters. Certain foreign countries may have less supervision of securities markets, brokers and issuers of securities, and less financial information available to issuers, than is available in the United States.

Currency Fluctuations. The Funds invest in securities denominated in U.S. dollars and the Emerging Markets Fund, International Small Cap Fund and the International Value Fund also invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies. For this reason, the value of the Funds' assets may be subject to risks associated with variations in the value of foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar. Changes in the value of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar may affect the value of the assets and/or income of foreign companies whose U.S. dollar denominated securities are held by the Funds. Such companies may also be affected significantly by currency restrictions and exchange control regulations enacted from time to time.

Taxes. The interest and dividends payable to a Fund on certain of the Fund's foreign portfolio securities may be subject to foreign taxes or withholding, thus reducing the net amount of income available for distribution to Fund shareholders. The Funds may not be eligible to pass through to shareholders any tax credits or deductions with respect to such foreign taxes or withholding.

Emerging Markets. The Funds may invest in foreign securities that may include securities of companies located in developing or emerging markets, which entail additional risks, including: less social, political and economic stability; smaller securities markets and lower trading volume, which may result in less liquidity and greater price volatility; national policies that may restrict an underlying fund's investment opportunities, including restrictions on investments in issuers or industries, or expropriation or confiscation of assets or property; and less developed legal structures governing private or foreign investment.

Russia/Ukraine. As a result of continued political tensions and armed conflicts, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine commencing in February of 2022, the extent and ultimate result of which are unknown at this time, the United States and the EU, along with the regulatory bodies of a number of countries, have imposed economic sanctions on certain Russian corporate entities and individuals, and certain sectors of Russia's economy, which may result in, among other things, the continued devaluation of Russian currency, a downgrade in the country's credit rating, and/or a decline in the value and liquidity of Russian securities, property or interests. These sanctions could also result in the immediate freeze of

Russian securities and/or funds invested in prohibited assets, impairing the ability of a fund to buy, sell, receive or deliver those securities and/or assets. These sanctions or the threat of additional sanctions could also result in Russia taking counter measures or retaliatory actions, which may further impair the value and liquidity of Russian securities. The United States and other nations or international organizations may also impose additional economic sanctions or take other actions that may adversely affect Russia-exposed issuers and companies in various sectors of the Russian economy. Any or all of these potential results could lead Russia's economy into a recession. Economic sanctions and other actions against Russian institutions, companies, and individuals resulting from the ongoing conflict may also have a substantial negative impact on other economies and securities markets both regionally and globally, as well as on companies with operations in the conflict region, the extent to which is unknown at this time. The United States and the EU have also imposed similar sanctions on Belarus for its support of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Additional sanctions may be imposed on Belarus and other countries that support Russia. Any such sanctions could present substantially similar risks as those resulting from the sanctions imposed on Russia, including substantial negative impacts on the regional and global economies and securities markets.

### Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs") and Foreign Real Estate Companies

The Funds may invest in shares of REITs. REITs are pooled investment vehicles that invest primarily in real estate or real estate related loans. REITs are generally classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs or a combination of equity and mortgage REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive income primarily from the collection of rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive income from the collection of interest payments. Like regulated investment companies such as the Funds, REITs are not taxed on income distributed to shareholders provided they comply with certain requirements under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Each Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of any expenses paid by REITs in which they invest in addition to the expenses paid by the Fund. Investing in REITs involves certain unique risks. Equity REITs may be affected by changes in the value of the underlying property owned by such REITs, while mortgage REITs may be affected by the quality of any credit extended. REITs are dependent upon management skills, are not diversified (except to the extent the Code requires), and are subject to the risks of financing projects. REITs are subject to heavy cash flow dependency, default by borrowers, self-liquidation, and the possibilities of failing to qualify for the exemption from tax for distributed income under the Code and failing to maintain their exemptions from the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). REITs (especially mortgage REITs) are also subject to interest rate risks.

Each Fund may also invest in foreign real estate companies. Investing in foreign real estate companies makes the Funds more susceptible to risks associated with the ownership of real estate and with the real estate industry in general. In addition, foreign real estate companies depend upon specialized management skills, may not be diversified, may have less trading volume, and may be subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements than the overall securities markets. Foreign real estate companies have their own expenses, and the Funds bear a proportionate share of those expenses.

### **Initial Public Offerings ("IPOs")**

Each Fund may invest in IPOs of common stock or other primary or secondary syndicated offerings of equity or debt securities issued by a corporate issuer. The purchase of IPO securities often involves higher transaction costs than those associated with the purchase of securities already traded on exchanges or markets. IPO securities are subject to market risk and liquidity risk. The market value of recently issued IPO securities may fluctuate considerably due to factors such as the absence of a prior public

market, unseasoned trading and speculation, a potentially small number of securities available for trading, limited information about the issuer, and other factors. The Funds may hold IPO securities for a period of time, or may sell them soon after the purchase. Investments in IPOs could have a magnified impact – either positive or negative – on a Fund's performance while the Fund's assets are relatively small. The impact of IPOs on a Fund's performance may tend to diminish as the Fund's assets grow. In circumstances when investments in IPOs make a significant contribution to a Fund's performance, there can be no assurance that similar contributions from IPOs will continue in the future.

### **Investment Company Securities**

Each Fund may invest in shares of other investment companies including exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), money market funds and other mutual funds, in pursuit of its investment objective, subject to the limitations set forth in the 1940 Act. Each Fund may invest in money market mutual funds in connection with its management of daily cash positions and for temporary defensive purposes. In addition to the advisory and operational fees each Fund bears directly in connection with its own operation, the Funds would also bear their pro rata portion of each of the other investment company's advisory and operational expenses.

The Funds may rely on Section 12(d)(1)(F) and Rule 12d1-3 of the 1940 Act, which provide an exemption from Section 12(d)(1) that allows a Fund to invest all of its assets in other registered funds, including ETFs, if, among other conditions: (a) a Fund, together with its affiliates, acquires no more than three percent of the outstanding voting stock of any acquired fund, and (b) the sales load or service fee charged on the Fund's shares is no greater than the limits set forth in Rule 2341 of the Conduct Rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"). In accordance with Rule 12d1-1 under the 1940 Act, the provisions of Section 12(d)(1) shall not apply to shares of money market funds purchased by the Fund, whether or not for temporary defensive purposes, provided that the Fund does not pay a sales charge, distribution fee or service fee as defined in Rule 2341 of the Conduct Rules of FINRA on acquired money market fund shares (or the Adviser must waive its advisory fees in an amount necessary to offset any sales charge, distribution fee or service fee).

Rule 12d1-4 permits additional types of fund of fund arrangements without an exemptive order. The rule imposes certain conditions, including limits on control and voting of acquired funds' shares, evaluations and findings by investment advisers, fund investment agreements, and limits on most three-tier fund structures.

Exchange-Traded Funds. ETFs are open-end investment companies whose shares are listed on a national securities exchange. An ETF is similar to a traditional mutual fund, but trades at different prices during the day on a security exchange like a stock. Similar to investments in other investment companies discussed above, a Fund's investments in ETFs will involve duplication of advisory fees and other expenses since a Fund will be investing in another investment company. In addition, a Fund's investment in ETFs is also subject to its limitations on investments in investment companies discussed above. To the extent a Fund invests in ETFs which focus on a particular market segment or industry, the Fund will also be subject to the risks associated with investing in those sectors or industries. The shares of the ETFs in which a Fund will invest will be listed on a national securities exchange and a Fund will purchase or sell these shares on the secondary market at its current market price, which may be more or less than its NAV per share.

As a purchaser of ETF shares on the secondary market, a Fund will be subject to the market risk associated with owning any security whose value is based on market price. ETF shares historically have tended to trade at or near their NAV, but there is no guarantee that they will continue to do so. Unlike

traditional mutual funds, shares of an ETF may be purchased and redeemed directly from the ETFs only in large blocks and only through participating organizations that have entered into contractual agreements with the ETF. A Fund does not expect to enter into such agreements and therefore will not be able to purchase and redeem their ETF shares directly from the ETF.

### **Master Limited Partnerships and Other Publicly Traded Partnerships**

Each Fund may invest in master limited partnerships ("MLPs") and other publicly traded partnerships ("PTPs") formed as partnerships, limited partnerships or limited liability companies, the interests of which (known as "units") are listed and traded on a securities exchange. Some PTPs, such as MLPs, provide an investor with a direct interest in a group of assets (generally, oil and gas properties). Publicly traded partnership units typically trade publicly, like stock, and thus may provide the investor more liquidity than ordinary limited partnerships. A limited partnership has one or more general partners (they may be individuals, corporations, partnerships or another entity) which manage the partnership, and limited partners, which provide capital to the partnership but have no role in its management. When an investor buys units in a PTP, he or she becomes a limited partner. Certain of the PTPs in which the Funds may invest are expected to be treated as "qualified publicly traded partnerships" for federal income tax purposes. These include MLPs and other entities qualifying under limited exceptions in the Code.

Many MLPs derive income and capital gains from the exploration, development, mining or production, processing, refining, transportation or marketing of any mineral or natural resource, or from real property. The value of MLP units fluctuates predominantly based on prevailing market conditions and the success of the MLP. The Funds may purchase common units of an MLP on an exchange as well as directly from the MLP or other parties in private placements. Unlike owners of common stock of a corporation, owners of common units have limited voting rights and have no ability to annually elect directors.

MLPs generally distribute all available cash flow (cash flow from operations less maintenance capital expenditures) in the form of quarterly distributions, but a Fund will be required for federal income tax purposes to include in its taxable income its allocable share of the MLP's income regardless of whether any distributions are made by the MLP. Thus, if the distributions received by a Fund from an MLP are less than that Fund's allocable share of the MLP's income, the Fund may be required to sell other securities so that it may satisfy the requirements to qualify as a regulated investment company ("RIC") and avoid federal income and excise taxes. Common units typically have priority as to minimum quarterly distributions. In the event of liquidation, common units have preference over subordinated units, but not debt or preferred units, to the remaining assets of the MLP.

Holders of PTP units of a particular PTP also are exposed to a remote possibility of liability for the obligations of that PTP under limited circumstances not expected to be applicable to the Funds. In addition, the value of a Fund's investment in PTPs depends largely on the PTPs being treated as "qualified publicly traded partnerships" for federal income tax purposes. If a PTP does not meet current federal income tax requirements to maintain partnership status, or if it is unable to do so because of federal income tax law changes, it could be taxed as a corporation. In that case, the PTP would be obligated to pay federal income tax at the entity level and distributions received by a Fund generally would be taxed as dividend income for federal income tax purposes. As a result, there could be a reduction in a Fund's cash flow and there could be a material decrease in the value of the Fund's shares. In addition, if a PTP in which a Fund invests does not qualify as a "qualified publicly traded partnership" (and is otherwise not taxed as a corporation), the Fund must look through to the character of the income generated by the PTP. Such income may not qualify as "good income," and therefore, could adversely affect the Fund's status as a RIC.

To the extent that a limited partnership's interests are all in a particular industry, the limited partnership will be negatively impacted by economic events adversely impacting that industry. The risks of investing in a limited partnership are generally those involved in investing in a partnership as opposed to a corporation. For example, state law governing partnerships is often less restrictive than state law governing corporations. Accordingly, there may be fewer protections afforded to investors in a limited partnership than investors in a corporation. For example, investors in limited partnerships may have limited voting rights or be liable under certain circumstances for amounts greater than the amount of their investment. In addition, limited partnerships may be subject to state taxation in certain jurisdictions which will have the effect of reducing the amount of income paid by the limited partnership to its investors. In addition, investments in certain investment vehicles, such as PTPs and MLPs, may be illiquid. Such partnership investments may also not provide daily pricing information to their investors, which will require a Fund to employ fair value procedures to value its holdings in such investments.

## **Options**

Each Fund may write call options on stocks and stock indices if the calls are "covered" throughout the life of the option. A call is "covered" if a Fund owns the optioned securities. When a Fund writes a call, it receives a premium and gives the purchaser the right to buy the underlying security at any time during the call period at a fixed exercise price regardless of market price changes during the call period. If the call is exercised, a Fund will forgo any gain from an increase in the market price of the underlying security over the exercise price.

A Fund may purchase a call on securities to effect a "closing purchase transaction," which is the purchase of a call covering the same underlying security and having the same exercise price and expiration date as a call previously written by a Fund on which it wishes to terminate its obligation. If a Fund is unable to effect a closing purchase transaction, it will not be able to sell the underlying security until the call previously written by a Fund expires (or until the call is exercised and the Fund delivers the underlying security).

A Fund also may write and purchase put options ("puts"). When a Fund writes a put, it receives a premium and gives the purchaser of the put the right to sell the underlying security to the Fund at the exercise price at any time during the option period. When a Fund purchases a put, it pays a premium in return for the right to sell the underlying security at the exercise price at any time during the option period. If any put is not exercised or sold, it will become worthless on its expiration date.

A Fund's option positions may be closed out only on an exchange which provides a secondary market for options of the same series, but there can be no assurance that a liquid secondary market will exist at a given time for any particular option.

In the event of a shortage of the underlying securities deliverable on exercise of an option, the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") has the authority to permit other, generally comparable securities to be delivered in fulfillment of option exercise obligations. If the OCC exercises its discretionary authority to allow such other securities to be delivered, it may also adjust the exercise prices of the affected options by setting different prices at which otherwise ineligible securities may be delivered. As an alternative to permitting such substitute deliveries, the OCC may impose special exercise settlement procedures.

Purchasing Put and Call Options – When a Fund purchases a put option, it buys the right to sell the instrument underlying the option at a fixed strike price. In return for this right, a Fund pays the current market price for the option (known as the "option premium"). A Fund may purchase put options to offset or hedge against a decline in the market value of its securities ("protective puts") or to benefit from a

decline in the price of securities that it does not own. A Fund would ordinarily realize a gain if, during the option period, the value of the underlying securities decreased below the exercise price sufficiently to cover the premium and transaction costs. However, if the price of the underlying instrument does not fall enough to offset the cost of purchasing the option, a put buyer would lose the premium and related transaction costs.

Call options are similar to put options, except that a Fund obtains the right to purchase, rather than sell, the underlying instrument at the option's strike price. A Fund would normally purchase call options in anticipation of an increase in the market value of securities it owns or wants to buy. A Fund would ordinarily realize a gain if, during the option period, the value of the underlying instrument exceeded the exercise price plus the premium paid and related transaction costs. Otherwise, a Fund would realize either no gain or a loss on the purchase of the call option.

The purchaser of an option may terminate its position by:

- Allowing it to expire and losing its entire premium;
- Exercising the option and either selling (in the case of a put option) or buying (in the case of a call option) the underlying instrument at the strike price; or
- Closing it out in the secondary market at its current price.

Selling (Writing) Put and Call Options – When a Fund writes a call option it assumes an obligation to sell specified securities to the holder of the option at a specified price if the option is exercised at any time before the expiration date. Similarly, when a Fund writes a put option it assumes an obligation to purchase specified securities from the option holder at a specified price if the option is exercised at any time before the expiration date. A Fund may terminate its position in an exchange-traded put option before exercise by buying an option identical to the one it has written. Similarly, it may cancel an overthe-counter option by entering into an offsetting transaction with the counter-party to the option.

A Fund may try to hedge against an increase in the value of securities it would like to acquire by writing a put option on those securities. If security prices rise, a Fund would expect the put option to expire and the premium it received to offset the increase in the security's value. If security prices remain the same over time, a Fund would hope to profit by closing out the put option at a lower price. If security prices fall, a Fund may lose an amount of money equal to the difference between the value of the security and the premium it received. Writing covered put options may deprive a Fund of the opportunity to profit from a decrease in the market price of the securities it would like to acquire.

The characteristics of writing call options are similar to those of writing put options, except that call writers expect to profit if prices remain the same or fall. A Fund could try to hedge against a decline in the value of securities it already owns by writing a call option. If the price of that security falls as expected, a Fund would expect the option to expire and the premium it received to offset the decline of the security's value. However, a Fund must be prepared to deliver the underlying instrument in return for the strike price, which may deprive it of the opportunity to profit from an increase in the market price of the securities it holds.

Each Fund is permitted only to write covered options. A Fund can cover a call option by owning:

- The underlying security (or securities convertible into the underlying security without additional consideration), index, interest rate, foreign currency or futures contract;
- A call option on the same security or index with the same or lesser exercise price;
- A call option on the same security or index with a greater exercise price and segregating cash or liquid securities in an amount equal to the difference between the exercise prices;
- Cash or liquid securities equal to at least the market value of the optioned securities, interest rate, foreign currency or futures contract; or
- In the case of an index, the fund of securities that corresponds to the index.

### A Fund can cover a put option by:

- Entering into a short position in the underlying security;
- Purchasing a put option on the same security, index, interest rate, foreign currency or futures contract with the same or greater exercise price;
- Purchasing a put option on the same security, index, interest rate, foreign currency or futures contract with a lesser exercise price and segregating cash or liquid securities in an amount equal to the difference between the exercise prices; or
- Maintaining the entire exercise price in liquid securities.

Options on Securities Indices – Options on securities indices are similar to options on securities, except that the exercise of securities index options requires cash settlement payments and does not involve the actual purchase or sale of securities. In addition, securities index options are designed to reflect price fluctuations in a group of securities or segment of the securities market, rather than price fluctuations in a single security.

Options on Futures – An option on a futures contract provides the holder with the right to buy a futures contract (in the case of a call option) or sell a futures contract (in the case of a put option) at a fixed time and price. Upon exercise of the option by the holder, the contract market clearing house establishes a corresponding short position for the writer of the option (in the case of a call option) or a corresponding long position (in the case of a put option). If the option is exercised, the parties will be subject to the futures contracts. In addition, the writer of an option on a futures contract is subject to initial and variation margin requirements on the option position. Options on futures contracts are traded on the same contract market as the underlying futures contract.

The buyer or seller of an option on a futures contract may terminate the option early by purchasing or selling an option of the same series (*i.e.*, the same exercise price and expiration date) as the option previously purchased or sold. The difference between the premiums paid and received represents the trader's profit or loss on the transaction.

A Fund may purchase put and call options on futures contracts instead of selling or buying futures contracts. A Fund may buy a put option on a futures contract for the same reason it would sell a futures contract. It also may purchase such put options in order to hedge a long position in the underlying futures contract. Each Fund may buy call options on futures contracts for the same purpose as the actual purchase of the futures contracts, such as in anticipation of favorable market conditions.

A Fund may write a call option on a futures contract to hedge against a decline in the prices of the instrument underlying the futures contracts. If the price of the futures contract at expiration were below the exercise price, a Fund would retain the option premium, which would offset, in part, any decline in the value of its assets.

The writing of a put option on a futures contract is similar to the purchase of the futures contracts, except that, if the market price declines, a Fund would pay more than the market price for the underlying instrument. The premium received on the sale of the put option, less any transaction costs, would reduce the net cost to a Fund.

Combined Positions – A Fund may purchase and write options in combination with each other, or in combination with futures or forward contracts, to adjust the risk and return characteristics of the overall position. For example, a Fund could construct a combined position whose risk and return characteristics are similar to selling a futures contract by purchasing a put option and writing a call option on the same underlying instrument. Alternatively, a Fund could write a call option at one strike price and buy a call option at a lower price to reduce the risk of the written call option in the event of a substantial price increase. Because combined options positions involve multiple trades, they result in higher transaction costs and may be more difficult to open and close out.

Caps and Floors – Each Fund may enter cap and floor agreements. Caps and floors have an effect similar to buying or writing options. In a typical cap or floor agreement, one party agrees to make payments only under specified circumstances, usually in return for payment of a fee by the other party. For example, the buyer of an interest rate cap obtains the right to receive payments to the extent that a specified interest rate exceeds an agreed-upon level. The seller of an interest rate floor is obligated to make payments to the extent that a specified interest rate falls below an agreed-upon level. An interest rate collar combines elements of buying a cap and selling a floor.

Risks of Derivatives – The Mid Cap Value Fund and Small Cap Value Fund are prohibited from investing in derivatives, excluding certain currency and interest rate hedging transactions. The Emerging Markets Value Fund, International Value Fund, and the International Small Cap Value Fund are each classified as a limited derivatives user under Rule 18f-4 of the 1940 Act. As a limited derivatives user each Fund's derivatives exposure, excluding certain currency and interest rate hedging transactions, may not exceed 10% of its net assets. These restrictions are not fundamental and may be changed by a Fund without a shareholder vote.

Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act requires a fund that trades derivatives and other transactions which create future payment or delivery obligations (except reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions) be subject to a value-at-risk ("VaR") leverage limit and certain derivatives risk management program and reporting requirements. Generally, these requirements apply unless a fund qualifies as a "limited derivatives user," as defined in the final rule. Under the final rule, when a fund trades reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions, including certain tender option bonds, it needs to aggregate the amount of indebtedness associated with the reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions with the aggregate amount of any other senior securities representing indebtedness when calculating the fund's asset coverage ratio or treat all such transactions as derivatives transactions. Reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions aggregated with other indebtedness do not need to be included in the calculation of whether a fund is a limited derivatives user, but for funds subject to the VaR testing, reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions or not. These requirements may limit the ability of a fund to use derivatives and reverse repurchase agreements and

similar financing transactions as part of its investment strategies. These requirements may increase the cost of a fund's investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect investors.

While transactions in derivatives may reduce certain risks, these transactions themselves entail certain other risks. For example, unanticipated changes in interest rates, securities prices or currency exchange rates may result in a poorer overall performance of a Fund than if it had not entered into any derivatives transactions. Derivatives may magnify a Fund's gains or losses, causing it to make or lose substantially more than it invested.

When used for hedging purposes, increases in the value of the securities a Fund holds or intends to acquire should offset any losses incurred with a derivative. Purchasing derivatives for purposes other than hedging could expose a Fund to greater risks.

Derivative Management Risk – If the Adviser incorrectly predicts stock market and interest rate trends, the Funds may lose money by investing in derivatives. For example, if a Fund were to write a call option based on its Adviser's expectation that the price of the underlying security would fall, but the price were to rise instead, a Fund could be required to sell the security upon exercise at a price below the current market price. Similarly, if a Fund were to write a put option based on the Adviser's expectation that the price of the underlying security would rise, but the price were to fall instead, a Fund could be required to purchase the security upon exercise at a price higher than the current market price.

#### **Illiquid and Restricted Securities**

Pursuant to Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act, a Fund may not acquire any "illiquid investment" if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets. An "illiquid investment" is any investment that a Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. The Funds have implemented a liquidity risk management program and related procedures to identify illiquid investments pursuant to Rule 22e-4. The 15% limits are applied as of the date a Fund purchases an illiquid investment. It is possible that a Fund's holding of illiquid investment could exceed the 15% limit, for example as a result of market developments or redemptions.

There are generally no restrictions on a Fund's ability to invest in restricted securities (that is, securities that are not registered pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act")), except to the extent such securities may be considered illiquid. These securities are sometimes referred to as private placements. The Funds may also purchase certain commercial paper issued in reliance on the exemption from regulations in Section 4(2) of the Securities Act ("4(2) Paper").

Limitations on the resale of restricted securities may have an adverse effect on the marketability of portfolio securities and a Fund might be unable to dispose of restricted securities promptly or at reasonable prices and might thereby experience difficulty satisfying redemption requirements. A Fund might also have to register such restricted securities in order to dispose of them, resulting in additional expense and delay. Adverse market conditions could impede such a public offering of securities.

#### **When-Issued Securities**

Each Fund may purchase securities on a when-issued basis, for payment and delivery at a later date, generally within one month. The price and yield are generally fixed on the date of commitment to purchase, and the value of the security is thereafter reflected in the Fund's NAV. During the period between purchase and settlement, no payment is made by the Funds and no interest accrues to the

Funds. At the time of settlement, the market value of the security may be more or less than the purchase price.

Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act permits the Funds to invest in securities on a when-issued or forward-settling basis, or with a non-standard settlement cycle, notwithstanding the limitation on the issuance of senior securities in Section 18 of the 1940 Act, provided that a Fund intends to physically settle the transaction and the transaction will settle within 35 days of its trade date (the "Delayed-Settlement Securities Provision"). A when-issued, forward-settling, or non-standard settlement cycle security that does not satisfy the Delayed-Settlement Securities Provision is treated as a derivatives transaction under Rule 18f-4. See "Risks of Derivatives" above.

#### **Repurchase Agreements**

Each Fund may invest in repurchase agreements. Pursuant to such agreements, the each Fund may acquire securities from financial institutions such as banks and broker-dealers as are deemed to be creditworthy by the Adviser, subject to the seller's agreement to repurchase and each Fund's agreement to resell such securities at a mutually agreed upon date and price. The repurchase price generally equals the price paid by the Fund plus interest negotiated on the basis of current short-term rates (which may be more or less than the rate on the underlying portfolio security). Securities subject to repurchase agreements will be held by the Custodian or in the Federal Reserve/Treasury Book-Entry System or an equivalent foreign system. The seller under a repurchase agreement will be required to maintain the value of the underlying securities at not less than 102% of the repurchase price under the agreement. If the seller defaults on its repurchase obligation, the Fund will suffer a loss to the extent that the proceeds from a sale of the underlying securities are less than the repurchase price under the agreement. Bankruptcy or insolvency of such a defaulting seller may cause the Fund's rights with respect to such securities to be delayed or limited. Repurchase agreements are considered to be loans under the 1940 Act.

### **Participation Interests**

The Funds may invest in participation interests. Purchasers of participation interests do not have any direct contractual relationship with the borrower. Purchasers rely on the lender who sold the participation interest not only for the enforcement of the purchaser's rights against the borrower but also for the receipt and processing of payments due under the floating rate loan.

Purchasers of participation interests may be subject to delays, expenses, and risks that are greater than those that would be involved if the purchaser could enforce its rights directly against the borrower. In addition, under the terms of a participation interest, the purchaser may be regarded as a creditor of the intermediate participant (rather than of the borrower), so that the purchaser also may be subject to the risk that the intermediate participant could become insolvent. The agreement between the purchaser and lender who sold the participation interest may also limit the rights of the purchaser to vote on changes that may be made to the loan agreement, such as waiving a breach of a covenant.

#### **Participation Notes**

The Emerging Markets Fund, International Small Cap Fund and the International Value Fund may invest up to 10% of each Fund's assets in participation notes ("P-Notes"), which are instruments that are issued by banks, broker-dealers or their affiliates and are designed to offer a return linked to a particular underlying equity, debt, currency or market. If a P-Note were held to maturity, the issuer would pay to the purchaser the underlying instrument's value at maturity with any necessary adjustments. The holder of a P-Note that is linked to a particular underlying security or instrument may be entitled to receive dividends paid in connection with that underlying security or instrument, but typically does not receive voting rights as it would if it directly owned the underlying security or instrument. In addition, there can

be no assurance that there will be a trading market for a P-Note or that the trading price of a P-Note will equal the underlying value of the security, instrument or market that it seeks to replicate. Due to transfer restrictions, the secondary markets on which a P-Note is traded may be less liquid than the market for other securities, or may be completely illiquid, which may expose the Fund to risks of mispricing or improper valuation. P-Notes typically constitute general unsecured contractual obligations of the banks, broker-dealers or their relevant affiliates that issue them, which subjects the Fund to counterparty risk. P-Notes also have the same risks associated with a direct investment in the underlying securities, instruments or markets that they seek to replicate.

### **Time Deposits**

To the extent permitted under their investment objectives and policies, the Funds may make interest bearing time or other interest bearing deposits in commercial or savings banks. Time deposits are non-negotiable deposits maintained at a banking institution for a specified period of time at a specified interest rate.

### **U.S. Government Obligations**

The Funds may make investments in U.S. government obligations. U.S. government obligations include securities issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities. U.S. Treasury obligations differ mainly in the length of their maturity. Treasury bills, the most frequently issued marketable government securities, have a maturity of up to one year and are issued on a discount basis. U.S. government obligations also include securities issued or guaranteed by federal agencies or instrumentalities, including government-sponsored enterprises.

Payment of principal and interest on U.S. government obligations may be backed by the full faith and credit of the United States or may be backed solely by the issuing or guaranteeing agency or instrumentality itself. In the latter case, the investor must look principally to the agency or instrumentality issuing or guaranteeing the obligation for ultimate repayment, which agency or instrumentality may be privately owned. There can be no assurance that the U.S. government would provide financial support to its agencies or instrumentalities (including government-sponsored enterprises) where it is not obligated to do so. In addition, U.S. government obligations are subject to fluctuations in market value due to fluctuations in market interest rates. As a general matter, the value of debt instruments, including U.S. government obligations, declines when market interest rates increase and rises when market interest rates decrease. Certain types of U.S. government obligations are subject to fluctuations in yield or value due to their structure or contract terms. The Funds will not be eligible to distribute exempt-interest dividends to their shareholders, even if their investments include mutual funds that hold U.S. government or municipal obligations that generate tax-exempt interest.

### Short-Term, Temporary, and Cash Investments

The Funds may invest in any of the following securities and instruments:

Bank Certificates of Deposit, Bankers' Acceptances and Time Deposits. Each Fund may acquire certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances and time deposits. Certificates of deposit are negotiable certificates issued against funds deposited in a commercial bank for a definite period of time and earning a specified return. Bankers' acceptances are negotiable drafts or bills of exchange, normally drawn by an importer or exporter to pay for specific merchandise, which are "accepted" by a bank, meaning in effect that the bank unconditionally agrees to pay the face value of the instrument on maturity. Certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances acquired by the Funds will be dollar denominated obligations of domestic or foreign banks or financial institutions which at the time of purchase have capital, surplus and undivided profits in excess of \$100 million (including assets of both domestic and foreign branches),

based on latest published reports, or less than \$100 million if the principal amount of such bank obligations are fully insured by the U.S. government. If the Funds hold instruments of foreign banks or financial institutions, they may be subject to additional investment risks that are different in some respects from those incurred by a fund that invests only in debt obligations of U.S. domestic issuers. See "Foreign Securities" above. Such risks include future political and economic developments, the possible imposition of withholding taxes by the particular country in which the issuer is located on interest income payable on the securities, the possible seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits, the possible establishment of exchange controls or the adoption of other foreign governmental restrictions which might adversely affect the payment of principal and interest on these securities.

Domestic banks and foreign banks are subject to different governmental regulations with respect to the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry depends largely upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operations of the banking industry.

As a result of federal and state laws and regulations, domestic banks are, among other things, required to maintain specified levels of reserves, limited in the amount which they can loan to a single borrower, and subject to other regulations designed to promote financial soundness. However, such laws and regulations do not necessarily apply to foreign bank obligations that the Funds may acquire.

In addition to purchasing certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances, to the extent permitted under their investment objectives and policies stated above and in a Fund's Prospectus, the Funds may make interest bearing time or other interest bearing deposits in commercial or savings banks. Time deposits are non-negotiable deposits maintained at a banking institution for a specified period of time at a specified interest rate.

Savings Association Obligations. Each Fund may invest in certificates of deposit (interest bearing time deposits) issued by savings banks or savings and loan associations that have capital, surplus and undivided profits in excess of \$100 million, based on latest published reports, or less than \$100 million if the principal amount of such obligations is fully insured by the U.S. government.

Commercial Paper, Short-Term Notes and Other Corporate Obligations. Each Fund may invest a portion of its assets in commercial paper and short-term notes. Commercial paper consists of unsecured promissory notes issued by corporations. Issues of commercial paper and short-term notes will normally have maturities of less than nine months and fixed rates of return, although such instruments may have maturities of up to one year.

Commercial paper and short-term notes will consist of issues rated at the time of purchase "A-2" or higher by S&P Global Ratings ("S&P"), "Prime-1" by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., or similarly rated by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization or, if unrated, will be determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality. These rating symbols are described in Appendix B.

#### **Securities Lending**

Each Fund may lend its portfolio securities in order to generate additional income. Securities may be loaned to broker-dealers, major banks or other recognized domestic institutional borrowers of securities. Generally, a Fund may lend portfolio securities to securities broker-dealers or financial institutions if: (1) the loan is collateralized in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements

including collateralization continuously at no less than 100% by marking to market daily; (2) the loan is subject to termination by the Fund at any time; (3) the Fund receives reasonable interest or fee payments on the loan, as well as any dividends, interest, or other distributions on the loaned securities; (4) the Adviser is able to call loaned securities in order to exercise all voting rights with respect to the securities; and (5) the loan will not cause the value of all loaned securities to exceed one-third of the value of the Fund's assets. As part of participating in a lending program, the Fund invests its cash collateral only in investments that are consistent with the investment objectives, principal investment strategies and investment policies of the Fund. All investments made with the cash collateral received are subject to the risks associated with such investments. If such investments lose value, the Fund has to cover the loss when repaying the collateral. Any income or gains and losses from investing and reinvesting any cash collateral delivered by a borrower shall be at the Fund's risk.

### **Temporary Defensive Position**

For temporary defensive purposes when the Adviser believes market, economic, political or other conditions are unfavorable for investors, the Adviser may invest up to 100% of the Funds' total assets in high-quality, short-term debt securities and money market instruments. These short-term debt securities and money market instruments include shares of other mutual funds, commercial paper, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, U.S. government securities and repurchase agreements. Taking a temporary defensive position may result in the Funds not achieving their investment objectives. Furthermore, to the extent that the Funds invest in money market mutual funds for their cash position, there will be some duplication of expenses because each Fund would bear its pro rata portion of such money market funds' management fees and operational expenses.

### **Special Risks Related to Cyber Security**

The Funds and their service providers are susceptible to cyber security risks that include, among other things, theft, unauthorized monitoring, release, misuse, loss, destruction or corruption of confidential and highly restricted data; denial of service attacks; unauthorized access to relevant systems, compromises to networks or devices that the Funds and their service providers use to service the Funds' operations; or operational disruption or failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Funds and their service providers. Cyber attacks against or security breakdowns of the Funds or their service providers may adversely impact the Funds and their shareholders, potentially resulting in, among other things, financial losses; the inability of Fund shareholders to transact business and the Funds to process transactions; inability to calculate a Fund's NAV; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs; and/or additional compliance costs. The Funds may incur additional costs for cyber security risk management and remediation purposes. In addition, cyber security risks may also impact issuers of securities in which the Funds invest, which may cause a Fund's investment in such issuers to lose value. There can be no assurance that the Funds or their service providers will not suffer losses relating to cyber attacks or other information security breaches in the future.

#### INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The Trust (on behalf of the Funds) has adopted the following restrictions as fundamental policies, which may not be changed without the favorable vote of the holders of a "majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities" as defined in the 1940 Act. Under the 1940 Act, the "vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities" means the vote of the holders of the lesser of (i) 67% of the shares of the Funds represented at a meeting at which the holders of more than 50% of its outstanding shares are represented or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Fund.

### Each Fund may not:

- 1. With respect to 75% of its total assets, invest more than 5% of its total assets in securities of a single issuer at the time of purchase or hold more than 10% of the voting securities of such issuer. (Does not apply to investment in the securities of other investment companies or securities of the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities.)
- 2. Borrow money, except as permitted under the 1940 Act.
- 3. Issue senior securities, except as permitted under the 1940 Act.
- 4. Engage in the business of underwriting securities, except to the extent that the Fund may be considered an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 in the disposition of restricted securities.
- 5. Invest 25% or more of its net assets in the securities of companies engaged in any one industry. (Does not apply to investment in the securities of other investment companies or securities of the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities.)
- 6. Purchase or sell real estate, which term does not include securities of companies which deal in real estate and/or mortgages or investments secured by real estate, or interests therein, except that the Fund reserves freedom of action to hold and to sell real estate acquired as a result of the Fund's ownership of securities.
- 7. Purchase or sell physical commodities, unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other instruments. This limitation shall not prevent the Fund from purchasing, selling, or entering into futures contracts, or acquiring securities or other instruments and options thereon backed by, or related to, physical commodities.
- 8. Make loans to others, except as permitted under the 1940 Act.

The Funds observe the following policies, which are not deemed fundamental and which may be changed without shareholder vote. Each Fund may not:

- 1. Invest in any issuer for purposes of exercising control or management.
- 2. Invest in securities of other investment companies, except as permitted under the 1940 Act.
- 3. Hold any illiquid investment if, immediately, after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets.
- 4. With respect to the Mid Cap Fund, Small Cap Fund, Emerging Markets Fund, International Small Cap Fund and the International Value Fund, make any change in its investment policy of investing at least 80% of net assets in investments suggested by the Fund's name without first changing the Fund's name and providing shareholders with at least 60-days prior written notice.

If a percentage or rating restriction on investment or use of assets set forth herein or in the Prospectus is adhered to at the time a transaction is effected, later changes in percentage resulting from any cause other than actions by the Funds will not be considered a violation, except that there is an ongoing asset coverage requirement in the case of borrowings.

#### PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

Portfolio securities may be sold without regard to the length of time they have been held when, in the opinion of the Adviser, investment considerations warrant such action. Portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing (1) the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the fiscal year by (2) the monthly average of the value of portfolio securities owned during the fiscal year. A 100% turnover rate would occur if all the securities in a Fund's portfolio, with the exception of securities whose maturities at the time of acquisition were one year or less, were sold and either repurchased or replaced within one year. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or more) generally leads to transaction costs and may result in a greater number of taxable transactions.

For the fiscal periods indicated below, each Fund's portfolio turnover rate was as follows:

	Year Ended February 29, 2024	Year Ended February 28, 2023
Mid Cap Fund	39%	35%
Small Cap Fund	25%	28%
Emerging Markets Fund	38%	15%
International Small Cap Fund	43%	26%
International Value Fund	16%	19%

#### PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS POLICY

The Adviser and the Funds maintain portfolio holdings disclosure policies that govern the timing and circumstances of disclosure to shareholders and third parties of information regarding the portfolio investments held by a Fund. These portfolio holdings disclosure policies have been approved by the Board. Disclosure of a Fund's complete holdings is required to be made quarterly within 60 days of the end of each fiscal quarter in the annual report and semi-annual report to Fund shareholders and in the quarterly holdings report on Part F of Form N-PORT. These reports are available, free of charge, on the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>. Additionally, the Fund's calendar quarter-end portfolio holdings are available on the Fund's website approximately 20 business days after the end of each calendar quarter.

Pursuant to the Trust's portfolio holdings disclosure policies, information about a Fund's portfolio holdings is not distributed to any person unless:

- The disclosure is required pursuant to a regulatory request, court order or is legally required in the context of other legal proceedings;
- The disclosure is made to a mutual fund rating and/or ranking organization, or person performing similar functions, who is subject to a duty of confidentiality, including a duty not to trade on any non-public information;
- The disclosure is made to internal parties involved in the investment process, administration, operation or custody of the Funds, including, but not limited to U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services ("Fund Services") and the Trust's Board of Trustees, attorneys, auditors or accountants;
- The disclosure is made: (a) in connection with a quarterly, semi-annual or annual report that is available to the public; or (b) relates to information that is otherwise available to the public; or

• The disclosure is made with the prior written approval of either the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO") or his or her designee.

Certain of the persons listed above receive information about the Funds' portfolio holdings on an ongoing basis. The Funds believe that these third parties have legitimate objectives in requesting such portfolio holdings information and operate in the best interest of a Fund's shareholders. These persons include:

- A mutual fund rating and/or ranking organization, or person performing similar functions, who is subject to a duty of confidentiality, including a duty not to trade on any non-public information;
- Rating and/or ranking organizations, specifically: Lipper; Morningstar; S&P; Bloomberg; Vickers-Stock Research Corporation; Thomson Financial; and Capital-Bridge, all of which currently receive such information no later than 15 calendar days following the end of a calendar quarter; or
- Internal parties involved in the investment process, administration, operation or custody of the Funds, specifically: Fund Services; the Trust's Board of Trustees; and the Trust's attorneys and accountants (currently, Sullivan & Worcester LLP ("Sullivan & Worcester") and Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, respectively), all of which typically receive such information after it is generated.

Any disclosures to additional parties not described above is made with the prior written approval of either the Trust's CCO or his or her designee, pursuant to the Trust's Policy and Procedures Regarding Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings.

The CCO or designated officer of the Trust will approve the furnishing of non-public portfolio holdings to a third party only if they consider the furnishing of such information to be in the best interest of the Funds and their shareholders and if no material conflict of interest exists regarding such disclosure between shareholders interest and those of the Adviser, Distributor or any affiliated person of the Funds. No consideration may be received by the Funds, the Adviser, any affiliate of the Adviser or their employees in connection with the disclosure of portfolio holdings information. The Board receives and reviews annually a list of the persons who receive non-public portfolio holdings information and the purpose for which it is furnished.

### **MANAGEMENT**

The overall management of the Trust's business and affairs is invested with its Board. The Board approves all significant agreements between the Trust and persons or companies furnishing services to it, including the agreements with the Adviser, Administrator, Custodian and Transfer Agent, each as defined herein. The day-to-day operations of the Trust are delegated to its officers, subject to the Funds' investment objectives, strategies and policies and to the general supervision of the Board. The Trustees and officers of the Trust, their ages and positions with the Trust, terms of office with the Trust and length of time served, their business addresses and principal occupations during the past five years and other directorships held are set forth in the table below.

# ${\bf Independent\ Trustees}^{(1)}$

Name, Year of Birth and Address	Position Held with the Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served*	Principal Occupation During Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>(2)</sup>	Other Directorships Held During Past Five Years <sup>(3)</sup>
David G. Mertens (1960) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Chair of the Board	Indefinite term; since October 2023.	Partner and Head of Business Development, QSV Equity	5	Trustee, Advisors Series Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds).
	Trustee	Indefinite term; since March 2017.	Investors, LLC, (formerly known as Ballast Equity Management, LLC) (a privately-held investment advisory firm) (February 2019 to present); Managing Director and Vice President, Jensen Investment Management, Inc. (a privately-held investment		
Joe D. Redwine (1947) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Trustee	Indefinite term; since September 2008.	Retired; formerly Manager, President, CEO, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, and its predecessors, (May 1991 to July 2017).	5	Trustee, Advisors Series Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds).
Michele Rackey (1959) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Trustee	Indefinite term; since January 2023.	Chief Executive Officer, Government Employees Benefit Association (GEBA) (benefits and wealth management organization) (2004 to 2020); Board Member, Association Business Services Inc. (ABSI) (forprofit subsidiary of the American Society of Association Executives) (2019 to 2020).	5	Trustee, Advisors Series Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds).

#### **Officers**

		Term of Office	
Name, Address and Age	Position Held with the Trust	and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation During Past Five Years
Jeffrey T. Rauman (1969) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	President, Chief Executive Officer and Principal Executive Officer	Indefinite term; since December 2018.	Senior Vice President, Compliance and Administration, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (February 1996 to present).
Kevin J. Hayden (1971) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Vice President, Treasurer and Principal Financial Officer	Indefinite term; since January 2023.	Vice President, Compliance and Administration, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (June 2005 to present).
Richard R. Conner (1982) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Assistant Treasurer	Indefinite term; since December 2018.	Assistant Vice President, Compliance and Administration, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (July 2010 to present).
Joseph R. Kolinsky (1970) 2020 E. Financial Way, Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer and AML Officer	Indefinite term; since July 2023.	Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (May 2023 to present); Chief Compliance Officer, Chandler Asset Management, Inc. (2020 to 2022); Director, Corporate Compliance, Pacific Life Insurance Company (2018 to 2019).
Elaine E. Richards (1968) 2020 E. Financial Way, Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Assistant Secretary	Indefinite term; since March 2024.	Senior Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (July 2007 to present).
Lillian A. Kabakali (1980) 2020 E. Financial Way, Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Vice President and Secretary	Indefinite term; since March 2024.	Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (April 2023 to present); Vice President, Compliance, Guggenheim Partners Investment Management Holdings, LLC (April 2019 to April 2023); Senior Associate, Compliance, Guggenheim Partners Investment Management Holdings, LLC (January 2018 to April 2019).

<sup>\*</sup> The Trustees have designated a mandatory retirement age of 75, such that each Trustee, serving as such on the date he or she reaches the age of 75, shall submit his or her resignation not later than the last day of the calendar year in which his or her 75th birthday occurs ("Retiring Trustee"). Upon request, the Board may, by vote of a majority of the Trustees eligible to vote on such matter, determine whether or not to extend such Retiring Trustee's term and on the length of a one-time extension of up to three additional years. At a meeting held December 7-8, 2022, by vote of the majority of the Trustees (not including Mr. Redwine), Mr. Redwine's term as Trustee was extended for three additional years to expire on December 31, 2025.

## Compensation

Effective January 1, 2024, the Independent Trustees each receive an annual retainer of \$108,500 per year allocated among each of the various portfolios comprising the Trust, an additional \$6,000 per regularly

<sup>(1)</sup> The Trustees of the Trust who are not "interested persons" of the Trust as defined under the 1940 Act ("Independent Trustees").

As of February 29, 2024, the Trust was comprised of 34 active portfolios managed by unaffiliated investment advisers. The term "Fund Complex" applies only to the Funds. The Funds do not hold themselves out as related to any other series within the Trust for investment purposes, nor do they share the same investment adviser with any other series.

<sup>(3) &</sup>quot;Other Directorships Held" includes only directorships of companies required to register or file reports with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (that is, "public companies") or other investment companies registered under the 1940 Act.

scheduled Board meeting, and an additional \$500 per special meeting, paid by the Trust or applicable advisors/portfolios, as well as reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with attendance at Board meetings. Prior to January 1, 2024, the annual retainer was \$102,500. The Trust Chair, Chair of the Audit Committee, and Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee each receive a separate annual fee of \$10,000, \$5,000, and \$3,000, respectively, provided that the separate fee for the Chair of the Audit Committee will be waived if the same individual serves as both Trust Chair and Audit Committee Chair. The Trust has no pension or retirement plan. No other entity affiliated with the Trust pays any compensation to the Trustees. Set forth below is the compensation received by the Independent Trustees from the Funds for the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024.

	Aggregate Compensation				Pension or Retirement Benefits	Estimated	Total	
	Mid Cap Fund	Small Cap Fund	Emerging Markets Fund	International Small Cap Fund	International Value Fund	Accrued as Part of Fund Expenses	Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Compensation from Fund Complex Paid to Trustees <sup>(1)</sup>
Independent Truste	ee							_
David G. Mertens	\$ 4,034	\$ 4,034	\$ 4,033	\$ 4,034	\$ 4,034	None	None	\$ 20,169
Raymond B. Woolson <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 2,961	\$ 2,961	\$ 2,961	\$ 2,961	\$ 2,961	None	None	\$ 14,805
Joe D. Redwine	\$ 4,040	\$ 4,040	\$ 4,040	\$ 4,041	\$ 4,041	None	None	\$ 20,202
Michele Rackey	\$ 3,917	\$ 3,918	\$ 3,917	\$ 3,917	\$ 3,918	None	None	\$ 19,587

<sup>(1)</sup> There are currently numerous portfolios comprising the Trust. The term "Fund Complex" applies only to the Funds. For the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024, aggregate Independent Trustees' fees for the Trust were \$512,875.

## **Additional Information Concerning Our Board of Trustees**

#### *The Role of the Board*

The Board provides oversight of the management and operations of the Trust. Like all mutual funds, the day-to-day responsibility for the management and operations of the Trust is the responsibility of various service providers to the Trust, such as the Trust's investment advisers, distributor, administrator, custodian, and transfer agent, each of whom are discussed in greater detail in this SAI. The Board approves all significant agreements between the Trust and its service providers, including the agreements with the investment advisers, distributor, administrator, custodian and transfer agent. The Board has appointed various senior individuals of certain of these service providers as officers of the Trust, with responsibility to monitor and report to the Board on the Trust's day-to-day operations. In conducting this oversight, the Board receives regular reports from these officers and service providers regarding the Trust's operations. The Board has appointed a Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO") who administers the Trust's compliance program and regularly reports to the Board as to compliance matters. Some of these reports are provided as part of formal "Board Meetings" which are typically held quarterly, in person, and involve the Board's review of recent Trust operations. From time to time one or more members of the Board may also meet with Trust officers in less formal settings, between formal "Board Meetings," to discuss various topics. In all cases, however, the role of the Board and of any individual Trustee is one of oversight and not of management of the day-to-day affairs of the Trust and its oversight role does not make the Board a guarantor of the Trust's investments, operations or activities.

The Board has structured itself in a manner that it believes allows it to effectively perform its oversight function. It has established three standing committees, an Audit Committee, a Governance and

<sup>(2)</sup> Mr. Woolson retired from his position with the Board as a Trustee effective as of October 18, 2023 for personal reasons to attend to health-related matters.

Nominating Committee and a Qualified Legal Compliance Committee (the "QLCC"), which are discussed in greater detail under "Board Committees," below. Currently, all of the members of the Board are Independent Trustees, which are Trustees that are not affiliated with the Adviser or its affiliates or any other investment adviser in the Trust or with its principal underwriter. The Independent Trustees have engaged their own independent counsel to advise them on matters relating to their responsibilities in connection with the Trust.

The President, Chief Executive Officer and Principal Executive Officer of the Trust is not a Trustee, but rather is a senior employee of the Administrator who routinely interacts with the unaffiliated investment advisers of the Trust and comprehensively manages the operational aspects of the Funds in the Trust. The Trust has appointed David Mertens, an Independent Trustee, as Chair of the Board, and he acts as a liaison with the Trust's service providers, officers, legal counsel, and other Trustees between meetings, helps to set Board meeting agendas, and serves as Chair during executive sessions of the Independent Trustees.

The Board reviews its structure annually. The Trust has determined that it is appropriate to separate the Principal Executive Officer and Board Chair positions because the day-to day responsibilities of the Principal Executive Officer are not consistent with the oversight role of the Trustees and because of the potential conflict of interest that may arise from the Administrator's duties with the Trust. Given the specific characteristics and circumstances of the Trust as described above, the Trust has determined that the Board's leadership structure is appropriate.

As part of its oversight function, the Board receives and reviews various risk management reports and assessments and discusses these matters with appropriate management and other personnel. Because risk management is a broad concept comprised of many elements (such as, for example, investment risk, issuer and counterparty risk, compliance risk, operational risks, business continuity risks, etc.) the oversight of different types of risks is handled in different ways. For example, the Governance and Nominating Committee meets regularly with the CCO to discuss compliance and operational risks and the Audit Committee meets with the Treasurer and the Trust's independent public accounting firm to discuss, among other things, the internal control structure of the Trust's financial reporting function. The full Board receives reports from the Adviser and portfolio managers as to investment risks as well as other risks that may be also discussed in Audit Committee.

The Board believes that each of the Trustees has the qualifications, experience, attributes and skills ("Trustee Attributes") appropriate to their continued service as Trustees of the Trust in light of the Trust's business and structure. Each of the Trustees has substantial business and professional backgrounds that indicate they have the ability to critically review, evaluate and access information provided to them. Certain of these business and professional experiences are set forth in detail in the table above. In addition, the majority of the Trustees have served on boards for organizations other than the Trust, as well as having served on the Board of the Trust for a number of years. They therefore have substantial board experience and, in their service to the Trust, have gained substantial insight as to the operation of the Trust. The Board annually conducts a 'self-assessment' wherein the effectiveness of the Board and individual Trustees is reviewed.

In addition to the information provided in the table above, below is certain additional information concerning each particular Trustee and certain of their Trustee Attributes. The information provided below, and in the table above, is not all-inclusive. Many Trustee Attributes involve intangible elements, such as intelligence, integrity, work ethic, the ability to work together, the ability to communicate effectively, the ability to exercise judgment, the ability to ask incisive questions, and commitment to

shareholder interests. In conducting its annual self-assessment, the Board has determined that the Trustees have the appropriate attributes and experience to continue to serve effectively as Trustees of the Trust.

David G. Mertens. Mr. Mertens has substantial mutual fund experience and is experienced with financial, accounting, investment and regulatory matters. He currently serves as Partner and Head of Business Development of QSV Equity Investors, LLC, (formerly known as Ballast Equity Management, LLC), a privately-held investment advisory firm. Mr. Mertens also gained substantial mutual fund experience through his tenure as Managing Director and Vice President of Jensen Investment Management, Inc. ("Jensen") from 2002 to 2017. Prior to Jensen, Mr. Mertens held various roles in sales and marketing management with Berger Financial Group, LLC from 1995 to 2002, ending as Senior Vice President of Institutional Marketing for Berger Financial Group and President of its limited purpose broker-dealer, Berger Distributors.

Joe D. Redwine. Mr. Redwine has substantial mutual fund experience and is experienced with financial, accounting, investment and regulatory matters through his experience as President and CEO of U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, (now known as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services), a full-service provider to mutual funds and alternative investment products. In addition, he has extensive experience consulting with investment advisers regarding the legal structure of mutual funds, distribution channel analysis and actual distribution of those funds. Mr. Redwine serves as an Audit Committee Financial Expert for the Trust.

Michele Rackey. Ms. Rackey has substantial experience in mutual funds and investment management through her experience as CEO of Government Employees Benefits Association (GEBA) and also with The ARK Funds. Ms. Rackey is experienced with financial, accounting, investment and regulatory matters and serves as an Audit Committee Financial Expert for the Trust. Ms. Rackey was CEO of GEBA for 17 years and Chief Operating Officer of the ARK Funds for 9 years. Ms. Rackey has a BS in Business Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago and has an MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management in Chicago. Ms. Rackey previously held FINRA series 6, 7 and 63 licenses as well as a Maryland Life and Health License.

#### **Board Committees**

The Trust has established the following three standing committees and the membership of each committee to assist in its oversight functions, including its oversight of the risks the Trust faces: the Audit Committee, the QLCC, and the Governance and Nominating Committee. There is no assurance, however, that the Board's committee structure will prevent or mitigate risks in actual practice. The Trust's committee structure is specifically not intended or designed to prevent or mitigate the Funds' investment risks. The Funds are designed for investors that are prepared to accept investment risk, including the possibility that as yet unforeseen risks may emerge in the future.

The Audit Committee is comprised of all of the Independent Trustees. Mr. Redwine is the Chair of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee typically meets once per year with respect to the various series of the Trust. The function of the Audit Committee, with respect to each series of the Trust, is to review the scope and results of the audit and any matters bearing on the audit or the Fund's financial statements and to ensure the integrity of the Fund's pricing and financial reporting. The Audit Committee met twice with respect to the Funds during the Funds' fiscal year ended February 29, 2024.

The Audit Committee also serves as the QLCC for the Trust for the purpose of compliance with Rules 205.2(k) and 205.3(c) of the Code of Federal Regulations, regarding alternative reporting procedures for attorneys retained or employed by an issuer who appear and practice before the SEC on behalf of the issuer (the "issuer attorneys"). An issuer attorney who becomes aware of evidence of a material violation by the Trust, or by any officer, director, employee, or agent of the Trust, may report evidence of such material violation to the QLCC as an alternative to the reporting requirements of Rule 205.3(b) (which requires reporting to the chief legal officer and potentially "up the ladder" to other entities). The QLCC did not meet with respect to the Trust during the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024.

The Governance and Nominating Committee is comprised of all, and only of, the Independent Trustees. The Governance and Nominating Committee is responsible for seeking and reviewing candidates for consideration as nominees for Trustees as is considered necessary from time to time and meets only as necessary. The Governance and Nominating Committee will consider nominees recommended by shareholders for vacancies on the Board. Recommendations for consideration by the Governance and Nominating Committee should be sent to the President of the Trust in writing together with the appropriate biographical information concerning each such proposed Nominee, and such recommendation must comply with the notice provisions set forth in the Trust's By-Laws. In general, to comply with such procedures, such nominations, together with all required biographical information, must be delivered to and received by the President of the Trust at the principal executive office of the Trust between 120 and 150 days prior to the shareholder meeting at which any such nominee would be voted on.

The Governance and Nominating Committee meets regularly with respect to the various series of the Trust. The Governance and Nominating Committee is also responsible for, among other things, assisting the Board in its oversight of the Trust's compliance program under Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act, reviewing and making recommendations regarding Independent Trustee compensation and the Trustees' annual "self-assessment." Ms. Rackey is the Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee met twice with respect to the Trust during the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024.

### **Trustee Ownership of Fund Shares and Other Interests**

As of December 31, 2023, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, own securities beneficially or of record in the Adviser, the Distributor, as defined below, or an affiliate of the Adviser or Distributor. Accordingly, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, have direct or indirect interest, the value of which exceeds \$120,000, in the Adviser, the Distributor or any of their affiliates. In addition, during the two most recently completed calendar years, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate families have conducted any transactions (or series of transactions) in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and to which the Adviser, the Distributor or any affiliate thereof was a party.

The following table shows the amount of shares in the Funds and the amount of shares in other portfolios of the Trust owned by the Trustees as of the calendar year ended December 31, 2023:

	Donar Range of Equity Securities in the					
	Mid Cap Fund	Small Cap Fund	Emerging Markets Fund	International Small Cap Fund	International Value Fund	Aggregate Dollar Range of Fund Shares in the Trust
<b>Independent Trustee</b>	(None, \$1-\$	510,000, \$10,001	-\$50,000, \$50,0	001-\$100,000, Ov	er \$100,000)	
David G. Mertens	Over \$100,000	None	None	Over \$100,000	None	Over \$100,000
Joe D. Redwine	None	None	None	None	None	\$50,001- \$100,000

None

Michele Rackey

None

Dollar Range of Fauity Securities in the

\$10,001 -

\$50,000

None

None

\$10,001 -

\$50,000

As of December 31, 2023, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, own securities beneficially or of record in the Advisor, the distributor, as defined below, or an affiliate of the Advisor or distributor. Accordingly, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, have direct or indirect interest, the value of which exceeds \$120,000, in the Advisor, the distributor or any of their affiliates. In addition, during the two most recently completed calendar years, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate families have conducted any transactions (or series of transactions) in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and to which the Advisor, the distributor or any affiliate thereof was a party.

#### **CODES OF ETHICS**

The Trust and the Adviser have each adopted separate Codes of Ethics under Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act. These Codes permit, subject to certain conditions, access persons of the Adviser to invest in securities that may be purchased or held by the Funds. The Distributor, relies on the principal underwriter's exception under Rule 17j-1(c)(3), of the 1940 Act, specifically where the Distributor is not affiliated with the Trust or the Adviser, and no officer, director or general partner of the Distributor serves as an officer, director or general partner of the Trust or the Adviser.

#### PROXY VOTING POLICY

The Board has adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (the "Proxy Policies") on behalf of the Trust which delegate the responsibility for voting proxies to the Adviser, subject to the Board's continuing oversight. The Proxy Policies require that the Adviser vote proxies received in a manner consistent with the best interests of the Funds and their shareholders. The Proxy Policies also require the Adviser to present to the Board, at least annually, the Adviser's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures and a record of each proxy voted by the Adviser on behalf of a Fund, including a report on the resolution of all proxies identified by the Adviser as involving a conflict of interest.

The Adviser subscribes to Institutional Shareholder Services' ("ISS") proxy monitoring and voting agent service. However, the Adviser retains ultimate responsibility for instructing ISS how to vote proxies on behalf of a portfolio, and applies its own proxy voting guidelines, which are summarized below. If the Adviser does not issue instructions for a particular vote, ISS will vote in accordance with the Adviser's guidelines or, if the Adviser's guidelines do not address the proxy item, will refer the item back to the Adviser for instruction. If it appears that a material conflict of interest has arisen, the Adviser's guidelines include procedures for addressing such conflicts, including deferral to the recommendation of ISS where appropriate. The Adviser's Chief Compliance Officer may also convene a meeting of the

Adviser's proxy voting committee to determine whether a conflict of interest exists and how that conflict should be resolved.

The Adviser's general positions on various proposals are as follows:

Director Matters – The Adviser evaluates director nominees individually and as a group based on its own assessments and ISS recommendations. The Adviser generally withholds votes from any insiders flagged by ISS on audit, compensation or nominating committees, and from any insiders and affiliated outsiders flagged by ISS on boards that are not at least majority independent. The Adviser generally does not support shareholder proposals to vote against directors unless it determines that clear shareholder value destruction has occurred as a consequence of the directors' actions.

Shareholder Rights – The Adviser generally opposes classified boards and any other proposals designed to eliminate or restrict shareholders' rights. The Adviser supports anti-takeover measures that are in the best interests of shareholders, but opposes poison pills and other anti-takeover measures that entrench management or thwart the maximization of investment returns. The Adviser generally supports proposals enabling shareholders to call a special meeting of a company so long as a 15% threshold is necessary in order for shareholders to do so.

Compensation and Benefit Plans – The Adviser generally supports incentive plans under which 50% or more of the shares awarded to top executives are tied to performance goals. The Adviser votes against golden parachute or other incentive compensation arrangements which it deems excessive or unreasonable, which it considers to be significantly more economically attractive than continued employment, or which are triggered solely by the recipient (*e.g.*, resignation). In general, the Adviser will support proposals to have nonbinding shareholder votes on compensation plans so long as these proposals are worded in a generic manner that is unrestrictive to actual company plans.

Auditors – The Adviser generally votes with management with respect to the appointment of auditors, so long as management is in compliance with current regulatory requirements focused on auditor independence and improved board and committee representation.

The Trust is required to annually file Form N-PX, which lists the Funds' complete proxy voting records for the 12-month period ending June 30. The Funds' proxy voting records are available without charge, upon request, by calling toll-free 1-844-796-1996 (844-PZN-1996) and on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

## CONTROL PERSONS, PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS, AND MANAGEMENT OWNERSHIP

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of any class of the outstanding shares of a Fund. A control person is one who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. Shareholders with a controlling interest could affect the outcome of voting or the direction of management of a Fund. As of May 31, 2024, the following Institutional and Investor Class shareholders were considered to be either a control person or principal shareholder of the Funds.

## Mid Cap Fund – Institutional Class

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
MAC & CO Attn: Mutual Fund Operations 500 Grant Street, Room 151-1010 Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2502	N/A	N/A	49.82%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main St. San Francisco, CA 94105-1901	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	19.64%	Record
Empower Trust FBO Empower Benefit Plans 8515 E. Orchard Rd. 2T2 Greenwood Village, CO 80111-5002	N/A	N/A	16.82%	Record
SEI Private Trust Company c/o Mellon Bank Attn: Mutual Fund Administrator One Freedom Valley Drive Oaks, PA 19456-9989	N/A	N/A	7.77%	Record

## Mid Cap Fund – Investor Class

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main St. San Francisco, CA 94105-1901	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	81.57%	Record
Pershing LLC 1 Pershing Plaza, Floor 14 Jersey City, NJ 07399-0002	Pershing Group LLC	DE	8.09%	Record
National Financial Services LLC For the Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept., 4th Floor 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	Fidelity Global Brokerage Group, Inc.	DE	6.85%	Record

## **Small Cap Fund – Institutional Class**

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
National Financial Services LLC For the Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept., 4th Floor 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	Fidelity Global Brokerage Group, Inc.	DE	49.95%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main St. San Francisco, CA 94105-1901	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	21.40%	Record
Pershing LLC 1 Pershing Plaza, Floor 14 Jersey City, NJ 07399-0002	Pershing Group LLC	DE	11.71%	Record
Matrix Trust Company as Agent for Newport Trust Company Pzena Investment Management, LLC 401(k) Plan 35 Iron Point Circle Folsom, CA 95630-8587	N/A	N/A	7.46%	Record

## **Small Cap Fund – Investor Class**

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
JP Morgan Securities LLC 575 Washington Blvd. 12th Floor Jersey City, NJ 07310-1616	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	DE	47.21%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main St. San Francisco, CA 94105-1901	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	43.59%	Record
National Financial Services LLC For the Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept., 4th Floor 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	Fidelity Global Brokerage Group, Inc.	DE	7.71%	Record

## **Emerging Markets Fund – Institutional Class**

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
National Financial Services LLC For the Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept., 4th Floor 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	Fidelity Global Brokerage Group, Inc.	DE	25.21%	Record
Saxon & Co. P.O. Box 94597 Cleveland, OH 44101-4597	N/A	N/A	18.62%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main St. San Francisco, CA 94105-1901	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	15.82%	Record
SEI Private Trust Company c/o Regions Bank 1 Freedom Valley Drive Oaks, PA 19456-9989	N/A	N/A	12.35%	Record
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC For the Exclusive Benefit of Customers of MSSB 1 New York Plaza, Floor 12 New York, NY 10004-1965	N/A	N/A	12.08%	Record

## **Emerging Markets Fund – Investor Class**

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
National Financial Services LLC For the Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept., 4th Floor 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	Fidelity Global Brokerage Group, Inc.	DE	70.10%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main St. San Francisco, CA 94105-1901	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	20.51%	Record

## **International Small Cap Fund - Institutional Class**

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
JP Morgan Securities LLC 575 Washington Blvd. 12th Floor Jersey City, NJ 07310-1616	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	DE	36.29%	Record
ValueQuest Partners LLC 320 Park Avenue, FL 8 New York, NY 10022-6815	N/A	N/A	29.16%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main St. San Francisco, CA 94105-1901	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	12.99%	Record
National Financial Services LLC For the Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept., 4th Floor 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	Fidelity Global Brokerage Group, Inc.	DE	10.75%	Record
Matrix Trust Company as Agent for Newport Trust Company Pzena Investment Management, LLC 401(K) Plan 35 Iron Point Circle Folsom, CA 95630-8587	N/A	N/A	8.69%	Record

## **International Small Cap Fund - Investor Class**

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
JP Morgan Securities LLC 4 Chase Metrotech Center Brooklyn, NY 11245-0001	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	DE	34.69%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody Account FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main St. San Francisco, CA 94105-1901	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	33.65%	Record
Pershing LLC 1 Pershing Plaza, Floor 14 Jersey City NJ 07399-0002	Pershing Group LLC	DE	28.57%	Record

## **International Value Fund - Institutional Class**

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
JP Morgan Securities LLC 575 Washington Blvd. 12th Floor Jersey City, NJ 07310-1616	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	DE	35.21%	Record
SEI Private Trust Company c/o Legacy Trust Company (Texas) 1 Freedom Valley Drive Oaks, PA 19456-9989	N/A	N/A	26.29%	Record
Band & Co c/o U.S. Bank NA 1555 N. Rivercenter Dr., Suite 302 Milwaukee, WI 53212-3958	N/A	DE	19.58%	Record
National Financial Services LLC For the Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept., 4th Floor 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	Fidelity Global Brokerage Group, Inc.	DE	11.70%	Record

#### **International Value Fund - Investor Class**

Name and Address	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
JP Morgan Securities LLC 4 Chase Metrotech Center Brooklyn, NY 11245-0001	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	DE	96.97%	Record

*Management Ownership Information*. As of May 31, 2024, the Trustees and officers of the Trust, as a group, did not beneficially own more than 1% of any class of the Funds' outstanding shares.

### THE ADVISER

Pzena Investment Management, LLC, 320 Park Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10022, acts as investment adviser to the Funds pursuant to an investment advisory agreement (the "Advisory Agreement") with the Trust. Richard S. Pzena, Chairman, is a control person due to his greater than 25% ownership of the Adviser.

In consideration of the services to be provided by the Adviser pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser is entitled to receive from the Funds an investment advisory fee computed daily and payable monthly, based on an annual rate equal to the following amounts of each Fund's average daily net assets:

Fund	Advisory Fee Rate
Mid Cap Fund	0.80%
Small Cap Fund	0.95%
Emerging Markets Fund	1.00%
International Small Cap Fund	1.00%
International Value Fund	0.65%

For the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024, indicated below, the Funds paid the following management fees to the Adviser:

## **Mid Cap Fund**

	Management Fees Accrued	Management Fees Waived	Management Fees Recouped	Net Management Fees Paid to Adviser
2024	\$1,055,594	\$116,009	\$0	\$939,585
2023	\$1,010,329	\$98,328	\$0	\$912,001
2022	\$1,058,922	\$86,609	\$0	\$972,313

## **Small Cap Fund**

	Management Fees Accrued	Management Fees Waived	Management Fees Recouped	Net Management Fees Paid to Adviser
2024	\$504,177	\$243,889	\$0	\$260,288
2023	\$980,352	\$159,587	\$0	\$820,765
2022	\$973,280	\$68,655	\$0	\$904,625

## **Emerging Markets Fund**

	Management Fees Accrued	Management Fees Waived	Management Fees Recouped	Net Management Fees Paid to Adviser
2024	\$12,929,450	\$858,787	\$0	\$12,070,663
2023	\$7,071,092	\$485,364	\$0	\$6,585,728
2022	\$4,983,463	\$351,524	\$0	\$4,631,939

## **International Small Cap Fund**

	Management Fees Accrued	Management Fees Waived	Management Fees Recouped	Net Management Fees Paid to Adviser
2024	\$224,192	\$205,550	\$0	\$18,642
2023	\$146,412	\$146,412	\$0	\$0
2022	\$122,345	\$122,345	\$0	\$0

#### **International Value Fund**

	Management Fees Accrued	Management Fees Waived	Management Fees Recouped	Net Management Fees Paid to Adviser
2024	\$361,277	\$207,618	\$0	\$153,659
2023	\$206,488	\$206,488	\$0	\$0
2022*	\$53,443	\$53,443	\$0	\$0

\*The International Value Fund commenced operations on June 28, 2021.

The Advisory Agreement continues in effect for successive annual periods so long as such continuation is specifically approved at least annually by the vote of (1) the Board (or a majority of the outstanding shares of the Funds), and (2) a majority of the Trustees who are not interested persons of any party to the Advisory Agreement, in each case, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Advisory Agreement may be terminated at any time, without penalty, by either party to the Advisory Agreement upon a 60-day written notice and is automatically terminated in the event of its "assignment," as defined in the 1940 Act.

In addition to the management fees payable to the Adviser, the Funds are responsible for their own operating expenses, including: fees and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance, registration and transfer of its shares; brokerage and commission expenses; all expenses of transfer, receipt, safekeeping, servicing and accounting for the cash, securities and other property of the Trust for the benefit of the Funds including all fees and expenses of its custodian and accounting services agent; interest charges on any borrowings; costs and expenses of pricing and calculating its daily NAV per share and of maintaining its books of account required under the 1940 Act; taxes, if any; a pro rata portion of expenditures in connection with meetings of the Funds' shareholders and the Trust's Board that are properly payable by the Funds; salaries and expenses of officers and fees and expenses of members of the Board or members of any advisory board or committee who are not members of, affiliated with or interested persons of the Adviser or Administrator; insurance premiums on property or personnel of the Funds which inure to its benefit, including liability and fidelity bond insurance; the cost of preparing and printing reports, proxy statements, prospectuses and the statement of additional information of the Funds or other communications for distribution to existing shareholders; legal counsel, auditing and accounting fees; trade association membership dues (including membership dues in the Investment Company Institute allocable to the Funds); fees and expenses (including legal fees) of registering and maintaining registration of its shares for sale under federal and applicable state and foreign securities laws; all expenses of maintaining shareholder accounts, including all charges for transfer, shareholder recordkeeping, dividend disbursing, redemption, and other agents for the benefit of the Funds, if any; and all other charges and costs of their operation plus any extraordinary and non-recurring expenses, except as otherwise prescribed in the Advisory Agreement.

Though the Funds are responsible for their own operating expenses, the Adviser has contractually agreed to waive a portion or all of the management fees payable to it by the Funds and to pay Fund operating expenses to the extent necessary to limit a Fund's aggregate annual operating expenses (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, taxes, dividends on securities sold short, extraordinary expenses, Rule 12b-1 fees, shareholder servicing fees and any other class-specific expenses) to the limits set forth in the Annual Fund Operating Expenses table of the Prospectus. The Adviser may request recoupment of previously waived fees and paid expenses in any subsequent month in the 36-month period from the date of the management fee reduction and expense payment if the aggregate amount actually paid by the Funds toward the operating expenses for such fiscal year (taking into account the

reimbursement) will not cause the Funds to exceed the lesser of: (1) the expense limitation in place at the time of the management fee reduction and expense payment; or (2) the expense limitation in place at the time of the reimbursement. Any such recoupment is also contingent upon the Board's subsequent review and ratification of the recouped amounts. Such recoupment may not be paid prior to a Fund's payment of current ordinary operating expenses.

## **SERVICE PROVIDERS**

## Fund Administrator, Transfer Agent, Fund Accountant and Chief Compliance Officer

Pursuant to a Fund Administration Servicing Agreement (the "Administration Agreement") between the Trust and U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services ("Fund Services" or the "Administrator"), 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, Fund Services acts as the Funds' administrator. The Administrator provides certain administrative services to the Funds, including, among other responsibilities, coordinating the negotiation of contracts and fees with, and the monitoring of performance and billing of, the Funds' independent contractors and agents; preparation for signature by an officer of the Trust of all documents required to be filed for compliance by the Trust and the Funds with applicable laws and regulations excluding those of the securities laws of various states; arranging for the computation of performance data, including NAV and yield; responding to shareholder inquiries; and arranging for the maintenance of books and records of the Funds, and providing, at its own expense, office facilities, equipment and personnel necessary to carry out its duties. In this capacity, the Administrator does not have any responsibility or authority for the management of the Funds, the determination of investment policy, or for any matter pertaining to the distribution of Fund shares.

Pursuant to the Administration Agreement, as compensation for its services, Fund Services receives from the Funds a combined fee for fund administration and fund accounting services based on the Fund's current average daily net assets. Fund Services is also entitled to certain out-of-pocket expenses. In addition to its role as Administrator, Fund Services acts as fund accountant, transfer agent (the "Transfer Agent") and dividend disbursing agent under separate agreements. Additionally, the Administrator provides CCO services to the Trust under a separate agreement. The cost for the Chief Compliance Officer's services is charged to the Funds and approved by the Board annually.

For the fiscal years indicated below, the Funds paid the following fees to Fund Services for fund administration and fund accounting services:

Administration and Fund Accounting Fees Paid						
	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 29, 2024	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 28, 2023	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 28, 2022			
Mid Cap Fund	\$87,148	\$72,606	\$80,061			
Small Cap Fund	\$85,091	\$74,812	\$80,244			
Emerging Markets Fund	\$513,520	\$288,707	\$198,160			
International Small Cap Fund	\$81,187	\$81,152	\$70,946			
International Value Fund*	\$81,511	\$81,511	\$58,740			

<sup>\*</sup>The International Value Fund commenced operations on June 28, 2021.

#### Custodian

Pursuant to a Custody Agreement between the Trust and U.S. Bank National Association, located at 1555 North RiverCenter Drive, Suite 302, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212 (the "Custodian"), the Custodian serves as the custodian of the Funds' assets, holds the Funds' portfolio securities in safekeeping, and keeps all necessary records and documents relating to its duties. The Custodian is compensated with an asset-based fee plus transaction fees and is reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

The Custodian and Administrator do not participate in decisions relating to the purchase and sale of securities by the Funds. The Administrator, Transfer Agent, and Custodian are affiliated entities under the common control of U.S. Bancorp. The Custodian and its affiliates may participate in revenue sharing arrangements with the service providers of mutual funds in which the Funds may invest.

## **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm and Legal Counsel**

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, Two Liberty Place, 50 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2900, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102, is the independent registered public accounting firm for the Funds, whose services include auditing the Funds' financial statements and the performance of related tax services.

Sullivan & Worcester LLP ("Sullivan & Worcester"), 1251 Avenue of the Americas, 19th Floor, New York, New York 10020 serves as legal counsel to the Trust and provides counsel on legal matters relating to the Funds. Sullivan & Worcester also serves as independent legal counsel to the Board of Trustees.

## **DISTRIBUTION**

### The Funds' Distributor

The Trust has entered into a Distribution Agreement (the "Distribution Agreement") with Quasar Distributors, LLC, Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, Maine 04101 (the "Distributor"), pursuant to which the Distributor acts as the Funds' distributor, provides certain administration services and promotes and arranges for the sale of Fund shares. The offering of each Fund's shares is continuous. The Distributor is a registered broker-dealer and member of FINRA.

The Distribution Agreement will continue in effect only if such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board or by vote of a majority of each Fund's outstanding voting securities and, in either case, by a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Distribution Agreement or "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of any such party. The Distribution Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Trust on behalf of the Funds on 60 days' written notice when authorized either by a majority vote of each Fund's shareholders or by vote of a majority of the Board, including a majority of the Trustees who are not "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust, or by the Distributor on 60 days' written notice, and will automatically terminate in the event of its "assignment" (as defined in the 1940 Act).

### **Distribution Plan**

The Funds have adopted a Distribution Plan (the "Plan") pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act under which the Funds pay the Distributor an amount which is accrued daily and paid quarterly, at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Investor Class of each Fund. The Plan provides that the Distributor may use all or any portion of such fee to finance any activity that is principally intended to result in the sale of Fund shares, subject to the terms of the Plan, or to provide certain shareholder services. Amounts paid under this plan, by the Funds, are paid to the Distributor to compensate broker-dealers and service providers that provide distribution-related services to the Funds for the costs of the services provided and the expenses borne in the distribution of a Fund's shares,

including overhead and telephone expenses; printing and distribution of prospectuses and reports used in connection with the offering of the Funds' shares to prospective investors; and preparation, printing and distribution of sales literature and advertising materials. The services provided by selected dealers pursuant to the Plan are primarily designed to promote the sale of shares of the Funds and include the furnishing of office space and equipment, telephone facilities, personnel and assistance to the Funds in servicing such shareholders. The services provided by the administrators pursuant to the Plan are designed to provide support services to the Funds and include establishing and maintaining shareholders' accounts and records, processing purchase and redemption transactions, answering routine client inquiries regarding the Funds and providing other services to the Funds as may be required.

Under the Plan, the Trustees will be furnished quarterly with information detailing the amount of expenses paid under the Plan and the purposes for which payments were made. The Plan may be terminated at any time by vote of a majority of the Trustees of the Trust who are not interested persons. Continuation of the Plan is considered by such Trustees no less frequently than annually. With the exception of the Distributor in its capacity as the Funds' principal underwriter, no interested person has or had a direct or indirect financial interest in the Plan or any related agreement.

While there is no assurance that the expenditures of Fund assets to finance distribution of shares will have the anticipated results, the Board believes there is a reasonable likelihood that one or more of such benefits will result, and because the Board is in a position to monitor the distribution expenses, it is able to determine the benefit of such expenditures in deciding whether to continue the Plan.

For the fiscal period ended February 29, 2024, the Funds paid the following Plan fees:

Rule 12b-1 Expenditures Incurred	Mid Cap Fund	Small Cap Fund	Emerging Markets Fund	International Small Cap Fund	International Value Fund
Advertising/Marketing	\$1,150	\$1,259	\$1,345	\$1,239	\$545
Printing/Postage	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Payment to distributor	\$5,334	\$4,598	\$25,906	\$4,076	\$2,013
Payment to dealers	\$9,755	\$4,296	\$79,437	\$1,834	\$0
Compensation to sales personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interest, carrying, or other financing charges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$16,239	\$10,153	\$106,688	\$7,149	\$2,558

## **Shareholder Servicing Plan**

The Funds have adopted a Shareholder Servicing Plan (the "Servicing Plan") with respect to the Investor Class of each Fund under which the Adviser will provide, or arrange for others to provide, certain specified shareholder services. Such services include: (1) aggregating and processing purchase and redemption requests and transmitting such orders to the transfer agent; (2) providing shareholders with a service that invests the assets of their accounts in shares of the Funds pursuant to specific or preauthorized instructions; (3) processing dividend and distribution payments from the Funds on behalf of

shareholders; (4) providing information periodically to shareholders showing their positions; (5) arranging for bank wires; (6) responding to shareholder inquiries concerning their investment; (7) providing sub-accounting with respect to shares of the Funds beneficially owned by shareholders or the information necessary for sub-accounting; (8) if required by law, forwarding shareholder communications (such as proxies, shareholder reports, annual and semi-annual financial statements and dividend, distribution and tax notices); and (9) providing similar services as may reasonably be requested.

As compensation for the provision of shareholder services, the Funds pay the Adviser a monthly fee at an annual rate of 0.10% of the average daily net assets of the Investor Class of each Fund. The Adviser will pay certain banks, trust companies, broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries (each, a "Participating Organization") out of the fees the Adviser receives from the Funds under the Servicing Plan to the extent that the Participating Organization performs shareholder servicing functions for the Funds' shares owned by its customers.

For the fiscal periods indicated below, the Funds paid the following Servicing Plan fees:

	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 29, 2024	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 28, 2023	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 28, 2022
Mid Cap Fund	\$5,835	\$8,757	\$12,367
Small Cap Fund	\$2,354	\$1,998	\$1,750
<b>Emerging Markets Fund</b>	\$41,174	\$28,594	\$20,331
International Small Cap Fund	\$1,305	\$417	\$449
International Value Fund*	\$17	\$40	\$33

<sup>\*</sup>The International Value Fund commenced operations on June 28, 2021.

## MARKETING AND SUPPORT PAYMENTS

The Adviser, out of its own resources and without additional cost to the Funds or their shareholders, may provide additional cash payments or other compensation to certain financial intermediaries who sell shares of the Funds. Such payments may be divided into categories as follows:

Support Payments. Payments may be made by the Adviser to certain financial intermediaries in connection with the eligibility of the Funds to be offered in certain programs and/or in connection with meetings between the Funds' representatives and financial intermediaries and their sales representatives. Such meetings may be held for various purposes, including providing education and training about the Funds and other general financial topics to assist financial intermediaries' sales representatives in making informed recommendations to, and decisions on behalf of, their clients.

Entertainment, Conferences and Events. The Adviser also may pay cash or non-cash compensation to sales representatives of financial intermediaries in the form of (i) occasional gifts; (ii) occasional meals, tickets or other entertainments; and/or (iii) sponsorship support for the financial intermediary's client seminars and cooperative advertising. In addition, the Adviser pays for exhibit space or sponsorships at regional or national events of financial intermediaries.

The prospect of receiving, or the receipt of additional payments or other compensation as described above by financial intermediaries may provide such intermediaries and/or their salespersons with an incentive to favor sales of shares of the Funds, and other mutual funds whose affiliates make similar compensation

available, over sale of shares of mutual funds (or non-mutual fund investments) not making such payments. You may wish to take such payment arrangements into account when considering and evaluating any recommendations relating to the Fund shares.

### PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

The portfolio managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Mid Cap Fund are Messrs. John Flynn, Benjamin Silver, and Evan Fox. The portfolio managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Emerging Markets Fund are Mmes. Allison Fisch and Caroline Cai. and Messrs. Rakesh Bordia and Akhil Subramanian. The portfolio managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Small Cap Fund are Messrs. Evan Fox, John Flynn, and Benjamin Silver. The portfolio managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the International Small Cap Fund are Messrs. Matthew J. Ring and Jason Doctor. The portfolio managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the International Value Fund are Messrs. John Goetz and Rakesh Bordia and Mmes. Allison Fisch and Caroline Cai. Each has managed their respective Fund(s) since the Fund's inception, except Mr. Bordia has managed the Emerging Markets Fund since April 2015 and the International Value Fund since January 2023, Mr. Flynn has managed the Mid Cap Fund since August 2015, Mr. Silver has managed the Mid Cap Fund since July 2017, Mr. Subramanian has managed the Emerging Markets Fund since January 2023 and Mr. Doctor has managed the International Small Cap Fund since January 2023, and Mr. Fox has managed the Mid Cap Fund since January 2024. The following tables show the number of other accounts (not including the Funds) managed by each portfolio manager and the total assets in the accounts managed within various categories as of February 29, 2024.

### John Goetz

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	10	\$8,771 million	1	\$1,854 million
Other Pooled Investments	47	\$20,095 million	3	\$251 million
Other Accounts	46	\$8,153 million	1	\$159 million

### **Allison Fisch**

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	12	\$7,401 million	1	\$180 million
Other Pooled Investments	29	\$2,619 million	0	\$0
Other Accounts	39	\$7,445 million	0	\$0

## Caroline Cai

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	13	\$9,255 million	2	\$2,034 million
Other Pooled Investments	52	\$20,429 million	3	\$251 million
Other Accounts	59	\$11,180 million	0	\$0

## Rakesh Bordia

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	12	\$7,401 million	1	\$180 million
Other Pooled Investments	29	\$2,619 million	0	\$0
Other Accounts	39	\$7,445 million	0	\$0

## **Evan Fox**

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	2	\$2,727 million	1	\$2,639 million
Other Pooled Investments	4	\$110 million	0	\$0
Other Accounts	43	\$2,376 million	0	\$0

# John Flynn

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	<b>Total Assets</b>	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	5	\$11,663 million	2	\$9,578 million
Other Pooled Investments	12	\$232 million	1	\$28 million
Other Accounts	73	\$2,944 million	0	\$0

# **Benjamin Silver**

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	6	\$13,517 million	3	\$11,432 million
Other Pooled Investments	35	\$18,031 million	5	\$312 million
Other Accounts	90	\$6,528 million	0	\$0

# Matthew J. Ring

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investments	9	\$1,349 million	0	\$0
Other Accounts	9	\$1,424 million	1	\$159 million

# Akhil Subramanian

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	3	\$484 million	1	\$180 million
Other Pooled Investments	16	\$1,770 million	0	\$0
Other Accounts	18	\$4,432 million	0	\$0

#### **Jason Doctor**

Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (excluding the Funds)	Total Assets	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Assets in Accounts for Which Advisory Fee is Based on Performance
Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investments	1	\$3 million	0	\$0
Other Accounts	1	\$4 million	0	\$0

Material Conflicts of Interest. The Adviser does not foresee any conflicts of interest in the management of the Funds and its other accounts. The Adviser applies the same value minded philosophy across all of its strategies that it has employed since inception. The Adviser, as a matter of policy and practice, acts as a fiduciary in all client matters, seeks to avoid or resolve conflicts of interest, and meets all regulatory requirements. Standards of business conduct are detailed in the Adviser's Code of Ethics. Each employee is responsible to have read, be familiar with, and annually certify compliance with the Adviser's Code of Ethics. There is no conflict of the duties necessary for the Funds and other products. In all cases, the Adviser acts as a fiduciary of client assets and accounts and follows its trading policies and procedures.

Compensation. The portfolio managers of the Adviser are compensated through a combination of a fixed base salary, performance bonus, and equity ownership, if appropriate, due to superior personal performance. Eligibility for bonus compensation is examined annually by the Adviser. The Adviser considers both quantitative and qualitative factors when determining performance bonuses; however, performance bonuses are not based on Fund performance or assets of the Funds. For investment professionals, the Adviser examines such things as effort, efficiency, ability to focus on the correct issues, stock modeling ability, and ability to successfully interact with company management. However, the Adviser always looks at the person as a whole and the contributions that they have made and are likely to make in the future. The Adviser avoids a compensation model that is driven by individual security performance, as this can lead to short-term thinking, which is contrary to the firm's value investment philosophy. Ultimately, the equity ownership is the primary tool used by the Adviser for attracting and retaining the best people. This ties personnel to long-term performance as the value of their ownership stake depends on Pzena delivering superior long-term results to investors. All portfolio managers listed are equity owners of the Adviser.

Securities Owned in the Funds by Portfolio Managers. As of February 29, 2024, the portfolio managers owned the following securities in the Funds which they manage:

**Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds Beneficially Owned** (None, \$1-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$50,000, \$50,001-\$100,000, \$100,001 - \$500,000, \$500,001 - \$1,000,000, Over \$1,000,000)

Portfolio Managers	Mid Cap Fund	Small Cap Fund	Emerging Markets Fund	International Small Cap Fund	International Value Fund
John Goetz	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Over \$1,000,000
Allison Fisch	N/A	N/A	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	N/A	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000

## Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds Beneficially Owned

(None, \$1-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$50,000, \$50,001-\$100,000, \$100,001 - \$500,000, \$500,001 - \$1,000,000, Over \$1,000,000)

Portfolio Managers	Mid Cap Fund	Small Cap Fund	Emerging Markets Fund	International Small Cap Fund	International Value Fund
Caroline Cai	N/A	N/A	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	N/A	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000
Rakesh Bordia	N/A	N/A	\$100,001-\$500,000	N/A	\$100,001-\$500,000
John Flynn	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Evan Fox	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Benjamin Silver	\$100,001-\$500,000	\$100,001-\$500,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Matthew Ring	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	N/A
Akhil Subramanian	N/A	N/A	\$100,001-\$500,000	N/A	N/A
Jason Doctor	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$100,001-\$500,000	N/A

#### PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS AND BROKERAGE

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser determines which securities are to be purchased and sold by each Fund and which broker-dealers are eligible to execute each Fund's portfolio transactions. The purchases and sales of securities in the over-the-counter market will generally be executed by using a broker for the transaction.

Purchases of portfolio securities for each Fund also may be made directly from issuers or from underwriters. Where possible, purchase and sale transactions will be effected through dealers (including banks) that specialize in the types of securities which the Funds hold, unless better executions are available elsewhere. Dealers and underwriters usually act as principal for their own accounts. Purchases from underwriters will include a concession paid by the issuer to the underwriter and purchases from dealers will include the spread between the bid and the asked price. If the execution and price offered by more than one dealer or underwriter are comparable, the order may be allocated to a dealer or underwriter that has provided research or other services as discussed below.

In placing portfolio transactions, the Adviser will seek best execution. The full range and quality of services available will be considered in making these determinations, such as the size of the order, the difficulty of execution, the operational facilities of the firm involved, the firm's risk in positioning a block of securities, and other factors. The Adviser considers such information, which is in addition to and not in lieu of the services required to be performed by them under their Agreement with the Funds, to be useful in varying degrees, but of indeterminable value. Portfolio transactions may be placed with broker-dealers who sell shares of the Funds subject to rules adopted by FINRA.

While it is the Adviser's general policy to seek best execution first to obtain the most favorable price and execution available, in selecting a broker-dealer to execute portfolio transactions for the Funds when it is

determined that more than one broker-dealer can deliver best execution, weight is also given to the ability of a broker-dealer to furnish brokerage and research services as it is defined in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, to the Funds or to the Adviser, even if the specific services are not directly useful to the Funds and may be useful to the Adviser in advising other clients. In negotiating commissions with a broker or evaluating the spread to be paid to a dealer, the Funds may therefore pay a higher commission or spread than would be the case if no weight were given to the furnishing of these supplemental services, provided that the amount of such commission or spread has been determined in good faith by the Adviser to be reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and/or research services provided by such broker-dealer. The standard of reasonableness is to be measured in light of the Adviser's overall responsibilities to the Funds.

Investment decisions for each Fund are made independently from those of other client accounts that may be managed or advised by the Adviser. Nevertheless, it is possible that at times identical securities will be acceptable for both a Fund and one or more of such client accounts. In such event, the position of each Fund and such client accounts in the same issuer may vary and the length of time that each may choose to hold its investment in the same issuer may likewise vary. However, to the extent any of these client accounts seeks to acquire the same security as the Funds at the same time, the Funds may not be able to acquire as large a portion of such security as they desire, or they may have to pay a higher price or obtain a lower yield for such security. Similarly, a Fund may not be able to obtain as high a price for, or as large an execution of, an order to sell any particular security at the same time. If one or more of such client accounts simultaneously purchases or sells the same security that a Fund is purchasing or selling, each day's transactions in such security will be allocated between the Funds and all such client accounts in a manner deemed equitable by the Adviser, taking into account the respective sizes of the accounts and the amount being purchased or sold. It is recognized that in some cases this system could have a detrimental effect on the price or value of the security insofar as the Funds are concerned. In other cases, however, it is believed that the ability of the Funds to participate in volume transactions may produce better executions for the Funds.

During the fiscal periods indicated below, the Funds paid the following amounts in brokerage commissions:

	Aggregate Brokerage Commissions Paid During			
	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 29, 2024	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 28, 2023	For the Fiscal Year Ended February 28, 2022	
Mid Cap Fund	\$62,880	\$58,846	\$33,715	
Small Cap Fund	\$50,504	\$67,387	\$51,948	
<b>Emerging Markets Fund</b>	\$1,415,627 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$552,423	\$206,972	
International Small Cap Fund	\$19,769	\$4,282	\$10,325	
International Value Fund*	\$47,450	\$18,476	\$11,360	

<sup>(1)</sup> The increase in brokerage commissions for the Emerging Markets Fund for the fiscal period ended February 29, 2024, was due to an overall increase in trading volume, due to the year over year growth of fund AUM.

<sup>\*</sup>The International Value Fund commenced operations on June 28, 2021.

The following amounts were paid to brokerage firms for research services provided to the Funds and the Adviser from the aggregate brokerage commission amounts above:

	Fiscal Year Ended February 29, 2024			
	Dollar Value of Securities Traded	Related Soft Dollar Brokerage Commissions*		
Mid Cap Fund	\$102,327,281	\$54,132		
Small Cap Fund	\$70,600,794	\$33,903		
Emerging Markets Fund	\$1,300,920,502	\$896,601		
International Small Cap Fund	\$24,380,355	\$14,509		
International Value Fund	\$46,636,251	\$40,161		

<sup>\*</sup> Pzena Investment Management, LLC ("PIM") maintains a soft dollar program to obtain broker research and vendor services that enhance PIM's research process. All research and services obtained that are paid with client commissions are in accordance with Section 28(e) of the Exchange Act. The program encompasses paying for external proprietary research through trading directly with the broker that provided the research or through commission sharing arrangement (CSA) payments, obtaining third party research through use of CSA payments, and paying for vendor services through both CSAs and direct trading relationships. Although the research and services obtained through soft dollars may not specifically benefit each client at any one time; PIM believes that over time all clients benefit from the soft dollar program. We maintain a soft dollar program to obtain broker research and vendor services that enhance our research-intensive process.

The Funds did not own securities of their regular broker dealers during the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024.

## PURCHASE AND REDEMPTION OF FUND SHARES

Detailed information on the purchase and redemption of shares is included in the Prospectus. Shares of the Funds are sold without a sales charge at the next price calculated after receipt of an order for purchase. In order to purchase shares of the Funds, you must invest the initial minimum investment for the relevant class of shares. However, the Funds reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to waive the minimum initial investment amount for certain investors, or to waive or reduce the minimum initial investment for 401(k)s or other tax-deferred retirement plans. You may purchase shares on any day that the NYSE is open for business by placing orders with the Funds.

The Funds reserve the right to refuse any purchase requests, particularly those that would not be in the best interests of the Funds or their shareholders and could adversely affect the Funds or their operations. This includes those from any individual or group who, in the Funds' view, is likely to engage in or has a history of excessive trading (usually defined as more than four transactions out of the Funds within a calendar year). Furthermore, the Funds may suspend the right to redeem their shares or postpone the date of payment upon redemption for more than three business days (i) for any period during which the NYSE is closed (other than customary weekend or holiday closings) or trading on the NYSE is restricted; (ii) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which disposal by the Funds of securities owned by them is not reasonably practicable or it is not reasonably practicable for the Funds fairly to determine the value of their net assets; or (iii) for such other periods as the SEC may permit for the protection of the Funds' shareholders.

The Funds may also authorize one or more broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries to accept purchase and redemption orders on their behalf ("Authorized Intermediaries"). Authorized Intermediaries are authorized to designate other Authorized Intermediaries to accept orders on the Funds' behalf. An order is deemed to be received when a Fund or an Authorized Intermediary accepts the order.

## **In-Kind Purchases and Redemptions**

Payment for shares of the Funds may, in the discretion of the Trust, be made in the form of securities that are permissible investments for the Funds as described in the Prospectus. For further information about this form of payment, contact the Transfer Agent. In connection with an in-kind securities payment, the Funds require, among other things, that the securities be valued on the day of purchase in accordance with the pricing methods used by the Funds and that the Funds receive satisfactory assurances that they will have good and marketable title to the securities received by them; that the securities be in proper form for transfer to the Funds; and that adequate information be provided concerning the basis and other tax matters relating to the securities.

The Trust has elected to be governed by Rule 18f-1 under the 1940 Act so that the Funds are obligated to redeem their shares solely in cash up to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of its net asset value during any 90-day period for any shareholder of the Funds. Each Fund has reserved the right to pay the redemption price of its shares in excess of \$250,000 or 1% of its net asset value either totally or partially, by a distribution in-kind of portfolio securities (instead of cash). The securities distributed in-kind would be readily marketable and would be valued for this purpose using the same method employed in calculating each Fund's NAV. If a shareholder receives redemption proceeds in-kind, the redemption would be a taxable event and the shareholder should expect to incur transaction costs upon the disposition of the securities received in the redemption.

Each Fund does not intend to hold any significant percentage of its portfolio in illiquid securities, although a Fund, like virtually all mutual funds, may from time to time hold a small percentage of securities that are illiquid. In the unlikely event a Fund were to elect to make an in-kind redemption, the Fund expects that it would follow the Trust protocol of making such distribution by way of a pro rata distribution of securities that are traded on a public securities market or are otherwise considered liquid pursuant to the Fund's liquidity policies and procedures. Except as otherwise may be approved by the Trustees, the securities that would not be included in an in-kind distribution include (1) unregistered securities which, if distributed, would be required to be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "1933 Act"), as amended; (2) securities issued by entities in countries which (a) restrict or prohibit the holding of securities by non-nationals other than through qualified investment vehicles, such as a fund, or (b) permit transfers of ownership of securities to be effected only by transactions conducted on a local stock exchange; and (3) certain Fund assets that, although they may be liquid and marketable, must be traded through the marketplace or with the counterparty to the transaction in order to effect a change in beneficial ownership.

## **DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE**

The NAV of the Funds' shares will fluctuate and is determined as of the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") (generally, 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time) each day that the NYSE is open for business. The NYSE annually announces the days on which it will not be open for trading. The most recent announcement indicates that it will not be open for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Washington's Birthday/Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. However, the NYSE may close on days not included in that announcement.

The NAV per share is computed by dividing the value of the securities held by a Fund plus any cash or other assets (including interest and dividends accrued but not yet received) minus all liabilities (including accrued expenses) by the total number of shares in a Fund outstanding at such time.

Generally, the Funds' investments are valued at market value or, in the absence of a market value, at fair value as determined in good faith by the Funds' valuation designee pursuant to procedures adopted by the Adviser. The Board has designated the Adviser as its "valuation designee" under Rule 2a-5 of the 1940 Act, subject to its oversight.

The Funds' securities which are traded on securities exchanges are valued at the last sale price on the exchange on which such securities are traded, as of the close of business on the day the securities are being valued or, lacking any reported sales, at the mean between the last available bid and asked price.

Securities primarily traded in the NASDAQ Global Market<sup>®</sup> for which market quotations are readily available shall be valued using the NASDAQ<sup>®</sup> Official Closing Price ("NOCP"). If the NOCP is not available, such securities shall be valued at the last sale price on the day of valuation, or if there has been no sale on such day, at the mean between the bid and asked prices. OTC securities which are not traded in the NASDAQ Global Market<sup>®</sup> shall be valued at the most recent sales price. Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available (including restricted securities which are subject to limitations as to their sale) are valued at fair value as determined in good faith under the Adviser's procedures.

Debt securities are similarly valued under the valuation designee's procedures, which may include independent third-party pricing services. Any such pricing service, in determining value, will use information with respect to transactions in the securities being valued, quotations from dealers, market transactions in comparable securities, analyses and evaluations of various relationships between securities and yield to maturity information.

In the case of foreign securities, the occurrence of certain events after the close of foreign markets, but prior to the time the Funds' NAVs are calculated (such as a significant surge or decline in the U.S. or other markets) often will result in an adjustment to the trading prices of foreign securities when foreign markets open on the following business day. If such events occur, the Funds value foreign securities at fair value, taking into account such events, in calculating the NAVs. In such cases, use of fair valuation can reduce an investor's ability to seek to profit by estimating the Funds' NAVs in advance of the time the NAVs are calculated. The Adviser anticipates that the Funds' portfolio holdings will be fair valued only if market quotations for those holdings are considered unreliable or are unavailable.

All other assets of the Funds are valued in such manner as the valuation designee in good faith deems appropriate to reflect their fair value.

#### TAX MATTERS

Each series of the Trust is treated as a separate entity for federal income tax purposes. Each Fund, as a series of the Trust, has elected and intends to continue to qualify to be treated as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Code, and to comply with all applicable requirements regarding the source of its income, diversification of its assets and timing and amount of distributions. The Funds' policy is to distribute to their shareholders all of their net income and any net realized long-term capital gains for each fiscal year in a manner that complies with the distribution requirements of the Code so that the Funds are not subject to any federal income or excise taxes in any year. However, the Funds can give no assurances that distributions will be sufficient to eliminate all taxes in every year. To avoid the nondeductible 4% Federal excise tax, the Funds must distribute (or be deemed to have distributed) by December 31 of each calendar year (i) at least 98% of their ordinary income for such year, (ii) at least 98.2% of the excess of their realized capital gains over their realized capital losses for the 12-month period ending on October 31 of such year and (iii) any amounts from the prior calendar year that were not distributed and on which the Funds paid no federal income tax.

Net investment income generally consists of interest and dividend income, less expenses. Net taxable income attributable to realized capital gains for a fiscal period are computed by taking into account available capital loss carryforward of a Fund. Capital losses sustained and not used in a taxable year may be carried forward indefinitely to offset capital gain of the Funds in future years. As of February 29, 2024, the International Value Fund had short-term capital loss carryovers of \$13,688 with no expiration date. The International Small Cap Fund had Post-October capital loss of \$84,494. The Mid Cap Fund, Emerging Markets Fund, and Small Cap Fund did not have any capital loss carryovers.

Distributions of net investment income and net short-term capital gains are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income. For individual shareholders, a portion of the distributions paid by a Fund may be qualified dividend income eligible under current law for taxation at long-term capital gain rates to the extent a Fund reports the amount distributed as a qualifying dividend and provided that certain holding period requirements are met. In addition, a 3.8% Medicare surtax generally applies to net investment income, which includes dividend income and net capital gains from an investment in the Funds, for taxpayers whose adjusted gross income exceeds \$200,000 for single filers or \$250,000 for married joint In the case of corporate shareholders, a portion of the distributions may qualify for the intercorporate dividends-received deduction to the extent a Fund reports the amount distributed as a qualifying dividend and provided that certain holding period requirements are met. The aggregate amount so reported to either individual or corporate shareholders cannot, however, exceed the aggregate amount of qualifying dividends received by a Fund for its taxable year. In view of each Fund's investment policies, it is expected that dividends from domestic corporations may be part of each Fund's gross income and that, accordingly, part of the distributions of each Fund may be eligible for qualified dividend income treatment for individual shareholders or for the dividends-received deduction for corporate shareholders. However, the portion of each Fund's gross income attributable to qualifying dividends is largely dependent on the Fund's investment activities for a particular year and therefore cannot be predicted with any certainty. The Emerging Markets Fund may have little or no qualified dividend income in some years. Further, the dividends-received deduction may be reduced or eliminated if Fund shares held by a corporate investor are treated as debt-financed or are held for less than 46 days.

Long-term capital gain distributions are taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains regardless of the length of time a shareholder held his or her Fund shares. Capital gains distributions are not eligible for qualified dividend income treatment or the dividends-received deduction referred to in the previous paragraph. Distributions of any net investment income and net realized capital gains will be taxable as described above, whether received in shares or in cash. Shareholders who choose to receive distributions in the form of additional shares will have a cost basis for federal income tax purposes in each share so received equal to the NAV of a share on the reinvestment date. Distributions generally are taxable when received or deemed to be received. However, distributions declared in October, November or December to shareholders of record on a date in such a month and paid the following January are taxable as if received on December 31. Distributions are includable in alternative minimum taxable income in computing liability for the alternative minimum tax of a shareholder who is an individual. There is no requirement that the Funds take into consideration any tax implications when implementing their investment strategy. Shareholders should note that the Funds may make taxable distributions of income and capital gains even when share values have declined.

The Funds may be subject to foreign taxes on income earned with respect to securities of foreign corporations.

For taxable years beginning after 2017 and before 2025, non-corporate taxpayers generally may deduct 20% of "qualified business income" derived either directly or through partnerships or S corporations. For this purpose, "qualified business income" generally includes dividends paid by a real estate investment trust ("REIT") and certain income from publicly traded partnerships. Regulations recently adopted by the United States Treasury allow non-corporate shareholders of a Fund to benefit from the 20% deduction with respect to net REIT dividends received by the Fund if the Fund meets certain reporting requirements. There is currently no mechanism for a Fund, to the extent that a Fund invests in MLPs, to pass through to non-corporate shareholders the character of income derived from MLP investments so as to allow such shareholders to claim this deduction. It is uncertain whether future legislation or other guidance will enable a Fund to pass through to non-corporate shareholders the ability to claim this deduction.

Redemption of Fund shares may result in recognition of a taxable gain or loss. Any loss realized upon redemption or sale of shares within six months from the date of their purchase will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any amounts treated as distributions of long-term capital gains during such six-month period. Any loss realized upon a redemption may be disallowed under certain wash sale rules to the extent shares of the same Fund are purchased (through reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within 30 days before or after the redemption.

Under the Code, the Funds are required to report to the Internal Revenue Service all distributions of taxable income and capital gains as well as gross proceeds from the redemption of Fund shares, except in the case of exempt shareholders, which includes most corporations. Pursuant to the backup withholding provisions of the Code, distributions of any taxable income and capital gains and proceeds from the redemption of Fund shares may be subject to withholding of federal income tax at a rate under section 3406 of the Code, in the case of non-exempt shareholders who fail to furnish the Funds with their Social Security or taxpayer identification numbers and with required certifications regarding their status under the federal income tax law. If the withholding provisions are applicable, any such distributions and proceeds, whether taken in cash or reinvested in additional shares, will be reduced by the amounts required to be withheld. Corporate and other exempt shareholders should provide the Funds with their taxpayer identification numbers or certify their exempt status in order to avoid possible erroneous application of backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax and any amounts withheld may be credited against a shareholder's ultimate federal income tax liability if proper documentation is provided. The Funds reserve the right to refuse to open an account for any person failing to provide a certified taxpayer identification number.

Income received by a Fund from sources within foreign countries may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by such countries.

If more than 50 percent of the value of a Fund's total assets at the close of its taxable year consists of securities of foreign corporations, the Fund will be eligible and may elect to "pass-through" to the Fund's shareholders the amount of foreign income and similar taxes paid by the Fund. Pursuant to this election, if made, a shareholder will be required to include in gross income (in addition to taxable dividends actually received) his or her pro rata share of the foreign income and similar taxes paid by the Fund, and will be entitled either to deduct his or her pro rata share of foreign income and similar taxes in computing his taxable income or to apply the amount of foreign taxes as a foreign tax credit against his or her U.S. Federal income taxes attributable to such foreign income, subject to limitations. No deduction for foreign taxes may be claimed by a shareholder who does not itemize deductions. Foreign taxes generally may not be deducted by a shareholder who is an individual in computing the alternative minimum tax. Generally, a credit for foreign taxes is subject to the limitation that the credit may not exceed the shareholder's U.S. tax attributable to the shareholder's total foreign source taxable income. The credit is not available unless certain holding period requirements are met.

The foregoing is only a general description of the foreign tax credit under current law. Because application of the credit depends on the particular circumstances of each shareholder, shareholders are advised to consult their own tax advisers to determine the impact of the credit on their personal tax situations.

The foregoing discussion of U.S. federal income tax law relates solely to the application of that law to U.S. citizens or residents and U.S. domestic corporations, estates the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source and trusts that (1) are subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (2) have a valid election in effect under applicable United States Treasury regulations to be treated as a United States person.

## The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA")

A 30% withholding tax on a Fund's distributions of net investment income generally applies if paid to a foreign entity unless: (i) if the foreign entity is a "foreign financial institution," it undertakes certain due diligence, reporting, withholding and certification obligations, (ii) if the foreign entity is not a "foreign financial institution," it identifies certain of its U.S. investors or (iii) the foreign entity is otherwise excepted under FATCA. If applicable, and subject to any intergovernmental agreement, withholding under FATCA is required with respect to certain distributions from a Fund. If withholding is required under FATCA on a payment related to your shares, investors that otherwise would not be subject to withholding (or that otherwise would be entitled to a reduced rate of withholding) on such payment generally will be required to seek a refund or credit from the IRS to obtain the benefits of such exemption or reduction. The Funds do not pay any additional amounts in respect to amounts withheld under FATCA. You should consult your tax adviser regarding the effect of FATCA based on your individual circumstances.

This discussion and the related discussion in the Prospectus have been prepared by Fund management. The information above is only a summary of some of the tax considerations generally affecting the Funds and their shareholders. No attempt has been made to discuss individual tax consequences and this discussion should not be construed as applicable to all shareholders' tax situations. Investors should consult their own tax advisers to determine the suitability of the Funds and the applicability of any state, local or foreign taxation. Sullivan & Worcester LLP has expressed no opinion in respect thereof.

### **DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

The Funds generally receive income in the form of dividends and interest earned on their investments in securities. This income, less the expenses incurred in its operations, is a Fund's net investment income, substantially all of which will be declared as dividends to the Fund's shareholders.

The amount of income dividend payments by a Fund is dependent upon the amount of net investment income received by the Funds from their portfolio holdings, is not guaranteed and is subject to the discretion of the Board. The Funds do not pay "interest" or guarantee any fixed rate of return on an investment in their shares.

The Funds also may derive capital gains or losses in connection with sales or other dispositions of their portfolio securities. Any net gain the Funds may realize from dispositions involving investments held less than the period required for long-term capital gain or loss recognition or otherwise producing short-term capital gains and losses (taking into account any carryover of capital losses from the eight previous taxable years), although a distribution from capital gains, will be distributed to shareholders with and as a part of dividends giving rise to ordinary income. If during any year a Fund realizes a net gain on transactions involving investments held more than the period required for long-term gain or loss recognition or otherwise producing long-term capital gains and losses, the Funds will have a net long-term capital gain. After deduction of the amount of any net short-term capital loss, the balance (to the extent not offset by any capital losses carried over from the eight previous taxable years) will be distributed and treated as long-term capital gains in the hands of the shareholders regardless of the length of time a Fund's shares may have been held by the shareholders. For more information concerning applicable capital gains tax rates, see your tax adviser.

Any dividend or distribution paid by a Fund reduces the Fund's NAV per share on the date paid by the amount of the dividend or distribution per share. Accordingly, a dividend or distribution paid shortly after a purchase of shares by a shareholder would represent, in substance, a partial return of capital (to the extent it is paid on the shares so purchased), even though it would be subject to income taxes.

Dividends and other distributions will be made in the form of additional shares of a Fund unless the shareholder has otherwise indicated. Dividends will be taxable whether received in cash or in additional shares. Investors have the right to change their elections with respect to the reinvestment of dividends and distributions by notifying the Transfer Agent in writing or calling the Transfer Agent at 1-844-796-1996 (844-PZN-1996), but any such change will be effective only as to dividends and other distributions for which the record date is five or more calendars days after the Transfer Agent has received the request.

### ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING PROGRAM

The Trust has established an Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Program (the "Program") as required by the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 ("USA PATRIOT Act"). In order to ensure compliance with this law, the Trust's Program provides for the development of internal practices, procedures and controls, designation of anti-money laundering compliance officers, an ongoing training program and an independent audit function to determine the effectiveness of the Program.

Procedures to implement the Program include, but are not limited to, determining that the Funds' Distributor and Transfer Agent have established proper anti-money laundering procedures, reporting suspicious and/or fraudulent activity, checking shareholder names against designated government lists, including Office of Foreign Asset Control ("OFAC"), and a complete and thorough review of all new opening account applications. The Trust will not transact business with any person or legal entity whose identity and beneficial owner, if applicable, cannot be adequately verified under the provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Declaration of Trust permits the Trustees to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest and to divide or combine the shares into a greater or lesser number of shares without thereby changing the proportionate beneficial interest in the Funds. Each share represents an interest in a Fund proportionately equal to the interest of each other share. Upon a Fund's liquidation, all shareholders would share pro rata in the net assets of the Fund available for distribution to shareholders.

With respect to the Funds, the Trust may offer more than one class of shares. The Trust has adopted a Multiple Class Plan pursuant to Rule 18f-3 under the 1940 Act, detailing the attributes of each class of a Fund and reserved the right to create and issue additional series or classes. Each share of a series or class represents an equal proportionate interest in that series or class with each other share of that series or class. Currently, each Fund offers two classes of shares: Investor Class and Institutional Class.

The shares of each series or class participate equally in the earnings, dividends and assets of the particular series or class. Expenses of the Trust which are not attributable to a specific series or class are allocated among all the series in a manner believed by management of the Trust to be fair and equitable. Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each share held. Shares of each series or class generally vote together, except when required under federal securities laws to vote separately on matters that only affect a particular class, such as the approval of distribution plans for a particular class.

The Trust is not required to hold annual meetings of shareholders but will hold special meetings of shareholders of a series or class when, in the judgment of the Trustees, it is necessary or desirable to submit matters for a shareholder vote. Shareholders have, under certain circumstances, the right to communicate with other shareholders in connection with requesting a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of removing one or more Trustees. Shareholders also have, in certain circumstances, the right to remove one or more Trustees without a meeting. No material amendment may be made to the Declaration of Trust without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of each portfolio affected by the amendment. The Declaration of Trust provides that, at any meeting of shareholders of the Trust or of any series or class, a Shareholder Servicing Agent may vote any shares as to which such Shareholder Servicing Agent is the agent of record and which are not represented in person or by proxy at the meeting, proportionately in accordance with the votes cast by holders of all shares of that portfolio otherwise represented at the meeting in person or by proxy as to which such Shareholder Servicing Agent is the agent of record. Any shares so voted by a Shareholder Servicing Agent will be deemed represented at the meeting for purposes of quorum requirements. The shares have no preemptive or conversion rights. Shares, when issued, are fully paid and non-assessable, except as set forth below. Any series or class may be terminated (i) upon the merger or consolidation with, or the sale or disposition of all or substantially all of its assets to, another entity, if approved by the vote of the holders of two-thirds of its outstanding shares, except that if the Board recommends such merger, consolidation or sale or disposition of assets, the approval by vote of the holders of a majority of the series' or class' outstanding shares will be sufficient, or (ii) by the vote of the holders of a majority of its outstanding

shares, or (iii) by the Board by written notice to the series' or class' shareholders. Unless each series and class is so terminated, the Trust will continue indefinitely.

The Declaration of Trust also provides that the Trust shall maintain appropriate insurance (for example, fidelity bonding and errors and omissions insurance) for the protection of the Trust, its shareholders, Trustees, officers, employees and agents covering possible tort and other liabilities. Thus, the risk of a shareholder incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which both inadequate insurance existed and the Trust itself was unable to meet its obligations.

The Declaration of Trust does not require the issuance of stock certificates. If stock certificates are issued, they must be returned by the registered owners prior to the transfer or redemption of shares represented by such certificates.

Rule 18f-2 under the 1940 Act provides that as to any investment company which has two or more series outstanding and as to any matter required to be submitted to shareholder vote, such matter is not deemed to have been effectively acted upon unless approved by the holders of a "majority" (as defined in the Rule) of the voting securities of each series affected by the matter. Such separate voting requirements do not apply to the election of Trustees or the ratification of the selection of accountants. The Rule contains special provisions for cases in which an advisory contract is approved by one or more, but not all, series. A change in investment policy may go into effect as to one or more series whose holders so approve the change even though the required vote is not obtained as to the holders of other affected series.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The <u>annual report</u> for the Funds for the fiscal year ended February 29, 2024, is available without charge, upon request by calling 1-844-796-1996 (844-PZN-1996) and the financial statements, accompanying notes and report of the independent registered public accounting firm appearing therein are incorporated by reference into this SAI.

#### **APPENDIX**

## **Description of Ratings**

### **SHORT-TERM RATINGS**

## S&P Global Ratings ("S&P) Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings

A S&P issue credit rating is a current opinion of the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation, a specific class of financial obligations, or a specific financial program (including ratings on medium-term note programs and commercial paper programs). It takes into consideration the creditworthiness of guarantors, insurers, or other forms of credit enhancement on the obligation and takes into account the currency in which the obligation is denominated. The opinion evaluates the obligor's capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due, and may assess terms, such as collateral security and subordination, which could affect ultimate payment in the event of default. The issue credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell, or hold a financial obligation, inasmuch as it does not comment as to market price or suitability for a particular investor.

Issue credit ratings are based on current information furnished by the obligors or obtained by S&P from other sources it considers reliable. S&P does not perform an audit in connection with any credit rating and may, on occasion, rely on unaudited financial information. Credit ratings may be changed, suspended, or withdrawn as a result of changes in, or unavailability of, such information, or based on other circumstances.

Issue credit ratings can be either long term or short term. Short-term ratings are generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market. In the U.S., for example, that means obligations with an original maturity of no more than 365 days including commercial paper. Short-term ratings are also used to indicate the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to put features on long-term obligations. The result is a dual rating, in which the short-term rating addresses the put feature, in addition to the usual long-term rating. Medium-term notes are assigned long-term ratings.

## **Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings**

### A-1

A short-term obligation rated "A-1" is rated in the highest category and indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on these obligations is extremely strong.

## A-2

A short-term obligation rated "A-2" is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is satisfactory.

#### A-3

A short-term obligation rated "A-3" exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

#### В

A short-term obligation rated "B" is regarded as vulnerable and has significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

#### B-1

A short-term obligation rated 'B-1' is regarded as having significant speculative characteristics, but the obligor has a relatively stronger capacity to meet its financial commitments over the short-term compared to other speculative-grade obligors.

#### B-2

A short-term obligation rated 'B-2' is regarded as having significant speculative characteristics, and the obligor has an average speculative-grade capacity to meet its financial commitments over the short-term compared to other speculative-grade obligors.

#### B-3

A short-term obligation rated 'B-3' is regarded as having significant speculative characteristics, and the obligor has a relatively weaker capacity to meet its financial commitments over the short-term compared to other speculative-grade obligors.

#### C

A short-term obligation rated "C" is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

#### D

A short-term obligation rated "D" is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the "D" rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P believes that such payments will be made within any stated grace period. However, any stated grace period longer than five business days will be treated as five business days. The "D" rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation's rating is lowered to "D" if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.

Local Currency and Foreign Currency Risks – S&P issuer credit ratings make a distinction between foreign currency ratings and local currency ratings. An issuer's foreign currency rating will differ from its local currency rating when the obligor has a different capacity to meet its obligations denominated in its local currency, vs. obligations denominated in a foreign currency.

Dual Ratings – S&P assigns "dual" ratings to all debt issues that have a put option or demand feature as part of their structure. The first rating addresses the likelihood of repayment of principal and interest as due, and the second rating addresses only the demand feature. The long-term rating symbols are used for bonds to denote the long-term maturity and the short-term rating symbols for the put option (for example, 'AAA/A-1+'). With U.S. municipal short-term demand debt, note rating symbols are used with the short-term issue credit rating symbols (for example, 'SP-1+/A-1+').

## Moody's Investors Service, Inc. Short-Term Debt Ratings

## **Short-Term Ratings**

Short-term ratings are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments. Ratings may be assigned to issuers, short-term programs or to individual short-term debt instruments.

Moody's employs the following designations to indicate the relative repayment ability of rated issuers:

- "P-1" Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.
- "P-2" Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 have a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.
- "P-3" Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-3 have an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations.
- "NP" Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

**Note:** Canadian issuers rated P-1 or P-2 have their short-term ratings enhanced by the senior-most long-term rating of the issuer, its guarantor or support-provider.

## Moody's Investors Service, Inc.: Corporate Bond Ratings

Long-term ratings are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations with an original maturity of one year or more. Such ratings reflect both the likelihood of default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default. The following summarizes the ratings used by Moody's for long-term debt:

- "Aaa" Obligations rated "Aaa" are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk
- "Aa" Obligations rated "Aa" are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.
- "A" Obligations rated "A" are judged to be upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.
- "Baa" Obligations rated "Baa" are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

## **S&P: Corporate Bond Ratings**

The following summarizes the ratings used by S&P for long-term issues:

- "AAA" An obligation rated "AAA" has the highest rating assigned by S&P. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.
- "AA" An obligation rated "AA" differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.

"A" – An obligation rated "A" is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.

"BBB" – An obligation rated "BBB" exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

## **Commercial Paper Ratings**

Moody's commercial paper ratings are assessments of the issuer's ability to repay punctually promissory obligations. Moody's employs the following three designations, all judged to be investment grade, to indicate the relative repayment capacity of rated issuers: Prime 1--highest quality; Prime 2--higher quality; Prime 3--high quality.

An S&P commercial paper rating is a current assessment of the likelihood of timely payment. Ratings are graded into four categories, ranging from "A" for the highest quality obligations to "D" for the lowest.

Issues assigned the highest rating, A, are regarded as having the greatest capacity for timely payment. Issues in this category are delineated with the numbers "1", "2" and "3" to indicate the relative degree of safety. The designation A-1 indicates that the degree of safety regarding timely payment is either overwhelming or very strong. A "+" designation is applied to those issues rated "A-1" which possess extremely strong safety characteristics. Capacity for timely payment on issues with the designation "A-2" is strong. However, the relative degree of safety is not as high as for issues designated A-1. Issues carrying the designation "A-3" have a satisfactory capacity for timely payment. They are, however, somewhat more vulnerable to the adverse effect of changes in circumstances than obligations carrying the higher designations.