

# Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Strategy Summary

1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2021

## **A Tribute To Richard,**

*Before we begin our regular quarterly discussion of the markets and the portfolio, we would like to take a moment to reflect and pay tribute to our Founder and Chairman Richard H. Driehaus, who unexpectedly and suddenly passed away on March 9. Richard was many things to those who knew him. He was a generous philanthropist who did enormous good for so many terrific causes and for so many in need. He was also a mentor and friend to many. He was a real-life Horatio Alger story who grew up from very humble beginnings to become a civic giant in Chicago.*

*To us, he was an investment legend who pioneered an investment philosophy that has helped generate top of the industry returns for six decades and counting. He was a visionary who saw the big picture but was detailed enough to catch the critical nuances and subtleties. He founded a great investment firm (DCM) that reflects him, his style and his obsession for top investment performance. While he hasn't managed our external clients' investment portfolios in many years, his teachings and philosophy are reflected in our portfolios each-and-every day. He taught us how to select stocks; how to see trends; how to find the next big thing; and how to put it all together in a way that is intelligent, differentiated and well-constructed to succeed.*

*Personally, I am honored and forever thankful for the opportunity when he hired me as a new analyst. He then gave me a shot to manage portfolios. His countless funny one-liners and brilliant quotes will endure as daily reminders to all of us on the team. Those reminders, along with his philosophy and the pattern recognition of thousands of prior stock examples taught us how to analyze and select stocks and to interpret situations, trends and industries. He would often ask the simple yet critical questions that required difficult answers. He would ask, is a company sustainable; differentiated; open-ended; dynamic or it is just "dull"? He taught how and when to act quickly and decisively but also how to be patient and ignore the noise. He stressed the importance of how to observe situations open mindedly, to think differently, to see opportunity and to have constancy of purpose. While we will never forget his kindness, generosity and the loud cackle of his infectious laugh, we will always remember what he taught us as investment professionals. He was one-of-a kind, a true original, a legend and will be deeply missed.*

*Sincerely,*

**Jeff James | Portfolio Manager**



## Market Overview

In the first quarter, US equities had solid gains as the outlook for economic growth in 2021 strengthened throughout the quarter. Massive monetary and fiscal support are providing record setting liquidity and stimulus. The efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines is setting up a great economic reopening. The Director of the CDC recently warned that a potential another wave of COVID cases was an “impending doom”, but the capital markets seem to be discounting an “impending boom”. While the warnings from our health officials may be losing their efficacy contributing to the recent plateau of new cases in the US, the efficacy of the vaccines is becoming more and more clear. This efficacy is leading to market leadership by cyclicals and other stocks that will benefit of the economy reopening and daily life trending towards normalcy.

## Vaccine Update

The manufacturing rollout and administration of the vaccines in the US has improved steadily and has outpaced most of the developed world (the UK and Israel have also had impressive rollouts). As of the first week of April, over 110 million Americans (40% of eligible adults) have received at least one dose and more than 60 million (nearly 20%) are fully vaccinated. The current pace of 3 to 4 million doses per day implies over 50% of the population will be fully vaccinated in May. Overall, the US is currently vaccinating at a rate of 50 people for every one new case and later this quarter the total supply of vaccines in the US will exceed the total US population. Additionally, we recently learned that Pfizer’s vaccine maintains effectiveness through 6 months (and perhaps longer), prevents severe disease, and is effective against the concerning South African variant. While new COVID variants remain a scary wild card, the mRNA approaches (Pfizer and Moderna) have the flexibility to specifically address current and future variants and trials have already begun. All of this is incredible news; however, risks remain as the variants are unpredictable, a large portion of the US population remains disinclined to take the vaccine and unvaccinated groups in the US are seeing rising new cases. Still add it all together and the promise of “normal” this summer and in the second half is palpable.

## 2021 is not 2020

This backdrop is bullish for the economy, earnings and equity prices. However, what is currently working in the market thus far in 2021 is nearly the exact opposite of what worked in 2020. In the March quarter, value has dominated versus growth. Energy, the worse performing group sector in 2020, was the best in the first quarter. Technology and healthcare, the best performing sectors in 2020, have been the worst performers thus far. Further, unlike in 2020, valuation was a key factor in the quarter. The Russell 2000 Value Index was up 21.2% while the Russell 2000 Growth up “just” 4.9%. That outperformance of 16.3% was value’s best quarterly outperformance since Q4 2000 and its second best ever. Cyclicals within MEI (materials, energy and industrials), consumer discretionary and banks drove value’s leadership and was driven by economic reopening optimism and higher interest rates. According to Jefferies, small cap cyclicals (those within the Russell 2000) were up 21.3% vs 6.8% for secular growth stocks. Breaking the Russell 2000 Growth into valuation quintiles, the cheapest valuation cohort was up 29.86% while the most expensive valuation cohort was down 3.23%. For the Russell 2000, its cheapest valuation cohort was up 29.75% while the most expensive valuation cohort was down 7.10%. Again, this is the mirror opposite of 2020, when secular and more expensive led.

Size was also a strong factor as the smaller the capitalization the better the performance. Stocks within the Russell 2000 Growth below \$500m were up 17.1% versus up 3.8% above \$1b. For the core Russell 2000, stocks below \$500m were up 25.5%, while stocks above \$1B were up 10.9%.

Looking intra-quarter, as the 10-year treasury yield broke higher during the second week of February, value began to outpace growth and individual industries diverged. Biotech and software, last year’s leaders, made their intra-quarter highs in mid-February and then declined. Banks and other cyclicals followed rates steadily higher for the second half of the quarter.

### Outlook Supports the Economy Reopening

Looking forward, several variables are supporting a strong outlook. Consumer confidence is increasing, and we believe it will continue to rise. After over a year of quarantining and social distancing, we see the pent-up demand as massive. Leisure related activities are on the verge of a huge inflection in demand. Advanced bookings for leisure travel are already growing sharply. Surveys suggest there is tremendous demand to “get out”, to travel and to return to what people used to do. Additionally, from a supply perspective, inventories are at low levels across much of the economy. Numerous major industries have inventories at multi-year, multi-decade or even all-time lows, including residential homes, autos and semiconductors and many others. As demand continues to rise, many companies are reporting that it will take well into 2022 to replenish inventories and their supply chains.

The upcoming reopening plus the stimulus, pent up demand, low inventories and easy year over year comparisons are likely to drive GDP growth up in the high digit percentage range in 2021. The concern for the market is when will such robust growth force upward pressure on inflation and interest rates, thereby pressuring the Federal Reserve to shift its monetary policy stance before its wants to. The Fed is willing to let inflation run hot as it focused on bringing down the level of unemployment. A key and unanswerable question for now is whether the inflation pressures are just cyclical or will they endure and become structural. Secular force such as, technology, demographics and globalization, have resulted in disinflation for the past few decades and those forces remain very much in place. However, the current cyclical forces are the strongest we have seen in several cycles. In the short-term, higher rates from here would continue to drive the value “reflation” trade. The recent rate of change in yields was extreme looking at past moves historically. As the expansion continues the key is when does it begin to tighten financial and negatively impact credit availability. For now, yields remain quite low and credit conditions continue to be very favorable. As a result, the cycle part of this economic cycle will likely be positive for smaller stocks and for both cyclical and secular ones.

### Performance Review

For the March quarter, the Driehaus Micro Cap Growth strategy underperformed its benchmark. The strategy had a 12.79% return, net of fees, while the Russell Microcap Growth Index experienced a gain of 16.86%. The strategy did outperform other major indices, such as the Russell 2000 which gained 12.70% the Russell 2000 Growth which rose 4.88% and the S&P 500 which grew 6.17%.<sup>1</sup>

The relative underperformance versus the Russell Micro Cap Growth index was directly due to the portfolio’s underperformance in healthcare and to a lesser extent in software and specialty insurance. Each of these groups were strong areas of outperformance in 2020 but each lagged recently as the market rotated to cyclical stocks that benefit more from economic acceleration and higher interest rates. Another factor hurting relative performance was a few large index weightings that we did not hold but which performed well despite having inferior fundamentals. In general, many secular COVID (“WFH”) beneficiaries saw fundamental acceleration last year and now face potential deceleration this year largely due to tough year-over-year comparisons. While many cyclical “reopening” beneficiaries experienced fundamental deceleration last year and are likely to have accelerating growth in 2021 as the economy reopens.

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<sup>1</sup>The performance data represents the strategy’s composite of micro cap growth accounts managed by Driehaus Capital Management LLC (DCM) (the composite). These returns are estimated for the period as all underlying accounts have not yet been reconciled. All rates of return include reinvested dividends and other earnings. Net of fee returns reflect the payment of advisory fees and in some instances, other fees and expenses such as administrative and transfer fees while the gross of fee returns do not. Both are net of brokerage commissions charged to the accounts. The performance data shown above represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. The performance results for the composite are shown in comparison to an index. The index is not actively managed and does not reflect the deduction of any advisory or other fees and expenses. While the securities comprising the index are not identical to those in the composite, DCM believes this comparison may be useful in evaluating performance.

## Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Strategy

After the large gains in many secular holdings in 2020, we did lower the portfolio's exposure to secular companies and have maintained a relative underweight for most of the March quarter. These underweights include software, specialty insurance, biotech and e-commerce. Conversely, the portfolio has been overweight cyclical industries and we increased those exposures throughout the quarter. This positioning boosted the portfolio's performance on an absolute basis. We also lowered the level of valuation across the portfolio by reducing exposure to higher valued stocks and rotated to fresher opportunities with lower valuations.

By sector, the Fund's absolute performance was broad based as all major sectors contributed with positive absolute returns, except healthcare which returned zero percent. The positive absolute returns for the quarter came from (in order of magnitude) consumer discretionary, industrials, technology, financials, energy and consumer staples.

### Consumer Discretionary

The consumer discretionary sector holdings experienced strong gains and was the portfolio's largest sector overweight vs the benchmark. As the economy begins to reopen and the labor market recovers, the benefits of stimulus, very high savings rates and massive pent-up demand is driving consumer spending above expectations. Notable outperformers during the quarter include several specialty retailers, online gaming/casino companies and leisure product companies.

### Industrials

The industrial sector also performed well. Outperformance came from alternative energy, such as solar, wind, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and hydrogen companies. Machinery, building material companies and other cyclical related stocks performed well. Transportation and leisure focused airlines also boosted performance. The opportunity for airlines and their profitability is particularly appealing as leisure demand is roaring back, pricing power is evident and expenses have been cut.

### Technology

Technology benefitted across the whole sector from the pandemic as it accelerated the digitalization transformation of the economy. In the first quarter, however the sector's sub-industries diverged. Cloud software, outsourced IT services and ecommerce lagged as cyclicals bounced back and higher valuations held back these secular tech 2020 beneficiaries. Attractive situations remain abundant, however. Semiconductors and semi capital equipment are incredibly robust. Semiconductors is one of many industries seeing shortages as inventories are at very low levels. These shortages have been well publicized as auto original equipment manufacturer (OEMs) around the world have had to halt production due to the lack of critical chips. Demand is very strong and a chronic lack of semiconductor capital expenditures at all, but the leading geometries has led to shortages that the industry has never seen before. We are hearing similar commentary across many different industries. Telco equipment is also strong as rural broadband spending is robust due to government stimulus to catch up and upgrade the rural sections of the country. Also robust are advertising technology providers as well as streaming TV providers who are benefiting from both households cutting their relatively expensive cable TV service.

### Healthcare

Healthcare, while it took a breather for the quarter, remains our largest sector weighting on an absolute basis. Other industries outperformed for cyclical and reopening reasons, but the amount of innovation we see in healthcare is exciting. Biotech/therapeutics, molecular diagnostics and med-tech all stand to benefit strongly looking forward.

## Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Strategy

### Outlook & Positioning

The outlook for the economy, earnings and equities is positive as there are multiple drivers supporting the reopening outlook. The vaccines are working and the percentage of Americans who have received at least one dose is expanding rapidly and most adults will be vaccinating over the next couple months and the supply of vaccines will exceed the eligible U.S. population by the end of May.

We believe the US economy likely will have its highest growth in many decades this year due to many positives, including: the vaccines, the economy reopening, pent-up demand, high savings rates, multi-decade low inventories, easy monetary policy, large fiscal policy stimulus. Additionally, smaller cap valuations are favorable compared to large caps and small caps earnings growth rates are much stronger than large caps.

The many positives need to be measured and framed by the risks that exist. These include: virus variants, the sizable segment of the population that is hesitant or refuses to take the vaccines (this will potentially delay or stunt the reopening), rising inflation pressures, its possible impact on monetary policy, the rate of change of interest rates, higher taxes, additional regulation, a stronger dollar, labor shortages, rising wages and premium valuations. All these risks are nuanced and may end up helping the market climb the wall of worry, but we are monitoring each one carefully.

We are confident that the US has entered a new economic expansion with many powerful drivers. This should result in a sustained new economic cycle and we anticipate broad participation from most sector and industries, including both secular ones and cyclical companies. In terms of portfolio positioning, healthcare remains our largest absolute weight, followed by technology, consumer discretionary, industrials and financials. Versus the index, the Fund is overweight consumer discretionary, industrials, energy, materials and technology and is underweight health care, financials, real estate and consumer staples.

Overall, we see many dynamic investment opportunities in improving or sustainable industries, many of which fit our investment philosophy of companies exhibiting positive growth inflections, differentiation, market share gains, growing revenues and expanding margins which will likely lead to expectations being exceeded over time.

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This update is not intended to provide investment advice. Nothing herein should be construed as a solicitation, recommendation or an offer to buy, sell or hold any securities, other investments or to adopt any investment strategy or strategies. You should assess your own investment needs based on your individual financial circumstances and investment objectives.

This material is not intended to be relied upon as a forecast or research. The opinions expressed are those of Driehaus Capital Management LLC ("Driehaus") as of April 8, 2021 and are subject to change at any time due to changes in market or economic conditions. The material has not been updated since April 8, 2021 and may not reflect recent market activity.

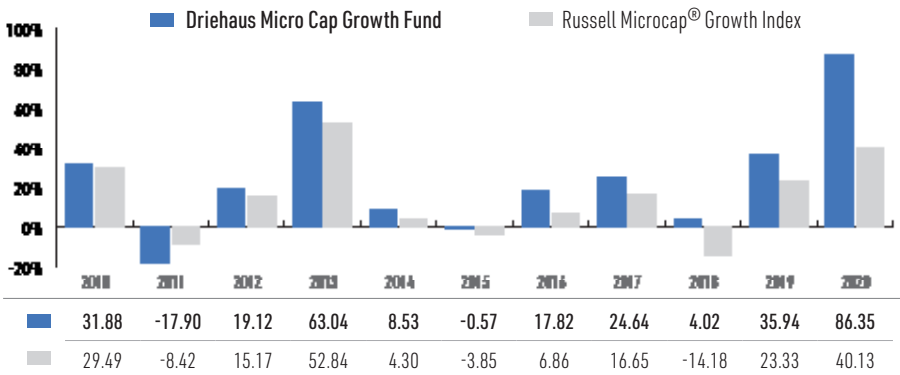
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# Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Strategy

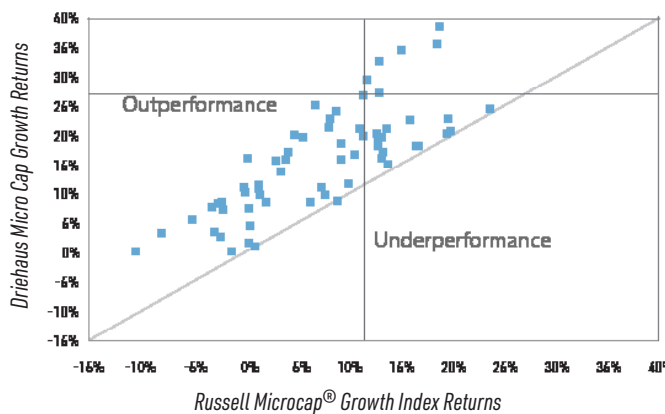
## % Month-End Performance (as of 3/31/21)

	Annualized							
	MTH	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Inception <sup>2</sup>
Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Composite (Gross)	-4.40	13.02	13.02	179.61	42.67	38.32	23.23	24.11
Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Composite (Net)	-4.47	12.79	12.79	177.25	41.38	36.93	21.87	23.15
Russell Microcap <sup>®</sup> Growth Index (Benchmark)	-3.13	16.86	16.86	123.08	19.72	18.82	12.46	*

## % Calendar Year Return, Net of Fees (10-year period)



## Rolling Five-Year Returns, Net of Fees<sup>3</sup>



Sources: Driehaus Capital Management LLC, Factset Research Systems, Inc., eVestment Alliance  
Data as of 3/31/21.

The performance data represents the strategy's composite of micro cap growth accounts managed by Driehaus Capital Management LLC (DCM) (the composite). These returns are estimated for the period as all underlying accounts have not yet been reconciled. All rates of return include reinvested dividends and other earnings. Net of fee returns reflect the payment of advisory fees and in some instances, other fees and expenses such as administrative and transfer fees while the gross of fee returns do not. Both are net of brokerage commissions charged to the accounts. The performance data shown above represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. The performance results for the composite are shown in comparison to an index. The index is not actively managed and does not reflect the deduction of any advisory or other fees and expenses. While the securities comprising the index are not identical to those in the composite, DCM believes this comparison may be useful in evaluating performance. Please see the notes section for other important information.

<sup>1</sup>Composite assets include those accounts that meet the composite objectives and eligibility requirements. Please see notes at the end of this document for descriptions of composite objectives and eligibility requirements. <sup>2</sup>1/1/1996. <sup>3</sup>Returns are calculated from monthly returns and shown for every quarter interval since the index's inception. <sup>4</sup>Portfolio characteristics represent the strategy's composite. Data as of December 31, 2020. <sup>5</sup>Data is calculated monthly.

\*The Index's performance is presented for all periods except "Since Inception" because the Index was not established until August 2000.

## Key Features

- Benchmark aware, not benchmark constrained
- Opportunistic investment approach
- High active share

## Facts

Inception Date	1/1/96
Composite Assets Under Management <sup>1</sup>	\$2,501M
Firm Assets Under Management	\$12.9B
Investment Style	Growth Equity
Investment Vehicles:	Separately Managed Account Mutual Fund

## Portfolio Characteristics<sup>4</sup>

5-year period	STRATEGY	BENCHMARK
Annualized Alpha	16.78	n/a
Sharpe Ratio	1.46	0.74
Information Ratio	2.34	n/a
Beta	1.01	1.00
Standard Deviation	25.48	23.73
Tracking Error	8.34	0.00
R-squared	0.89	1.00

Market Cap Breakout	STRATEGY	BENCHMARK
< \$1 billion	24.5%	47.9%
> \$1 billion	75.5%	52.1%

	STRATEGY	BENCHMARK
Number of Holdings	137	710
Weighted Avg. Market Cap (M)	\$2,225	\$1,554
Median Market Cap (M)	\$1,382	\$319
Active Share (3-year avg.) <sup>5</sup>	83.07	n/a

## Portfolio Management

**Jeff James**, Portfolio Manager  
31 years of industry experience

**Michael Buck**, Portfolio Manager  
21 years industry experience

**Prakash Vijayan**, Assistant Portfolio Manager  
16 years industry experience

## Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Strategy

### Top 5 Holdings<sup>1</sup> (as of 2/28/21)

Company	Sector	% of Strategy
Magnite, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	2.1
Springworks Therapeutics, Inc.	Health Care	1.9
Calix, Inc.	Information Technology	1.7
Digital Turbine, Inc.	Information Technology	1.7
GrowGeneration Corp.	Consumer Discretionary	1.7

### Sector Weights (%)

#### Month-End Absolute Weights

	Comm. Services	Consumer Discretionary	Consumer Staples	Energy	Financials	Health Care	Industrials	Information Technology	Materials	Real Estate	Utilities	Cash
Strategy	2.5	21.8	5.5	4.4	7.5	24.1	12.7	20.7	0.3	0.0	0.6	0.0
Benchmark	2.2	12.4	1.7	0.4	2.2	47.2	9.0	20.9	1.2	2.2	0.7	0.0
Active Weights	0.3	9.4	3.7	4.1	5.3	-23.1	3.7	-0.2	-0.9	-2.2	-0.1	0.0

Sources: Driehaus Capital Management LLC, Factset Research Systems, Inc., eVestment Alliance

Data as of 3/31/21. Benchmark: Russell Microcap® Growth Index

<sup>1</sup>Holdings subject to change.

## Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Strategy

## Sector Performance Attribution 1st Quarter – 12/31/20 to 3/31/21

GICS Sector	Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Strategy (Port) (%)		Russell Microcap Growth Index <sup>1</sup> (Bench) (%)		Attribution Analysis (%)		
	Port Avg. Weight	Port Contrib To Return	Bench Avg. Weight	Bench Contrib To Return	Allocation Effect <sup>2</sup>	Selection + Interaction <sup>2</sup>	Total Effect
Communication Services	2.41	-0.15	2.29	0.27	0.04	-0.37	-0.34
Consumer Discretionary	20.61	3.75	12.25	2.34	0.24	-0.13	0.12
Consumer Staples	4.98	0.64	1.91	0.15	-0.23	0.15	-0.08
Energy	2.69	0.92	0.38	0.10	0.20	0.45	0.64
Financials	7.99	1.67	2.02	0.41	-0.04	0.05	0.01
Health Care	28.10	-0.03	47.82	6.97	0.65	-4.79	-4.14
Industrials	10.88	3.49	8.83	2.08	0.22	1.22	1.43
Information Technology	18.78	2.34	20.26	3.72	-0.04	-0.76	-0.80
Materials	1.39	-0.11	1.18	0.27	-0.09	-0.63	-0.73
Real Estate	0.74	0.46	2.32	0.47	-0.06	0.18	0.12
Utilities	0.97	0.00	0.74	0.06	-0.13	-0.08	-0.20
Cash	0.46	-0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.10
Other <sup>3</sup>	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.00	-0.34	0.00	-0.34
Total	100.00	12.64	100.00	16.85	-0.57	-4.71	-4.20

Data as of 3/31/21

Sources: Driehaus Capital Management LLC, Factset Research Systems, Inc., eVestment Alliance

<sup>1</sup>The Russell Microcap® Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell Microcap® companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The Russell Microcap® Index is represented by the smallest 1,000 securities in the small cap Russell 2000® Index plus the next 1,000 securities. An investor cannot invest directly in an index. <sup>3</sup>Other refers to securities not recognized by FactSet.

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Per FactSet Research Systems Inc., the attribution report provides an in-depth analysis of relative performance. With this report one can research whether or not a portfolio outperformed a benchmark, and how each group contributed to performance. The performance data shown above is estimated and represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. The information presented is intended for informational purposes only.

#### ATTRIBUTION ANALYSIS CATEGORIES ARE DEFINED AS:

**Allocation Effect** - Measures the impact of the decision to allocate assets differently than those in the benchmark.

**Security Selection Effect** - Measures the effect of choosing securities, which may or may not outperform those of the benchmark.

**Interaction Effect** - Jointly measures the effect of allocation and selection decisions.

**Total Effect** - The Total Effect for each MSCI/GICS Sector is equal to the sum of the individual Attribution Effects for that MSCI/GICS Sector.



## Notes // Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Strategy

Driehaus Capital Management LLC (DCM) is a registered investment adviser with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). DCM provides investment advisory services using growth equity and credit strategies to individuals, organizations, and institutions. The firm consists of all accounts managed by DCM (the Company).

DCM claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®).

### COMPOSITE DESCRIPTION

The Micro Cap Growth Composite was created in January 1996. An account is considered to be a micro cap growth account if it primarily invests in U.S. equity securities of growth companies with market capitalization ranges of generally followed micro cap indices at the time of purchase. However, there is no requirement to be exclusively invested in micro cap stocks, and the accounts have invested, to a lesser extent, in stocks with a larger capitalization from time to time.

### PERFORMANCE RESULTS

Net of fee returns reflect the payment of advisory fees and in some instances, other fees and expenses such as administrative and transfer fees while the gross of fee returns do not. Both are net of brokerage commissions charged to the accounts and reflect the reinvestment of income and other earnings.

Valuations and returns are computed and stated in U.S. dollars. Returns are presented on a pretax basis.

Past performance is not indicative of future results. All investments have risks and you could lose money.

Additional information regarding policies for valuing portfolios, calculating and preparing compliant composite presentations are available upon request. A complete listing and description of all composites is also available upon request. Please contact our sales, marketing and relationship management department at 312-932-8621.

### INDICES

The Russell Microcap® Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell Microcap® companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The Russell Microcap® Index is represented by the smallest 1,000 securities in the small cap Russell 2000® Index plus the next 1,000 securities.

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### TERMS

**Active share** represents the share of portfolio holdings that differ from the benchmark index holdings. **Alpha** is the measure of performance on a risk-adjusted basis. Alpha takes the volatility (price risk) of a mutual fund and compares its risk-adjusted performance to a benchmark index. The excess return of the fund relative to the return of the benchmark index is a fund's alpha. **Beta** is a measure of a portfolio's volatility. A beta of 1.00 implies perfect historical correlation of movement with the market. A higher beta manager will rise and fall more rapidly than the market, whereas a lower beta manager will rise and fall slower.

**Information Ratio (IR)** measures a portfolio manager's ability to generate excess returns relative to a benchmark, but also attempts to identify the consistency of the investor. This ratio will identify if a manager has beaten the benchmark by a lot in a few months or a little every month. The higher the IR the more consistent a manager is and consistency is an ideal trait. **R-Squared** is a statistical measure that represents the percentage of a fund or security's movements that can be explained by movements in a benchmark index. For fixed-income securities, the benchmark is the T-bill. For equities, the benchmark is the S&P 500. **Sharpe Ratio** is calculated by finding the portfolio's excess return and then dividing by the portfolio's standard deviation. **Standard Deviation** is a measure of the average deviations of a return series from its mean; often used as a measure of portfolio volatility. A large standard deviation implies that there have been large swings or volatility in the manager's return series. **Tracking Error** is a divergence between the price behavior of a position or a portfolio and the price behavior of a benchmark. This is often in the context of a hedge or mutual fund that did not work as effectively as intended, creating an unexpected profit or loss instead.

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