

# SMALL/MID CAP GROWTH STRATEGY

# STRATEGY OVERVIEW

**STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS** 

when markets decline

sustainable earnings growth

The Small/Mid Cap Growth Strategy utilizes fundamental research to identify small-cap and more established mid-cap companies that we believe have sustainable, above average earnings growth in niche markets. The Strategy focuses on quality and seeks to hold stocks for the long term and protect returns when markets decline.

Research Intensive: Stock selection emphasizes well managed companies with

> Focus on Quality: Aim to hold stocks for long term and protect returns

> Team Approach: Seasoned team with small cap research expertise

- > Style: Small/Mid Cap Growth
- > Approach: Active; Bottom Up
- > Benchmark: Russell 2500 Growth Index
- ▶ Inception: 1/1/2016
- Strategy Assets: \$846 MM

# **PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM**

Joseph C. Craigen, CFA Daniel L. Miller, CFA

Domestic Small Cap Investment Professionals

27

12

Average Years Experience

PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS				
	Strategy	Index		
Return on Assets	6.3%	5.8%		
Return on Equity	12.5%	12.2%		
LT Debt/Capital	29.2%	32.2%		
Dividend Yield	0.6%	0.6%		
Historical 3 Yr. Sales Growth	11.1%	14.7%		
Estimated 3-5 Yr. EPS Growth	10.1%	12.1%		
Historical 3 Yr. EPS Growth	11.5%	18.1%		
Historical 5 Yr. EPS Volatility	22.7%	27.3%		
Estimated PE (FY1)	26.5x	28.6x		
Wtd. Avg. Market Cap (\$MM)	\$10,135	\$7,053		
Trailing 12-Month Turnover	36.3%	_		
Number of Holdings	77	1,259		

MARKET CAP	ANALYS	15
	Strategy	Index
< \$5 Billion	13.2%	46.5%
\$5 - \$10 Billion	39.2%	29.6%
\$10 - \$20 Billion	40.0%	21.8%
> \$20 Billion	7.7%	2.1%

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5-Year Market Capture Ratios					
	Strate	ду	Index		
Upside	100.6%	6 1	00.0%		
Downside	78.1%	6 1	100.0%		
5-Year Risk / Return					
11%		<u>Risk</u>	Return		
₹	Strategy – Gross	19.6%	10.7%		
7%	Index	21.0%	7.5%		

19.6%

9.6%

4% , 19% 21% 23%

# SECTOR DISTRIBUTION

	Strategy	Index
Industrials	24.7%	18.6%
Information Technology	21.3%	22.8%
Health Care	21.1%	20.4%
Consumer Discretionary	11.7%	14.1%
Financials	9.0%	11.8%
Materials	3.9%	2.2%
Energy	3.8%	2.0%
Real Estate	2.0%	2.0%
Consumer Staples	1.5%	3.3%
Communication Services	0.0%	2.5%
Utilities	0.0%	0.4%
Cash	1.1%	0.0%

Since Inception Market Capture Ratios					
	Strateg	у	Index		
Upside	100.7%	10	0.0%		
Downside	84.1%	10	0.0%		
Since Inception Risk / Return					
13%		<u>Risk</u>	<u>Return</u>		
13%	Strategy – Gross	19.3%	12.3%		
10%	Index	20.5%	9.9%		
7%	Strategy –	19.3%	11.2%		

19% 20% 22%

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. There is a risk that invested capital may be lost. Source: FactSet. Risk/return is based on historical monthly composite returns. Market capture is based on historical quarterly returns. Holdings are based on a representative account. There is no guarantee the holdings from the \_ representative account will form part of any future implementation of the Strategy, and should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any security. Please refer to page 2 for GW&K's Disclosure Statement, which is an integral part of our presentation, for an explanation of our composite criteria, calculations and index descriptions. All data as of 6/30/2025

	% of Portfolio	Sector
APi Group Corporation	2.4%	Industrials
MACOM Technology Solutions Holdings, Inc.	2.3%	Information Technology
Sterling Infrastructure, Inc.	2.2%	Industrials
RBC Bearings, Inc.	2.2%	Industrials
Grand Canyon Education, Inc.	2.2%	Consumer Discretionary
ITT, Inc.	2.2%	Industrials
Verona Pharma Plc	2.1%	Health Care
Houlihan Lokey, Inc.	2.1%	Financials
Tyler Technologies, Inc.	2.1%	Information Technology
Insmed, Inc.	2.1%	Health Care

### INVESTMENT PROCESS



# FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

# **Company Management**

- Visionary leadership, high-quality management
  Committed to long-term enhancement of
- shareholder value **Growth Profile**

#### • Business models that deliver consistent long-term growth

• Resilient through economic cycles

**Market Positioning** 

• Leading companies in attractive and defensible niche markets

# **Financial Strength**

- Strong financial characteristics
- Strong cash flow • Prudent use of debt

# Valuation

• Attractive valuation metrics in relation to industry peers and own company history



# SMALL/MID CAP GROWTH STRATEGY

ANNUALIZED RETURNS Period Ending 6/30					ding 6/30/2025	
	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
GW&K Small/Mid Cap Growth Composite – Gross	8.38%	-1.27%	5.47%	11.49%	10.68%	12.33%
Russell 2500 Growth Index	11.31%	-0.71%	8.81%	12.05%	7.50%	9.91%
GW&K Small/Mid Cap Growth Composite – Net	8.12%	-1.76%	4.42%	10.39%	9.59%	11.22%

Returns less than one year are not annualized.

#### 2024 2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 GW&K Small/Mid Cap Growth Composite - Gross 10.23% 21.42% -22.25% 19.73% 34.76% 38.82% -6.27% 25 93% 11.08% -7.47% 9.73% Russell 2500 Growth Index 13.90% 18.93% -26.21% 5.04% 40.47% 24.46% 32.65% GW&K Small/Mid Cap Growth Composite - Net 9.15% 20.24% -23.04% 18.56% 33.45% 37.48% -7.21% 24.71% 9.99%

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. There is a risk that invested capital may be lost. Net of fee performance based on highest fee. All data as of date noted and is subject to change

# PERFORMANCE DISCLOSURE

Source: FactSet

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. There is a risk that invested capital may be lost. The composite performance results displayed herein represent the

The composite performance results displayed herein represent the investment performance record of GW&K Investment Management, LLC. GW&K is an SEC-registered investment management firm that offers active equity and fixed income investment solutions. Founded in 1974, GW&K is an independent and autonomous investment management firm that is an affiliate of Affiliated Managers Group, Inc. (NYSE: AMG), a publicly traded global asset management company. On February 1, 2019 the investment team of Trilogy Global Advisors, LP (TGA), an AMG Affiliate located in Winter Park, FL and New York City joined GW&K Investment Management. Effective March 30, 2015, the legal name of the firm was changed from Gannett Welsh & Kotler, LLC to GW&K Investment Management, LLC.

GW&K claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS Standards. GW&K has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 1995 through December 31, 2023. The verification reports are available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

The Small/Mid Cap Growth Strategy utilizes fundamental research to identify small-cap and more established mid-cap companies that we believe have sustainable, above averageearnings growth in niche markets. The Strategy focuses on quality and seeks to hold stocks for the long term and protect returns when markets decline. The Small/Mid Cap Growth Composite (composite) includes all portfolios invested in the Small/Mid Cap Growth Strategy with a minimum market value of \$75,000 The composite was created on January 1, 2016. The Small/Mid Cap Growth segments of multi-asset portfolios are included in the composite. Each segment of multi-asset portfolios is managed with its own cash account. Accounts are included in the composite after one full month under management. Closed accounts are included through the last full month under management. Inception date is January 1, 2016. All results reflect the reinvestment of dividends and income, and factor in commission costs. Performance is expressed in US dollars. Composite portfolio income may be net or gross of withholding tax depending on the accounting methodology of the custodian bank. The performance results presented may not equal the rate of return experienced by any particular GW&K portfolio due to various reasons, including differences i brokerage commissions, fees, client contributions or withdrawals, position size in relation to account size, diversification among securities and market conditions. Additional information regarding the policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports, as well as a complete list and description of the firm's composites and pooled funds is available upon request by contacting info@gwkinvest.com.

The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period. Gross returns are used for the composite calculation. The standard deviation measure is presented annually, for periods where 36 monthly returns are available.

The firm uses an asset-weighted standard deviation calculation to measure dispersion, which is reported on a yearly basis. Dispersion is used to measure the volatility of gross portfolio returns within the composite. Only portfolios that have been included in the composite for the full year are included in the dispersion calculation. Where dispersion is listed as N/A, the information is not statistically meaningful due to an insufficient number of portfolios in the composite for the entire year. To account for advisory fees, net performance results reflect the deduction of the maximum fee (1.00% annually, applied monthly) GW&K Investment Management would charge for managing portfolios in this Strategy. Client fees may vary.

The performance shown is compared to the Russell 2500 Growth Index. The Russell 2500 Growth Index is a broad based market weighted index that measures the performance of those Russell 2500 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. Indexes are not subject to fees and expenses typically associated with managed accounts or investment funds. Investments cannot be made directly in an index. Index data has been obtained from third-party data providers that GW&k believes to be reliable, but GW&K does not guarantee its accuracy, completeness or timeliness. Third-party data providers make no warranties or representations relating to the accuracy, completeness or timeliness of the data they provide and are not liable for any damages relating to this data. The third-party data may not be further redistributed or used without the relevant third-party's consent. Sources for index data include Bloomberg, FactSet, ICE, FTSE Russell, MSCI, and Standard & Poor's.

Investing in securities or investment strategies, including GW&K's Investment Strategies presented in this document, involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. No investment process is free of risk, no strategy or risk management technique can guarantee returns or eliminate risk in any market environment. There is no guarantee that GW&K's investment processes will be profitable, and you therefore may lose money. The value of investments, as well as any investment income, is not guaranteed and can fluctuate based on market conditions. Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against loss. GW&K's active management styles include equity and fixed income strategies that are subject to various risks, including those described in GW&K's Form ADV Part 2A, Item 8. GW&K's Form ADV Part 2A may be found at the SEC's website under Firm 121942, or is available from GW&K upon request.

## **3-YEAR STANDARD DEVIATION**

Year	GW&K Small/Mid Cap Growth Composite (%)	Russell 2500 Growth Index (%)
2024	20.85	22.80
2023	20.06	20.95
2022	24.14	25.18
2021	20.82	21.97
2020	22.61	23.93
2019	14.78	15.85
2018	14.86	15.33
2017	-	-
2016	-	-

### COMPOSITE STATISTICS

Year	Number of Portfolios	Internal Dispersion (%)	Total Composite Assets (\$000s)	Total Firm Assets (\$000s)
2024	15	0.02	\$861,443	\$52,933,747
2023	13	0.11	\$525,508	\$50,695,321
2022	9	0.07	\$429,962	\$46,803,858
2021	5	N/A	\$43,583	\$54,720,660
2020	2	N/A	\$993	\$51,431,909
2019	2	N/A	\$739	\$42,154,892
2018	2	N/A	\$447	\$34,395,747
2017	2	N/A	\$326	\$36,503,378
2016	2	N/A	\$259	\$32,193,721