



Artisan Mid Cap Fund

MONTHLY
Commentary

Investor Class: ARTMX | Advisor Class: APDMX

As of 28 February 2017

Commentary

Markets were broadly positive in February as sentiment surrounding the global economic outlook remains optimistic. Health care and technology stocks bounced back from late 2016 losses, while more economically sensitive energy and materials modestly retrenched. Quarter to date, emerging markets led global markets, with the US and foreign developed stocks just behind and solidly positive. Growth stocks have bounced thus far in 2017, outpacing value stocks and reversing the dominant trend from 2016.

Our portfolio trailed the Russell Midcap® Growth and the Russell Midcap® Indices in February but remains ahead of both for the quarter. Among our top QTD contributors are S&P Global (SPGI), IHS Markit and Global Payments. SPGI's management team has executed well on a clear plan to simplify its business by selling non-core assets and driving higher margins and efficiencies. It is also realizing meaningful synergies from its 2016 acquisition of SNL Financial, and we believe a number of potential compelling catalysts remain ahead.

IHS Markit is expanding margins as it consolidates its business following its 2016 merger. Though its energy business continues weighing on results as revenues in the sector are down, we believe IHS Markit's fundamentals remain sound and the profit cycle potential compelling.

Global Payments, a fast-growing provider of payment technology solutions for merchants, is making solid progress integrating its 2016 acquisition of Heartland Payments—with early synergies already contributing to sales and revenues, and further acceleration anticipated ahead.

Among our few negative QTD contributors are Acuity Brands and TD Ameritrade. Softer demand for smaller projects has been weighing on Acuity shares. However, overall orders for smart lighting remain strong, and we anticipate this secular shift in industrial lighting will drive meaningful growth and form the next leg of Acuity's profit cycle in the period ahead.

Shares of TD Ameritrade have been pressured by recent moves among competitors to cut trading commissions. While this likely impacts profitability, the industry has grown through price cuts in the past. Further, there are several other growth drivers ahead of Ameritrade—including the integration of the pending Scottrade acquisition and potentially higher interest rates.

Our process is focused on identifying franchises exposed to accelerating profit cycles with reasonable valuations. It is our belief that owning companies with these characteristics should lead to outperformance over full market cycles. We will continue to be disciplined and methodical in our approach.

Portfolio Details

	ARTMX	APDMX
Net Asset Value (NAV)	\$38.82	\$38.95
Inception	27 Jun 1997	1 Apr 2015
Expense Ratios		
Annual Report 30 Sep 2016	1.18%	1.05%
Prospectus 30 Sep 2016 ¹	1.19%	1.05%

¹See prospectus for more information.

Top 10 Holdings (% of total portfolio)

IHS Markit Ltd (Industrials)	5.1
Boston Scientific Corp (Health Care)	4.5
LKQ Corp (Consumer Discretionary)	4.1
S&P Global Inc (Financials)	3.9
Global Payments Inc (Information Technology)	3.9
Waste Connections Inc (Industrials)	2.8
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc (Health Care)	2.8
Cigna Corp (Health Care)	2.6
Fortune Brands Home & Security Inc (Industrials)	2.5
Concho Resources Inc (Energy)	2.3
TOTAL	34.5%

Source: Artisan Partners/FactSet (GICS).

Sector Diversification (% of total portfolio equities)

	Fund	RMCG ¹
Consumer Discretionary	18.6	22.9
Consumer Staples	2.0	7.1
Energy	3.9	1.3
Financials	10.6	5.4
Health Care	20.2	15.4
Industrials	21.7	14.9
Information Technology	21.2	22.4
Materials	1.9	5.1
Real Estate	0.0	5.3
Telecommunication Services	0.0	0.2
Utilities	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Artisan Partners/FactSet (GICS)/Russell. Cash represented 3.9% of the total portfolio. ¹Russell Midcap® Growth Index.

Investment Results (%)

As of 28 February 2017	Average Annual Total Returns							
	MTD ¹	QTD ¹	YTD ¹	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Inception
Investor Class: ARTMX	2.05	6.71	6.71	20.77	2.24	9.81	9.29	13.07
Advisor Class: APDMX	2.04	6.74	6.74	20.98	2.34	9.87	9.33	13.09
Russell Midcap® Growth Index	2.88	6.31	6.31	21.54	7.01	12.32	8.13	8.15
Russell Midcap® Index	2.83	5.31	5.31	26.81	8.44	13.63	8.04	9.76
As of 31 December 2016								
Investor Class: ARTMX	-2.23	-4.15	-0.89	-0.89	2.29	11.94	8.70	12.81
Advisor Class: APDMX	-2.22	-4.09	-0.76	-0.76	2.38	11.99	8.73	12.83
Russell Midcap® Growth Index	0.35	0.46	7.33	7.33	6.23	13.51	7.83	7.88
Russell Midcap® Index	1.14	3.21	13.80	13.80	7.92	14.72	7.86	9.55

Source: Artisan Partners/Russell. ¹Returns for periods less than one year are not annualized. Advisor Class performance is that of the Investor Class from 27 June 1997 through the inception of the Advisor Class on 1 April 2015, and actual Advisor Class performance thereafter. Performance has not been adjusted to reflect the expenses of the Advisor Class for the period prior to the Class's inception, and Advisor Class performance results would differ if such expenses were reflected.

Past performance does not guarantee and is not a reliable indicator of future results. Investment returns and principal values will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than that shown. Call 800.344.1770 for current to most recent month-end performance. Performance may reflect agreements to limit a Fund's expenses, which would reduce performance if not in effect.

Market Cap Distribution (% of total portfolio equities)

\$ in billions	Fund	RMCG ¹
19.0+	40.6	24.4
13.5–19.0	10.8	19.5
9.5–13.5	18.4	18.5
6.3–9.5	21.3	20.1
0–6.3	8.8	17.6
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Artisan Partners/FactSet/Russell. ¹Russell Midcap® Growth Index.

Team Leadership (Pictured left to right)



Portfolio Managers	Years of Investment Experience
Matthew H. Kamm, CFA (Lead)	17
James D. Hamel, CFA	20
Craigh A. Cepukenas, CFA	28
Jason L. White, CFA	17

Carefully consider the Fund's investment objective, risks and charges and expenses. This and other important information is contained in the Fund's prospectus and summary prospectus, which can be obtained by calling 800.344.1770. Read carefully before investing.

International investments involve special risks, including currency fluctuation, lower liquidity, different accounting methods and economic and political systems, and higher transaction costs. These risks typically are greater in emerging markets. Securities of small- and medium-sized companies tend to have a shorter history of operations, be more volatile and less liquid and may have underperformed securities of large companies during some periods. Growth securities may underperform other asset types during a given period.

Russell Midcap® Growth Index measures the performance of US mid-cap companies with higher price/book ratios and forecasted growth values. Russell Midcap® Index measures the performance of roughly 800 US mid-cap companies. The index(es) are unmanaged; include net reinvested dividends; do not reflect fees or expenses; and are not available for direct investment.

For the purpose of determining the Fund's holdings, securities of the same issuer are aggregated to determine the weight in the Fund. The discussion of portfolio holdings does not constitute a recommendation of any individual security. These holdings comprise the following percentages of the Fund's total net assets as of 28 Feb 2017: Acuity Brands Inc 1.5%; TD Ameritrade Holding Corp 1.0%. Securities named in the Commentary, but not listed as a Top Ten Holding or not listed here are not held in the Fund as of the date of this report. The portfolio managers' views and portfolio holdings are subject to change and the Fund disclaims any obligation to advise investors of such changes.

All information in this report includes all classes of shares, except performance and expense ratio information and as otherwise indicated, and is as of the date shown in the upper right hand corner unless otherwise indicated. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

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Sector exposure percentages reflect sector designations as currently classified by GICS.

Our capital allocation process is designed to build position size according to our conviction. Portfolio holdings develop through three stages: GardenSM, CropSM and HarvestSM. GardenSM investments are situations where we believe we are right, but there is not clear evidence that the profit cycle has taken hold, so positions are small. CropSM investments are holdings where we have gained conviction in the company's profit cycle, so positions are larger. HarvestSM investments are holdings that have exceeded our estimate of intrinsic value or holdings where there is a deceleration in the company's profit cycle. HarvestSM investments are generally being reduced or sold from the portfolios.

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