



Artisan Mid Cap Fund

MONTHLY
Commentary

Investor Class: ARTMX

Advisor Class: APDMX

As of 28 February 2019

Commentary

Markets are solidly in the black QTD led by the US, with foreign developed stocks and emerging markets trailing. Investors' concerns about ratcheting trade tensions seem to be easing, boosting markets. Meanwhile, major developed-world central banks have generally indicated they will pause on further rate hikes pending strong economic data. Strength across sectors has been broad-based, led by technology, industrials and energy—the latter as oil prices have bounced sharply to start the year. Utilities, health care and staples are the bottom-performing sectors QTD. From a style perspective, growth leads value, and smaller stocks are outperforming their larger counterparts.

Our portfolio leads the Russell Midcap® and Russell Midcap® Growth Indices QTD. Among our top QTD contributors are Global Payments and Veeva Systems—both leading software companies which are executing impressively in their respective markets. Global Payments, a fast-growing provider of payments technology solutions for merchants, is benefiting from its direct-to-customers approach as the trend toward digital payments maintains its momentum. Veeva Systems, a leading provider of cloud-based SaaS solutions for the pharmaceutical and life sciences industries, is benefiting from broader adoption of its expanding product suite among pharmaceuticals customers—particularly within the areas of clinical-trial and clinical-data management. Both companies are good examples of the types of profit cycles we seek, and we maintain our conviction in these high-quality franchises.

Among our few negative QTD contributors is Take-Two Interactive. Shares of Take-Two, a leading video game developer, have been pressured as investors weigh the impact of new viral free-to-play hits like Fortnite and, more recently, Apex Legends, on full-price games. Though we believe Take-Two remains well-positioned to capitalize on the secular trend toward digital gaming, we have pared our exposure to fund other opportunities.

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 adhere to this approach, regardless of the macro backdrop and how it evolves in the period ahead.

Portfolio Details

	ARTMX	APDMX
Net Asset Value (NAV)	\$34.76	\$35.04
Inception	27 Jun 1997	1 Apr 2015
Expense Ratios		
Annual Report 30 Sep 2018	1.18%	1.04%
Prospectus 30 Sep 2018 ¹	1.18%	1.05%

¹See prospectus for further details.

Top 10 Holdings (% of total portfolio)

Global Payments Inc (Information Technology)	5.0
Atlassian Corp PLC (Information Technology)	4.5
Veeva Systems Inc (Health Care)	3.6
IHS Markit Ltd (Industrials)	3.6
The Progressive Corp (Financials)	3.5
Boston Scientific Corp (Health Care)	3.3
Tableau Software Inc (Information Technology)	3.2
Worldpay Inc (Information Technology)	2.8
Roper Technologies Inc (Industrials)	2.6
Harris Corp (Industrials)	2.5
TOTAL	34.6%

Source: Artisan Partners/FactSet (GICS).

Sector Diversification (% of total portfolio equities)

	Fund	RMCG ¹
Communication Services	4.0	3.8
Consumer Discretionary	12.5	16.2
Consumer Staples	0.0	2.9
Energy	0.0	1.4
Financials	8.7	6.6
Health Care	23.3	14.2
Industrials	15.2	15.9
Information Technology	35.1	33.2
Materials	1.3	3.6
Real Estate	0.0	2.2
Utilities	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Artisan Partners/FactSet (GICS)/Russell. Cash and cash equivalents represented 3.4% of the total portfolio. ¹Russell Midcap® Growth Index.

Investment Results (%)

As of 28 February 2019	Average Annual Total Returns							
	MTD	QTD	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Inception
Investor Class: ARTMX	7.88	20.53	20.53	10.16	16.41	6.90	18.01	13.18
Advisor Class: APDMX	7.91	20.62	20.62	10.34	16.58	7.02	18.07	13.21
Russell Midcap® Growth Index	5.86	18.03	18.03	9.85	17.20	10.18	18.52	8.77
Russell Midcap® Index	4.30	15.55	15.55	5.63	14.46	8.56	17.81	9.66
As of 31 December 2018								
Investor Class: ARTMX	-9.90	-18.42	-4.02	-4.02	4.65	4.36	14.68	12.31
Advisor Class: APDMX	-9.89	-18.42	-3.92	-3.92	4.77	4.46	14.73	12.34
Russell Midcap® Growth Index	-9.07	-15.99	-4.75	-4.75	8.59	7.42	15.12	8.00
Russell Midcap® Index	-9.92	-15.37	-9.06	-9.06	7.04	6.26	14.03	9.01

Source: Artisan Partners/Russell. Returns for periods less than one year are not annualized. Class inception: Investor (27 June 1997); Advisor (1 April 2015). For the period prior to inception, Advisor Class performance is the Investor Class's return for that period ("Linked Performance"). Linked Performance has not been restated to reflect expenses of the Advisor Class and the share class's returns during that period would be different 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.

Market Cap Distribution (% of total portfolio equities)

\$ in billions	Fund	RMCG ¹
22.0+	29.0	27.2
16.0–22.0	27.8	22.0
11.3–16.0	8.2	16.5
7.2–11.3	20.9	18.9
0–7.2	14.1	15.5
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)	19
James D. Hamel, CFA	22
Craigh A. Cepukenas, CFA	30
Jason L. White, CFA	19

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 2019: Take-Two Interactive Software Inc 0.9%. 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.

Unless otherwise indicated, all information in this report includes all classes of shares, except performance and expense ratio information, and is as of the date shown in the upper right hand corner. 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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