

# Nicholas Limited Edition Class I (NCLEX)

# Small-Cap Growth

Lead Portfolio Manager: David O. Nicholas, CFA Co-Portfolio Manager: Ryan P. Bushman, CFA

As of 3/31/2021

## Investment Philosophy

The advisor employs a bottom-up process investing primarily in small-sized companies we believe have high quality characteristics and sustainable business models for the long-term. An emphasis is placed on balancing capital appreciation potential while managing downside risk through security selection. We believe our patient, long-term approach along with lower turnover and fees, enhances the total return potential for shareholders.

## Investment Approach

Security selection is based on identifying key characteristics we feel are critical to the long-term success of investments. These criteria include:

- A history of consistent, sustainable revenue and earnings growth.
- Own an enduring product or service with a strategic position within their industry.
- An identifiable moat to protect and enhance market share.
- Manageable balance sheets and debt service.
- Ability to generate free cash flow to reinvest in the business or return capital to investors.
- Proven management teams with interests aligned with shareholders.
- Stocks offering potential capital appreciation relative to historical valuations and earnings growth potential.

## Portfolio Information

Category	Morningstar US Fund Small Growth
Date of Inception	5/18/1987
Net Assets	\$512.7 million
Number of Holdings	65
Weighted Avg. Forward P/E Capped	31.52x
Weighted Avg. Trailing P/E Capped	33.06x
Weighted Avg. Market Cap	\$4,728.3 million
Geometric Avg. Market Cap	\$3,611.2 million
Turnover Rate (Annualized)	28.16% (12/31/20)
Standard Deviation (10-yr Annual Avg.)	15.51%
Sharpe Ratio (10-yr Annual Avg.)	0.77

## Top Equity Holdings - % of Net Assets\*

	Ticker	Portfolio Weighting
The Descartes Systems Group Inc	DSGX	2.02%
Bio-Techne Corp	TECH	1.91%
Murphy USA Inc	MUSA	1.84%
WNS (Holdings) Ltd ADR	WNS	1.82%
Exponent Inc	EXPO	1.81%
Omniceil Inc	OMCL	1.81%
Rapid7 Inc	RPD	1.80%
Beacon Roofing Supply Inc	BECN	1.79%
Icon PLC	ICLR	1.78%
iShares Russell 2000 Value ETF	IWN	1.77%
		18.35%

## Morningstar Category Ratings

	Overall Rating	3 Yr Rating	5 Yr Rating	10 Yr Rating
Nicholas Limited Edition Class I	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
# of Funds	576	576	503	379

Category: US Fund Small Growth

Source: Morningstar

The Overall Morningstar Rating™ for a fund is derived from a weighted average of the risk-adjusted performance figures associated with its three-, five- and ten-year Morningstar Rating™ metrics. (1)

## Trailing Returns (periods longer than 1-year are annualized)

As of Date: 3/31/2021

	Quarter	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Nicholas Limited Edition Class I	2.60%	2.60%	62.23%	16.72%	16.47%	11.92%
Russell 2000 Growth	4.88%	4.88%	90.20%	17.16%	18.61%	13.02%
Russell 2000	12.70%	12.70%	94.85%	14.76%	16.35%	11.68%

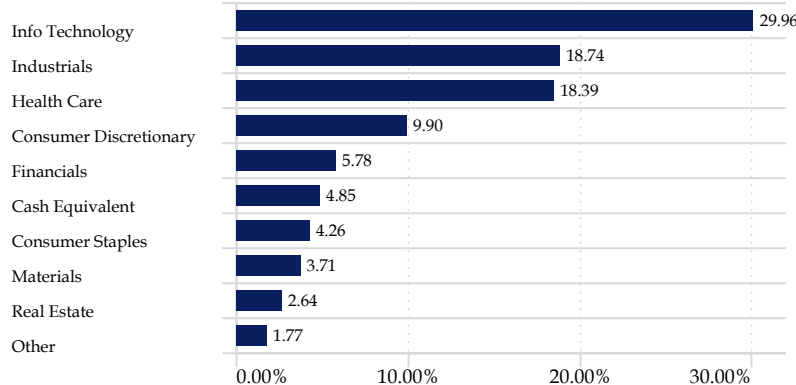
## Calendar Year Returns

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Nicholas Limited Edition Class I	22.73%	27.37%	-1.00%	19.92%	12.37%
Russell 2000 Growth	34.63%	28.48%	-9.31%	22.17%	11.32%
Russell 2000	19.96%	25.52%	-11.01%	14.65%	21.31%

Prospectus Gross Expense Ratio 0.86%

Performance data quoted represents past performance; past performance does not guarantee future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance of the Fund may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Performance data current to the most recent month-end may be obtained by visiting [www.nicholasfunds.com/returns.html](http://www.nicholasfunds.com/returns.html) or calling 1-800-544-6547.

## Sector Allocation - % of Portfolio\*



The Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses must be considered carefully before investing. The statutory and summary prospectus contain this and other important information about the investment company, and it may be obtained by visiting [www.nicholasfunds.com](http://www.nicholasfunds.com). Read it carefully before investing. Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against loss in a declining market.

Mutual fund investing involves risk. Principal loss is possible. Investing in small and medium sized companies involves greater risks than those associated with investing in large company stocks, such as business risk, stock price fluctuations and liquidity.

Please refer to Page 2 for additional disclosures.

Quasar Distributors, LLC - Distributor

**Russell 2000® Index** measures the performance of the 2,000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index, which represents approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 3000 Index. As of March 31, 2021, the weighted average market capitalization was approximately \$3.671 billion; the median market capitalization was approximately \$1.052 billion. The largest company in the index had an approximate market capitalization of \$18.214 billion.

**Russell 2000® Growth Index** measures the performance of those Russell 2000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

One cannot invest directly in an index.

\*Due to rounding, numbers presented may not total.

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**Earnings growth is not representative of the Fund's future performance.**

Fund holdings and/or sector weightings are subject to change at any time and are not recommendations to buy or sell any security.

#### **Glossary of Terms:**

**Earnings Per Share:** Company total earnings divided by outstanding shares.

**Free Cash Flow:** Free cash flow is cash flow available for distribution among all the securities holders of an organization.

**Geometric Avg. Market Cap:** A measure of the mean market capitalization of the portfolio. It is calculated by raising the market capitalization of each company to a power equal to that holdings weight in the portfolio. The resulting numbers are then multiplied by each other.

**Price/Earning Capped:** PE is a valuation ratio of a company's current share price compared to its per share earnings or in the case of REITs (real estate investment trusts), their funds from operations. These weighted average values are limited in a range between 0 and 60.

**Sharpe Ratio:** A measure of a fund's historical returns adjusted for risk, or volatility.

**Standard Deviation:** Standard Deviation is a statistical measure of the historical volatility of a mutual fund or portfolio, usually computed using 36 monthly returns.