## Small Company Fund



## **Philosophy**

For 30 years, the Small Company Fund has embodied Brown Capital's philosophy of seeking to invest in what we believe to be Exceptional Growth Companies (EGCs) over a three- to five-year horizon and beyond. EGCs offer products and services that save time, lives, money and headaches, or provide exceptional value. EGCs have both the potential and the plan to be much larger companies over the long term. We believe their sustainable competitive advantages and other characteristics afford us the patience to let growing companies grow, and the tolerance to hold them when they stumble.

#### **Process**

The Small Company Fund seeks to invest in the equity securities of U.S.-based EGCs with total operating revenues of \$500 million or less at the time of initial investment. The benchmark-agnostic portfolio typically comprises 40-65 EGCs, meaning its holdings and performance may vary significantly from the index. The strategy's low-turnover approach may be best suited to investors who share our long-term investment horizon.

### Objective

The Small Company Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation. Current income is a secondary consideration in selecting portfolio investments. The goal of the Small Company Fund is to generate excess returns over the Russell 2000® Growth Index over investment periods of five years or more.

### **Fund Details**

Soft Close Date

07/23/1992 **Share Class Inception Date:** 115291833 **CUSIP Number: BCSIX NASDAQ Symbol:** Investor **Share Class:** \$6.56 Billion **Total Fund Assets:** 1.24% **Gross Expense Ratio:** \$5,000 **Initial Investment:** \$500 **Subsequent Investment:** \$2,000 **IRA Investment:** \$500 **Subsequent Investment:** 

**US Fund Small** Morningstar Category: Growth

Morningstar Rating\*: \*\*\* 10/18/2013

\*Out of 586 funds for overall rating of riskadjusted returns as of 12/31/2021.

## Holdings<sup>1</sup>

We select our companies bottom-up, instead of setting regional or sector "weightings." Our portfolio is diversified across our custom sectors.

### Significant Holdings\*

Tyler Technologies Inc.	5.84%
Datadog, Inc. Class-A	5.43%
Cognex Corp.	5.17%
Manhattan Associates Inc.	5.06%
Neogen Corp.	4.92%
Smartsheet Inc.	4.80%
Paycom Software Inc.	4.80%
Veeva Systems Inc	4.73%
Bio-Techne Corp	4.68%
Abiomed Inc	4.63%

<sup>\*%</sup> total assets Note: Subject to change.

### Sector Composition\*



\*% total assets Note: Subject to change.

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## **Performance**

Our goal is to generate excess returns over investment periods of five years or more.

#### **QUARTER END RETURNS**

	Annualized							
As of 12/31/2021	Since Inception*	20 Years	15 Years	10 Years	5 Years	3 Years	1 Year	3 Months
Small Company Fund	12.91%	10.63%	14.21%	17.11%	18.16%	21.62%	-4.17%	0.75%
Russell 2000® Growth Index	8.55%	9.20%	9.97%	14.14%	14.53%	21.17%	2.83%	0.01%
Morningstar Category: US Fund Small Growth	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.36%	18.49%	25.90%	10.41%	1.67%
Excess Return Over Benchmark	4.36%	1.43%	4.24%	2.97%	3.63%	0.45%	-7.00%	0.74%

<sup>\*</sup>Fund inception date is 07/23/1992. Performance starting 12/31/1992.

#### **CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS**

As of 12/31/2021	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Small Company Fund	8.34%	28.90%	-0.67%	29.22%	45.26%	-4.17%
Russell 2000® Growth Index	11.32%	22.17%	-9.31%	28.48%	34.63%	2.83%
Morningstar Category: US Fund Small Growth	11.26%	22.30%	-5.63%	28.64%	40.43%	10.41%
Excess Return Over Benchmark	-2.98%	6.73%	8.64%	0.74%	10.63%	-7.00%

Source: ALPS. Returns shown are net of fees. The performance information quoted above represents past performance, which is not a guarantee of future results. 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 may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. An investor may obtain performance data current to the most recent month end by calling 1-877-892-4226.

## **Investment Team**



Daman C. Blakeney Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager 21 years industry experience



Damien L. Davis, CFA Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager 16 years industry experience



**Andrew J. Fones** Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager 20 years industry experience



Kempton M. Ingersol Keith A. Lee Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager Investment Officer 30 years industry experience



President and Chief 35 years industry experience

### **Contact**

**Investment Advisor** Brown Capital Management, LLC 1201 N. Calvert Street Baltimore, MD 21202



Chaitanya Yaramada, Director and Portfolio Manager/Senior Analyst 12 years industry experience

## Small Company Fund



Brown Capital Management, LLC ("BCM") is an investment advisor registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training. More information about the advisor, including its investment strategies and objectives, can be obtained by visiting www.browncapital.com. A copy of BCM's disclosure statement (Part 2 of Form ADV) is available, without charge, upon request. Our Form ADV contains information regarding our Firm's business practices and the backgrounds of our key personnel. Please contact BCM at (800)809-3863 if you would like to receive this information.

An investor should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Fund carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other information about the Fund. A copy of the prospectus is available at www.browncapital.com or by calling Shareholder Services at 1-877-892-4226. The prospectus should be read carefully before investing.

Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund: As with all mutual funds, an investment in the Fund is subject to investment risks, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested. There can be no assurances that the Fund will be successful in meeting its objectives. Investment in the Fund is also subject to market risk, investment style risk, investment advisor risk, market sector risk, equity securities risk, portfolio turnover risk, small companies risk, and other risks as set forth in the Fund's Prospectus. Fund's that emphasize investments in smaller companies generally experience greater price volatility.

1 All Fund holdings information is provided for informational purposes only and should not be interpreted as a recommendation to buy/sell any of the securities/sectors represented. Diversification does not eliminate the risk of experiencing investment losses. The "Significant Holdings" represent the ten largest holdings of total assets based on the Fund's current market value.

All sector information is provided for informational purposes only and should not be interpreted as a recommendation to buy/sell any of the securities/sectors represented. Diversification does not eliminate the risk of experiencing investment losses. Sector exposure represents non-traditional classifications as determined by the Fund's managers. This same objective, non-performance based criteria is consistently used to select portfolio holdings.

The Russell 2000® Growth Index offers investors access to the small cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell 2000® Growth Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the small cap segment and is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small cap opportunity set. The Russell 2000® Growth Index offers investors access to the small cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell 2000® Growth Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer of the small cap growth market. Based on ongoing empirical research of investment manager behavior, the methodology used to determine growth probability approximates the aggregate small cap growth manager's opportunity set.

The Morningstar Rating for funds, or star rating, is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed products monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its three-,five-,and 10 year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are 100% three-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% five year rating/40% three-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10 year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10 year overall rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10 year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. Brown Capital Management Small Company Fund were rated against the following numbers of Small Growth funds over the following time periods as of 12/31/2021: 586 of funds in the 3-year rating and for the Overall rating, 565 of funds in the last five years, and 511 of funds in the last ten years. With respect to these Small Growth funds, Brown Capital Management Small Company Fund received a Morningstar Rating™ of 3 stars for the 3- year rating, 3 stars for 5- year rating, and 4 stars for ten-year rating periods, respectively.

Morningstar Small Growth Category: Small-growth portfolios focus on faster-growing companies whose shares are at the lower end of the market-capitalization range. These portfolios tend to favor companies up-and-coming industries or young firms in their early growth stages. Because these businesses are fast-growing and often richly valued, their stocks tend to be volatile. Stocks in the bottom 10% of the capitalization of the U.S. equity market are defined as small-cap. Growth is defined based on fast growth (high growth rates for earnings, sales, book value and cash flow) and high valuations (high price ratios and low dividend yields).

One may not invest directly into an index.

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