

# Aspiriant Risk-Managed Equity Allocation Fund RMEAX | Q3 2023

RMEAX ACWI

#### **Investment Objective**

The Aspiriant Risk-Managed Equity Allocation Fund ("RMEAX" or the "Fund") seeks to achieve long-term capital appreciation while considering federal tax implications of investment decisions.

Fund Statistics	
Inception Date <sup>1</sup>	4/4/2013
Fund Size (Billions)	\$1.41
# of Holdings <sup>2</sup>	199
% Assets in Top 10 Holdings	75.18
Net Expense Ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.79%
Direct Net Expense Ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.28%
12-Month Yield	0.96%

Category	US Fund Global Large- Stock Blend
Rating Overall (as of 9/30/23)	***
Investments in Category	367
Criteria	Risk-Adjusted Return
Fee Level	Below Average

#### Key Characteristics

Morningstar Statistics\*

- Distinct Investment Opportunities The Fund employs reputable sub-advisers and managers that bring value to the portfolio.
- Risk-Managed Approach Investments in a well-diversified portfolio of high quality and low volatility stocks, which tend to have lower risk, and may help the Fund protect capital.
- Valuation-Sensitive Approach Incorporates 7-year asset class forecasts to understand the opportunities and risks presented in various asset classes.

<sup>1</sup>The Fund commenced operations as of the close of business on 4/4/2013. <sup>2</sup>Excludes cash and cash equivalents. <sup>3</sup>As of 8/1/2023. The net expense ratio applicable to investors is 0.79%. Direct net expense ratio does not include acquired fund fees and expenses which were reported to be 0.51%. \*Please reference Summary of Terms and Additional Disclosures.

#### Description

- The Fund invests in a broad and diverse group of equity securities, such as common stock, preferred stock and depositary receipts, of companies in countries within developed and emerging markets.
- The Fund and certain sub-advisers will consider the tax implications of investment decisions and may apply tax management strategies to attempt to improve after-tax returns.

			Annualized Net Returns							
OTD	4.37	0.1/	5 V	40.)/	Since					
QTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Inception					
-1.73%	18.43%	5.25%	3.72%	5.40%	5.65%					
-3.40%	20.80%	6.89%	6.46%	7.56%	8.03%					

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. All investments may lose value over time. Performance is annualized for periods greater than one year. Indices are unmanaged and have no fees. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. All Fund performance is quoted net of all fees and expenses which reduce performance.

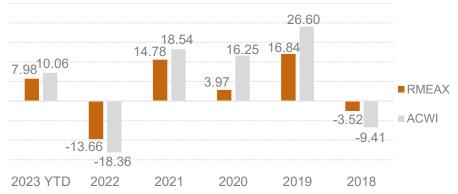
#### Growth of \$10,000 Since Inception



2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

The chart illustrates the net performance of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment made in the Fund since inception. Figures include reinvestment of capital gains and dividends, but do not reflect the effect of any applicable redemption fees which would lower these figures. An investor cannot invest in an index. This chart is not intended to imply any future performance of the Fund. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

#### Calendar Year Net Returns (%)



Net 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 net performance may be lower or higher than the performance information quoted. To obtain performance information current to the most recent month-end, please call 1.877.997.9971. The performance returns for the Fund reflect a fee waiver in effect. In absence of such waiver, the net returns would be reduced.

The MSCI ACWI Index ("ACWI") does not incur fees. The volatility and performance of the index will be different than an investor's experience in the Fund. ACWI is an uninvestable, unmanaged index that is a free-float weighted equity index representing both domestic and emerging markets.

## **Investment Strategies**

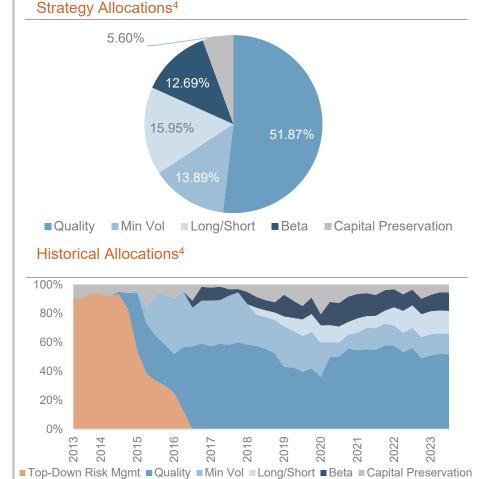
#### **Beta Equities**

Beta Equities ("Beta") are investments in a portfolio of securities that broadly mirrors the underlying holdings of an equity benchmark and closely replicates the risk and return characteristics of the benchmark. Beta exposure can be gained through passively managed mutual funds and exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), as well as separately managed accounts.

#### **Defensive Equities**

Defensive Equities are investments in a portfolio of securities that has a similar return profile of an equity benchmark but with lower volatility or risk. Defensive Equities tend to be characterized as (residual interests in) companies with stable profitability, leading market shares, high returns on capital, and low leverage. Defensive Equities exposure can be gained through actively managed U.S. and foreign open-end and closedend funds, private funds and separately managed accounts, as well as factor-based passively managed ETFs. Defensive Equities in the portfolio utilize either a Quality, Minimum Volatility ("Min Vol") or Long/Short strategy.

## Underlying Fund Allocations<sup>4</sup>



Underlying Fund Alic	ocations		Top Bown ruok ing.iii. = Quality = Imin vor = Edilig, on or = Bota = Ouphair room rullor					
Manager	Strategy	Allocation	Description					
GMO Quality <sup>5,6</sup>	Quality	34.16%	The strategies utilize a combination of quantitative and fundamental factors to identify high quality companies which historically exhibit lower volatility					
iShares MSCI Global Min Vol Factor ETF <sup>5</sup>	Min Vol	10.35%	The ETF tracks an index composed of global equities that have lower volatility characteristics relative to the broader markets					
RIEF Strategic Partners Fund LLC ("RIEF") <sup>5</sup> Schwab Fundamental	Long/Short	9.52%	RIEF is managed by Renaissance Technologies LLC, one of the pioneers of quantitative investment strategies. RIEF is a long/short equity strategy and generally maintains close to 100% net long exposure (through 175% long and 75% short exposures)					
Emerging Markets Large Company Index ETF <sup>5</sup>	Beta	7.90%	The fund utilizes a top-down approach to focus on attractive companies and sectors, with quantitative and fundamental inputs and a value bias					
Wellington Global Quality Growth GMO Equity Dislocation Investment Fund <sup>5</sup>	Quality Long/Short	6.89% 6.43%	The strategy uses quantitative and fundamental inputs to identify quality businesses with high revenue growth, capital return to shareholders, and low free cash flow valuations. The fund utilizes a market neutral strategy that seeks to short the most overpriced growth stocks and own the most attractively priced value stocks.					
Capital Preservation (cash and cash alternatives)	<u>-</u>	5.60%	The segment is intended to preserve capital, generate income and provide liquidity. It is not guaranteed by the FDIC, or any government agency, and may lose value					
Aperio Group, LLC	Quality	5.42%	The strategy uses factor model to select equities that historically exhibits lower volatility due to traditional quality characteristics					
AQR Large Cap Defensive Style Fund <sup>5</sup>	Quality	5.40%	The fund considers price and fundamental factors, including quality, to target large- and mid-cap U.S. stocks with lower-than-average risk through active management					
Baillie Gifford Emerging Markets Equities Fund <sup>5</sup>	Beta	4.79%	The fund employs a bottom-up stock selection approach, with a top-down currency overlay, to invest in growing companies expected to outperform in the long term					
Bridgewater All Weather China, Ltd. ("All Weather China") <sup>5</sup>	Min Vol	3.54%	All Weather China is managed by Bridgewater Associates, LP. The fund seeks to maintain balanced risk allocations across the portfolio and generate returns that are more resilient to a variety of changing economic conditions					

<sup>4</sup>Weights are based off the Fund's total investments. <sup>5</sup>The Fund may invest directly in other investment companies or pooled investment vehicles (such as, U.S. and foreign open-end and closed-end funds, ETFs, and private funds). Acquired fund fees & expenses are incurred as a result of investing in such investments. <sup>6</sup>Consists of sub-advised assets and assets invested in a mutual fund (GMO Quality Fund VI (GQLOX)) managed by Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co. LLC, collectively, "GMO Quality".

#### Risk Management

#### Industry and Security Selection

quantitative techniques and/or Using fundamental analysis, Defensive Equities' managers dynamically screen companies using a variety of factors to rank industries and companies with the most desirable characteristics to construct and rebalance a portfolio. Managers may, from time to time, also utilize certain tax management strategies to improve after-tax returns.

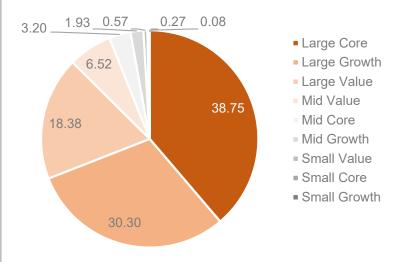
#### **Country Exposures**

Defensive Equities' managers can adjust portfolio weightings to or away from markets or countries with forward return expectations significantly different from ACWI. By applying a macro or top-down overlay on the investment landscape, managers can focus their industry and security selection process on the markets with the most favorable opportunities.

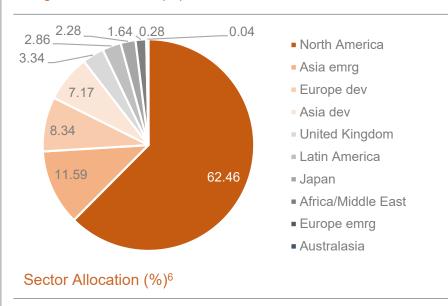
#### **Overall Portfolio**

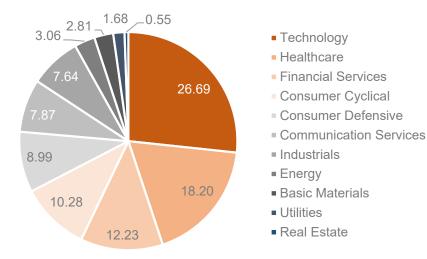
Risk management is also undertaken at the Fund level as the opportunity set for equity markets changes. As the outlook for equity returns improves, we expect to increase the Fund allocation to low-cost Beta Equities strategies to most efficiently capture upside market movements. Conversely, we anticipate holding a larger weight to Defensive Equities when the return outlook for equities deteriorates in order to soften any downside volatility.

## Style Allocation (%)6



#### Regional Allocation (%)<sup>6</sup>





<sup>6</sup>Weights are based off the Fund's total investments, excluding private funds, cash and cash equivalents. The allocations include underlying holdings of the acquired mutual funds and ETFs as reported by Morningstar which might be reported on a delayed basis.

Dotum Statistica: Sin	as Insention	
Return Statistics: Sir	ice inception	
	RMEAX	ACWI
Return	5.65%	8.03%
Sharpe Ratio	0.44	0.51
Average Gain	2.38%	3.08%
Average Loss	-2.41%	-3.61%
Up Capture Ratio	71.60	100.00
Down Capture Ratio	73.02	100.00
Return Statistics: Sir	nce Inception	
	RMEAX	ACWI
Standard Deviation	10.53%	14.36%
Beta	0.70	1.00
Average Drawdown	-7.85%	-9.97%
Max Drawdown	-21.27%	-25.63%
Tracking Error	5.12	0.00

#### **Fund Performance Comparison and Summary**

RMEAX generated a net investment return of -1.73% during the third quarter, compared to its benchmark, ACWI, which returned -3.40% over the same period.

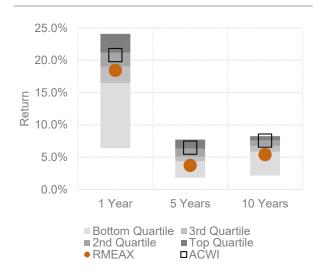
Equity markets pulled back in the third quarter as investors adjusted to a "higher for longer" interest rate outlook. Domestic stocks outpaced international stocks, but trailed emerging market stocks.

Quality strategies, which represented approximately 52% of the Fund's investments, returned -3.64% net for the quarter. Min Vol and Long/Short exposures combined accounted for approximately 30% of the Fund's investments at quarter end and advanced 1.65% net. The Fund's allocation to Beta Equities represented roughly 13% of total investments and returned -3.06% net over the prior three months. The balance of the Fund was invested in Capital Preservation strategies. The total Private Funds Composite generated a net return of 2.71% for the quarter.

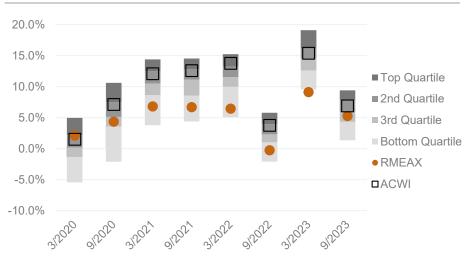
Inception is 4/4/2013. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. All investments may lose value over time. Performance is annualized for periods greater than one year. Indices are unmanaged and have no fees. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. All Fund performance is quoted net of all fees and expenses which reduce performance.

ACWI does not incur fees. The volatility and performance of the index will be different than an investor's experience in the Fund. ACWI is an uninvestable, unmanaged index that is a free-float weighted equity index representing both domestic and emerging markets. Sharpe Ratio is a risk adjusted measure calculated by using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk. Average Gain is a geometric average of the periods with a gain. It is calculated by compounding the returns for gain periods where rates of return are greater than or equal to 0 and then the monthly average is calculated. Average Loss is a geometric average of the periods with a loss. It is calculated by compounding the returns for loss periods where rates of return are less than 0 and then the monthly average is calculated. Up Capture Ratio measures overall performance of the portfolio in upmarkets relative to an index during periods when that index has risen. The Up Capture ratio is calculated by taking the fund's monthly return during months when the benchmark had a positive return and dividing it by the benchmark return during that same month. Down Capture Ratio measures overall performance of the portfolio in down-markets relative to an index during periods when that index has dropped. The Down Capture ratio is calculated by taking the fund's monthly return during the periods of negative benchmark performance and dividing it by the benchmark return. Standard Deviation is computed using the trailing monthly total returns for the appropriate time period. All of the monthly standard deviations are then annualized. Beta is a measure of the volatility, or systematic risk, of a security or a portfolio in comparison to the market as a whole. Average Drawdown is the average of yearly Maximum Drawdown measures. This statistic serves as a downside risk measure, and the industry standard is to calculate this over a three-year period using monthly data. In this case, maximum drawdown measures are calculated for the first 12 months, the next 12 months, and the subsequent 12 months, and the average drawdown is the average of these 3 maximum drawdown numbers. Max Drawdown is the peak to trough decline during a specific record period of an investment or fund using monthly data. It is usually quoted as the percentage between the peak to the trough. Tracking Error tells the difference between the performance of a portfolio and its benchmark. R2 or R-squared measures the relationship between a portfolio and its benchmark.

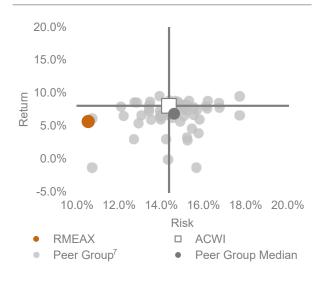
## Performance Relative to Peer Group<sup>7</sup>



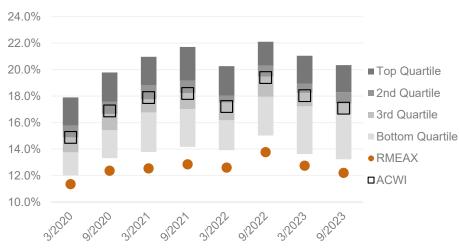
#### 3-Year Return Rolling



## Return vs Risk: Since Inception



## 3-Year Standard Deviation Rolling

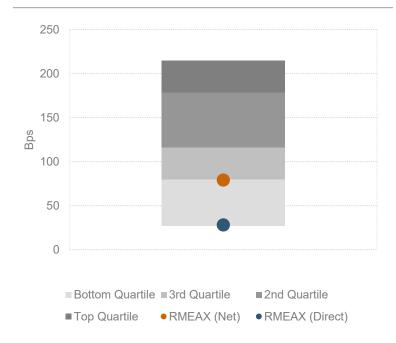


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7Peer group is US Open End Funds in the Morningstar Global Large-Stock Blend Category.

#### Fund Facts Ticker Symbol RMEAX **CUSIP** 04537V105 Minimum Purchase Amount No Minimum **Dividends** Distributed Annually 12b-1 Fee None Redemption Fee None Gross Expense Ratio<sup>8</sup> 0.93% Net Expense Ratio<sup>8</sup> 0.79% Direct Net Expense Ratio<sup>8</sup> 0.28% SEC 30-Day Yield9 1.61% SEC 30-Day Unsubsidized Yield9 1.47% Distribution Rate on NAV<sup>9</sup> 2.16% **More Information** 1.877.997.9971 aspiriantfunds.com

## Net Expense Ratio Relative to Peer Group<sup>7,8</sup>



### Monthly Investment Returns (%)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2023	4.33	-2.99	3.23	2.04	-0.86	3.96	2.42	-1.55	-2.54				7.98
2022	-3.21	-3.78	0.48	-4.53	-0.07	-4.82	3.18	-3.15	-7.27	5.22	6.67	-2.29	-13.66
2021	-0.50	1.01	2.94	3.69	1.88	-0.07	1.12	2.02	-3.96	3.79	-2.24	4.54	14.78
2020	-1.25	-5.22	-11.41	7.10	1.49	0.82	4.29	3.26	-2.48	-1.70	6.75	3.82	3.97
2019	5.26	1.64	1.15	1.67	-3.81	4.19	0.22	-1.41	1.58	1.86	0.66	2.96	16.84
2018	4.77	-4.19	-0.83	-0.15	0.23	-0.68	3.59	1.33	0.58	-5.00	2.13	-4.82	-3.52
2017	1.97	3.52	1.27	1.59	2.73	0.24	1.76	0.79	0.55	2.57	2.12	0.80	21.78
2016	-3.67	-0.10	5.14	0.00	0.72	1.62	2.83	-0.69	0.17	-2.16	-0.62	1.45	4.51
2015	-0.36	3.97	-0.87	2.01	0.60	-1.71	1.47	-6.15	-2.09	4.56	-0.71	-0.52	-0.25
2014	-3.10	3.48	1.73	0.80	1.77	1.65	-1.37	2.60	-3.21	-0.87	0.00	-1.59	1.64
2013				3.30^	-1.16	-1.57	2.99	-2.51	4.26	2.57	0.56	1.42	10.04^
Since Inception Return (Annualized)					5.65	5% S	ince Ince	otion Sha	rpe Ratio			0.44	
Since Inception Standard Deviation (Annualized)					10.53	3% S	ince Ince <sub>l</sub>	otion Beta	ì			0.70	

<sup>8</sup>As of 8/1/2023. The adviser has contractually agreed to waive its advisory fee from 0.24% to 0.16% and administrative services fee from 0.10% to 0.04% through 7/31/2024. Each arrangement may be terminated only by the Aspiriant Trust's Board of Trustees. The net expense ratio applicable to investors is 0.79%. Direct net expense ratio does not include acquired fund fees and expenses which were reported to be 0.51%. <sup>9</sup>The SEC 30-Day Yield is computed under SEC standardized formula and is based on the most recent trailing 30-day period. The Fund's actual distribution rate will differ from the SEC yield, and any income distributions from the Fund may be higher or lower than the SEC yield calculations. Unsubsidized yields do not reflect fee waivers in effect. Distribution Rate on NAV is the latest declared annual distribution per share, divided by NAV per share, as of 12/31/2022. Distributions may be paid from sources other than ordinary income, such as short-term capital gains, long-term capital gains or return of capital. <sup>^</sup>Fund's inception (4/4/2013) to date. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. All investments may lose value over time. Performance is annualized for periods greater than one year. All Fund performance is quoted net of all fees and expenses which reduce performance. ACWI does not incur fees. The volatility and performance of the index will be different than an investor's experience in the Fund.

#### Summary of Terms and Additional Disclosures

This material must be preceded or accompanied by a <u>prospectus</u>. Please consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The prospectus that contains this and other information about the Fund is available in print by calling 1.877.997.9971 and should be read carefully prior to investing.

An investment in the Fund is subject to risks, and you could lose money on your investment in the Fund. The principal risks of investing in the Fund include, but are not limited to, investing in REITs and real estate, investing in smaller companies with limited resources and the use of predictive models. Low volatility and quality investing may go in and out of favor which may cause the Fund to sometimes underperform other equity funds. The Fund may invest in illiquid securities, which may or may not be sold or disposed of in the ordinary course of business.

Foreign securities have additional risks including currency rate changes, political and economic instability, less regulation and market liquidity. Investments in emerging markets involve even greater risks.

The adviser and sub-advisers may be unable to construct the Fund's investment portfolio such that the intended federal tax implications, when making investment decisions with respect to individual securities, are achieved.

As a result of its investments in underlying funds, the Fund is exposed to the principal risks of underlying funds. These risks include counterparty, derivatives, focused investment, large shareholder, leverage and short sale risks. Further information about these and other risks may be found in the prospectus.

Portfolio composition will change due to ongoing management of the Fund. References to specific securities or sectors should not be construed as recommendations by the Fund, its adviser, the sub-advisers or distributor.

Diversification does not guarantee profits or protect against loss.

Any opinions or views expressed herein are of Aspiriant portfolio managers and may change at any time without prior notice.

Information was sourced from independent third-party sources we believe are reliable, but the accuracy of such information is not guaranteed by Aspiriant. Any statistical information contained herein has been obtained from publicly available market data (such as, but not limited to, data published by Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates), internal research and regulatory filings.

The Morningstar Rating<sup>TM</sup> for funds, or "star rating", is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, ETFs, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. ETFs and openended 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 product's 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 star 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. RMEAX was rated against the following numbers of US-domiciled US Fund Global Large-Stock Blend funds over the following time periods: 340 funds in the last three years, 291 funds in the last five years and 192 funds in the last ten years. With respect to US Fund Global Large-Stock Blend funds, RMEAX received a Morningstar Rating of three stars, three stars and two stars for the three-, five- and ten-year periods, respectively. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

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The Morningstar Fee Level rating is objective, based entirely on a mathematical evaluation of a share class's expense ratio relative to similar funds.

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