# Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy

Investing in responsible companies that appear under-scrutinized, irrationally mispriced, and attractively valued

Q3 2022
OUARTERLY UPDATE



# **Market Commentary**

## **Q3 2022 UPDATE**

Investors continued to exhibit polarized behavior in the 3rd quarter, alternating between "risk on" and "risk off" investment preferences as hopes for evidence of lower inflation and a Fed pivot toward lower interest rates were repeatedly dashed by serial, stubbornly high CPI reports.

There were some interesting crosscurrents in Q3's returns. Small cap growth was actually up slightly for the period due to both a rebound from earlier weak performance and some "risk on" investor behavior. While growth beat value across the cap spectrum, within the value style, micro cap beat small cap and small cap beat large cap. In downturns, it is common to see large caps hold up better, but in this instance, the relative valuation disparities may have driven the results.

After relatively struggling earlier in 2022, small cap ESG companies (as measured by the MSCI USA Small Cap ESG Leaders Index) beat their comparable non-ESG focused counterparts in Q3.

#### MARKET INDICES TOTAL RETURN

	QTR	YTD	1 Year	Comments
S&P 500 Index	-4.9%	-23.9%	-15.5%	Another tough quarter for stocks.
Russell 1000 Growth Index	-3.6%	-30.7%	-22.6%	Growth beat value
Russell 1000 Value Index	-5.6%	-17.8%	-11.4%	across the cap range.
Russell 2000 Growth Index	0.2%	-29.3%	-29.3%	Small growth rallied
Russell 2000 Value Index	-4.6%	-21.1%	-17.7%	from very depressed levels.
Russell Micro Cap Value Index	-2.0%	-18.8%	-18.0%	Micro cap helped by higher biotech and lower REIT weights.
MSCI USA Small Cap Index	-2.3%	-20.6%	-23.3%	ESG small cap leaders fared better after a
MSCI USA Small Cap ESG Leaders Index	-1.3%	-22.2%	-18.5%	difficult start to the year.

Data through September 30, 2022. Source: Morningstar. The total return performance of these market indices does not represent the past or future performance of any Bailard strategy, account or product. **Past performance is no indication of future results.** All investments have the risk of loss. Please see the Market Index section of page 20 for additional information.

# Performance Commentary as of September 30, 2022

#### Q3 2022 PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup>

Due to wild investor sentiment. shifts, the strategy's Q3 relative performance was a bit of a rollercoaster ride, but finished the quarter 8 basis points ahead of the benchmark Russell 2000 Value Index. The strategy is ahead of the benchmark YTD as well, and remains significantly better over the trailing 12 months. The Strategy's relatively higher exposure to micro cap value stocks boosted performance for the quarter as micro cap biotechnology stocks rallied sharply.

## TOTAL RETURN NET OF FEE<sup>1, 2</sup>

	Quarter	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Bailard Composite	-4.51%	-20.97%	-14.87%	8.25%	4.00%	8.41%
Russell 2000 Value Index	-4.59%	-21.11%	-17.70%	4.70%	2.86%	7.93%
Russell Micro Cap Value Index	-2.20%	-21.48%	-20.50%	7.55%	4.25%	9.27%

## **ACTIVE RETURN NET OF FEE1,2**

	Quarter	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
Vs. Russell 2000 Value Index	0.08%	0.14%	2.83%	3.56%	1.15%	0.48%	
Vs. Russell Micro Cap Value Index	-2.31%	0.50%	5.63%	0.71%	-0.25%	-0.86%	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The "Bailard Composite" is the Bailard, Inc. Small Cap Value Composite. The Bailard Small Cap Value Composite includes a Bailard Asset Management portfolio invested solely in small and micro capitalization U.S. equities that exhibit value characteristics. The benchmark is the Russell 2000 Value Index. The indices presented do not have fees. **Past performance is no indication of future results.** Please see additional performance on page 10. See pages 18-20 for market definitions and important disclosures. Sources: Morningstar, Bloomberg.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Active return is the difference between the return of the strategy and the return of the index. Performance statistics are annualized for periods greater than one year.

# Attribution Commentary as of September 30, 2022

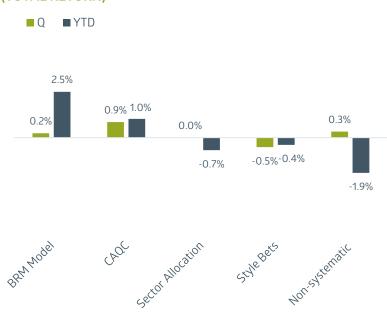
#### **03 2022 ATTRIBUTION**

Our primary stock selection tool, the multi-factor Bailard Ranking Model (BRM), produced a small win for the quarter. Our Quality factor produced positive results in both small cap and micro cap models. Value and Hype (excessive investor attention) factors produced mixed results. Our proprietary Analyst Herding Bias factor continued to deliver good results, while Anchoring Bias detracted slightly in small cap and moderately in micro cap stocks.

Of our subsector-specific stock selection models, the bank, REIT, insurance and pharma & biotech models all produced positive results, with only the utility-specific model detracting.

Sector allocation was negative for the quarter. Style bets detracted as well, with value bets unhelpful in a quarter where growth generally did better. CAQC (Curated Assessment of Qualitative Conviction, our proprietary measure of sophisticated investor interest in stocks that lack quantifiable appeal) did very well for the period, as these stocks tend to be both slightly larger and more growth oriented than our other holdings. Our non-systematic tilts (e.g., more solutions companies, among others) and individual stock selection in the growthier and larger ends of the small cap value stock spectrum were also helpful in Q3.

# BAILARD COMPOSITE ATTRIBUTION VS. BENCHMARK (TOTAL RETURN)\*



<sup>\*</sup> The benchmark is the Russell 2000 Value Index. Please see pages 18-20 for important disclosures. Our Behavioral Ranking Model (BRM) is a proprietary, multi-factor, quantitative tool for determining relative stock attractiveness within each of the 24 economic sub sectors. CAQC (Curated Assessment of Qualitative Conviction is our proprietary measure of sophisticated investor interest in stocks that lack quantifiable appeal). **Past performance is no indication of future results.** Sources: Russell, Bailard.

# **Third-Party Validation of ESG Focus**

Company size bias highlights the importance of making ESG comparisons within the appropriate universe.



Source: Style Analytics (holdings-based factor exposure / tilt analysis tool). The Peer Style Skyline™ displays the distribution of the benchmark relative MSCI ESG factor exposures calculated for all constituents within the identified peer group, eVestment's U.S. Small Cap Value Equity universe. The benchmark is the Russell 2000 Value Index. Inner and outer quartiles of the distribution are designated for each factor using darker and lighter shaded sections. To learn more about the MSCI ESG factors, please visit https://www.msci.com/documents/1296102/21901542/ESG-Ratings-Methodology-Exec-Summary.pdf

Holdings data is as of June 30, 2022 given lagged new quarter data. There were 172 constituents included from eVestment's U.S. Small Cap Value Equity universe. The top and bottom 5% (outliers) are excluded. The eVestment U.S. Small Cap Value Equity universe consists of US equity products that primarily invest in small capitalization stocks that may be trading at prices lower than their fundamental or intrinsic value. The members of this universe may or may not be similar to the Bailard Small Cap Value Composite. Please see https://www.evestment.com for more information.

Neither StyleAnalytics nor eVestment require members of the universe to subscribe in order to be included in peer comparisons; however, Bailard pays a subscription fee to StyleAnalytics and eVestment for access to their respective database and analytical tools.

The Russell 2000 Value Index is a commonly used index that measures the performance of the small-cap value segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 2000 Index companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values.

Factor tilt interpretation guidelines: +/-0.5 Benchmark like. +/-1.0 Compelling deviation from benchmark. +/-2.0 Very significant deviation from benchmark.

# **Small Cap Value ESG Outlook**

#### **OVERVIEW**

On balance, historically significant return drivers for small cap value stocks continue to lean towards relative outperformance versus other equity styles. Recession odds are increasing with every Fed rate hike, but small value stocks appear to be already fully discounting an imminent, severe recession.

Small cap value is currently trading at nearly a 40% discount to its 20-year average valuation levels. This large a discount has only happened three other times over the past 32 years. In each other instance, these massive discounts were followed by incredibly strong subsequent returns, averaging +57% gains over the next 12 months, and +120% gains over the following three years.

## **CURRENT P/E TO 20-YEAR AVERAGE**

As of 9/30/2022	Value	Growth
Russell 2000 Index	60.8%	67.1%
Russell 1000 Index	86.6%	109.6%
Source: Bloomberg		

#### Value vs. Growth

While small cap value stocks have historically outperformed in most portions of the economic cycle, they typically do best in the early stages of economic recovery and when economic growth is strong. Second quarter GDP fell 0.6% and marked the second consecutive quarter of declining GDP. With the Fed continuing to raise interest rates in order to combat inflation, it seems that a recession is on the horizon (if we are not already in one). Since small value stocks appear to already be discounting a recession, it remains to be seen if the typical, historical pattern of small cap value style underperformance when entering a recession will be realized.

Value stocks of all sizes can benefit from investors shortening their investment time horizons, as value stock typically deliver higher current earnings and dividend yields versus the more distant potential payoffs from growth stocks. Higher interest rates can increase the discount rate applied to future earnings, making them less valuable today and thus, favoring value stocks. 10-year Treasury yields rose almost a percent in Q3, ending just below 4%, and are likely to continue rising until inflation appears under control. Rising rates typically favor value stocks, but should those rising rates trigger a recession, the edge would likely shift at least temporarily toward growth stocks.

Past performance is no indication of future results. All investments involve the risk of loss. Please see important disclosures on pages 18-20.

# Small Cap Value ESG Outlook (continued)

Rising uncertainty reduces confidence that distant prospective returns will materialize, reducing the appeal of growth stocks and increasing the attractiveness of value stocks. Volatility and sentiment indicators (VIX, Put/Call Ratio) are on balance favoring value.

## Small Cap vs. Large Cap

Large cap companies derive more of their revenues and profits internationally than do small cap companies. A strong dollar makes U.S. goods and services relatively more expensive to foreign purchasers and also lowers the profits of U.S.-based companies' overseas operations when those profits are repatriated into U.S. dollars. The dollar rose through sharply through Q3, and its continuing strength should be of relative benefit to smaller companies.

Increasing recession fears could drive investors toward perceived safe haven stocks; typically larger cap, less cyclical companies. While long periods of Fed tightening are typically required to trigger a recession, this round of rate hikes have been steeper than usual, and economic growth is already weak. Whether a recession is imminent or not, small value stocks are trading at historically cheap levels, appearing to be fully discounting an economic downturn.

## **ESG Investing**

ESG awareness and interest continues to expand, but at a slower pace than witnessed in recent years. The increasing realization that the transition toward cleaner energy may not be as rapid, smooth, or painless as some had earlier predicted has been a drag on ESG stocks this year.

Longer term, there is intuitive appeal to many aspects of ESG investing. Companies should expect to benefit from treating their employees and customers well. Effective resource stewardship ought to result in long-run cost savings. Good corporate governance should help to avoid negative externalities. As empirical evidence mounts to support these beliefs, ESG's attractiveness should continue to broaden.

Past performance is no indication of future results. All investments involve the risk of loss. Please see important disclosures and market definitions on pages 18-20.

# Small Cap Value ESG Outlook (continued)

## **SMALL CAP VALUE RETURN DRIVERS**

	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Comments
Absolute Valuations	<b>—</b> •			Historically undervalued.
Relative Valuations	<b>←</b> •			Relatively cheap versus style alternatives.
Economic Cycle				We believe recession is becoming inevitable with continuing aggressive Fed rate hikes.
Interest Rates	<b>←</b> •			Persistent inflation and a hawkish Fed should keep rates moving higher.
Volatility/Sentiment	•			VIX started and ended the quarter high, favoring value. Put/Call Ratio flattish, still very slightly favoring growth.
Earnings Revisions				Negative small cap revisions versus large cap.
Dollar				The dollar rose strongly through the quarter.
ESG				Long term ESG outlooks remains bright, but recent headwinds persist.

Source: Bailard. All investments involve the risk of loss. As of October 13, 2022.

# **Small Companies Making a Big Difference**

#### **ESG SOLUTIONS COMPANY FOCUS EXAMPLE**

Beyond generally enlightened business practices, the companies profiled here each quarter are providing actual solutions to some of the major concerns of ESG investors.



"At Schnitzer, Sustainability is at the core of what we do. By recycling scrap metal, we are diverting and reusing millions of tons of materials each year that might otherwise be destined for landfills. The ferrous and non-ferrous scrap metal we process is utilized to manufacture new metal-based products, conserving natural resources and significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

Schnitzer Steel is a recycler of ferrous and non-ferrous scrap metal. The company salvages metal and parts from scrapped vehicles, appliances, industrial machinery, rail cars, construction materials, manufacturing scrap, etc.

The company has three major lines of business. When possible, used auto parts are sold to retail and wholesale customers. Scrap metal is processed and either sold to steel mills and foundries as raw material to create new products, or manufactured into new products by Schnitzer itself.

There are significant potential economic and environmental benefits to using recycled instead of virgin materials. Schnitzer's facilities are powered by net carbon-free electricity. Their finished steel is made of 95% recycled content, and they recycle and reuse 88% of water used in their product production.

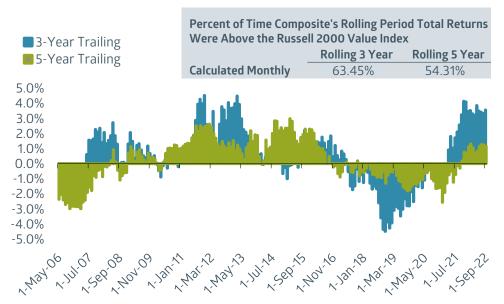
With increasing desires by individuals and governments to create a more circular economy, companies like Schnitzer are helping to make the dream a reality.

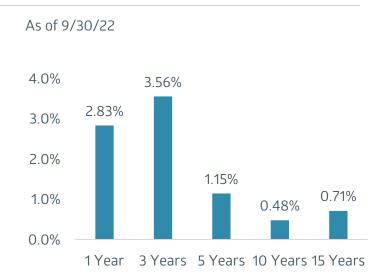
The reference to a specific security is intended only to *illustrate the type* of company/stock that Bailard's portfolio Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy might hold. The company equity mentioned here was not a holding within Bailard's Strategy portfolio as of September 30, 2022, and it does not represent any past, present, or future *recommendation* of Bailard.

## Performance: Portfolio Risk and Returns

## Annualized Active Returns (Net) Against Russell 2000 Value Index<sup>1,2</sup>







## Performance Summary as of 9/30/22

TOTAL RETURN (ANNUALIZED FOR PDS > 1 YR)			ANI	NUALIZE	D STD. DI	EV.		SHARPE	RATIO				
	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years
Composite (Gross of Fee)	-14.54%	8.66%	4.39%	8.82%	6.80%	25.73%	22.98%	18.77%	20.13%	0.31	0.14	0.43	0.31
Composite (Net of Fee)	-14.87%	8.25%	4.00%	8.41%	6.40%	25.72%	22.98%	18.76%	20.12%	0.30	0.12	0.41	0.29
Russell 2000 Value Index	-17.70%	4.70%	2.86%	7.93%	5.69%	26.10%	23.19%	19.12%	21.19%	0.16	0.07	0.38	0.24

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please see additional performance on page 3, and pages 18-20 for important disclosures. **Past performance is no indication of future results.** Sources: Morningstar, Bloomberg.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Bar graph calculated monthly. <sup>3</sup> Performance statistics are annualized.

# Portfolio Characteristic Comparison<sup>1</sup>

## As of 9/30/2022

	Bailard, Inc. Small Cap Value Composite²	Russell 2000 Value Index
BRM Score	80.4	52.6
ESG Capture®	67.0	54.9
Price/Book Value	4.0x	4.7x
Price/Earnings (trailing 12 mo.)	17.7x	32.1x
Price/Cash Flow	17.1x	16.2x
Dividend Yield	3.6%	4.3%
Return on Equity	12.9%	11.6%
Debt to Capital	41.6%	33.8%
Number of Holdings	328	1389
Avg. Market Cap \$MM	\$2,552	\$2,220
% Micro Cap Stocks	28.7%	19.9%

Sources: Bloomberg, Bailard. ¹The information presented on this page, while representative of the Bailard Asset Management Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy, should not be solely relied on as it can differ from client to client and could vary over time. ² Data regarding the portfolio characteristics of the Composite reflect ownership information as of the date shown and are not intended to represent any past, present or future specific investment recommendations. Portfolio characteristics are subject to change without notice. The Small Cap Value Composite ("the Composite") consists of a Bailard Asset Management portfolio that is invested solely in small and micro capitalization U.S. equities which exhibit value characteristics. The Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy is implemented within the Bailard Small Cap Value Composite. Please see the end of this document for important disclosures regarding this Composite.

# Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy Team



THOMAS J. MUDGE III, CFA
Portfolio Manager | SVP | Director, Equity Research
Investment experience: 35 years; 35 years with firm

Tom leads Bailard's equity research and serves as portfolio manager of the small cap value ESG equity strategy. As a Behavioral Finance enthusiast, he leveraged his extensive knowledge of the small and micro-cap value universe to create the original small cap value strategy in 2001. Tom earned his BA at Northern Michigan University in 1985 and the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation in 1994, and is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of San Francisco. He completed the certificate program in Investment Decisions and Behavioral Finance at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.



BLAINE TOWNSEND, CIMC®, CIMA®
Portfolio Manager | EVP | Director, Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing
Investment experience: 28 years; 6 years with firm

Blaine leads Bailard's Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing (SRII) team, and is a portfolio manager of Bailard's small cap value ESG equity strategy. As a pioneer and thought leader in the field of sustainable investing, Blaine was the original architect of the proprietary ESG Capture® framework first applied to the strategy in 2019. Blaine began his career in SRI/ESG in 1991 at the Muir Investment Trust, the nation's first environmentally screened bond fund. From 1996 through 2009, he led the California office for Trillium Asset Management, where he managed socially responsible and sustainably focused portfolios, served on the firm's investment committee and worked on corporate engagement efforts. After Trillium, Blaine spent 8 years at Wells Fargo's ESG firm Nelson Capital Management as a partner and senior portfolio manager, and on the firm's leadership team and investment committee. Blaine currently serves as an Advisory Board member for *The Journal of Impact and ESG Investing*. He holds a BA from the University of California, Berkeley and CIMC® and CIMA® credentials.



OSMAN AKGUN, PH.D., CFA
Portfolio Manager | VP, Domestic Equities
Investment experience: 11 years; 10 years with firm

Osman serves as Vice President of Domestic Equities and as a portfolio manager for Bailard's small cap value ESG equity strategy. He uses his passion for finding creative and sensible solutions to complex investment problems and focuses on quantitative research, model building, and portfolio optimization. Osman joined Bailard in 2012 after receiving his Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research at the University of California, Berkeley. Prior to his Ph.D. program, Osman received Masters' Degrees in Statistics as well as in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research, both from the University of California, Berkeley. During this time, Osman worked as a Research Assistant focusing on stochastic modeling and optimization, with applications to finance, service operations and computer communications. Prior to his graduate work, he received a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Bogazici University, Turkey. Osman received his Chartered Financial Analyst® designation in 2017 and is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of San Francisco.

# **Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy Team**



MCKENZIE FULKERSON-JONES
ESG Analyst
Investment experience: New to firm

McKenzie joined Bailard in 2022. As an ESG Analyst, they are a member of Bailard's Sustainable, Responsible, and Impact Investing (SRII) team. In this role, McKenzie supports Bailard's ESG research and proprietary ESG Capture® scoring process, Bailard's corporate engagement and stakeholder relationships, firmwide ESG projects across multiple asset classes, and thought leadership and media work. Prior to Bailard, McKenzie spent ten years at The Nature Conservancy where they served in communications and freshwater ecosystems conservation project manager roles. McKenzie holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Redlands and a Master of Business Administration from George Washington University.



GLENN A. DAVIS, CFA
Senior Vice President | Head Trader
Investment experience: 32 years; 32 years with firm

Glenn joined the firm in 1991. As head trader, Glenn's responsibilities include execution of all purchases and sales of domestic securities. With more than 25 years of trading experience, he excels in trading small and micro-cap stocks while working diligently to minimize market impact. Glenn received his BS from Santa Clara University in 1988 and his Chartered Financial Analyst® designation in 1995, and is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of San Francisco.

# **Investment Philosophy**

- Behavioral anomalies provide an enduring source of alpha.
  - Market participant irrationality is recurring, predictable, and therefore exploitable.
- Less scrutiny means greater opportunity in our Bailard Ranking Model and ESG.
  - Bargains or advantages are rare where everyone else is looking.
  - Small and micro cap stocks are fertile ground for behavioral biases and unidentified ESG opportunities. These can be effectively exploited through a disciplined and systematic approach.
- Avoid unnecessary risk.
  - Control for economic sector exposure, bankruptcy risk, idiosyncratic risk, ESG risk, alpha instability, beta deviation and false precision in stock selection.

# Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy ESG Framework

## **Suitability Screens**

No companies deriving more that 25% of revenues\* from the following sources:

- ✓ Firearms
- Controversial weapons (landmines, cluster munitions)
- ✓ Alcohol
- ✓ Tobacco
- ✓ Gambling
- ✓ Adult Entertainment
- ✓ Predatory Lending (payday loans, rent-to-own)
- ✓ Private Prisons

## **ESG Integration**

- Exclude the bottom scoring 20% of Bailard's ESG Capture® rankings.
- ✓ Portfolio's average ESG score will always exceed the benchmark's score.
- ✓ Additionally, we use qualitative measures to screen out companies that have egregious patterns of behavior on ESG issues that may not be fully reflected in ESG Capture® rankings.

<sup>\*</sup> This revenue threshold removes clear offenders while not excluding grocery stores, hotels, airlines, restaurants, cable television, cell phone service providers, etc.

# About Bailard, Inc.<sup>1</sup>

1969

## Founded in 1969

- Independent, established and stable
- · Roots in education and financial literacy

59%

## Employee owned and controlled

- Current and former employees own 59% and 14%, respectively
- Broad equity ownership: 73% of employees own stock
- No institutional ownership

**52**%

Women and minority owned

71

## 71 employees

- Average investment professional tenure of 16 years
- Employees hail from 10 countries
- 41% of employees are women
- Led by a female CEO

\$4.8B

Assets Under Management<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Data as of September 30, 2022. <sup>2</sup> Bailard Asset Management, fka Bailard Institutional, had an AUM of \$2.4 billion as of September 30, 2022.

# Why the Bailard Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy?

# SMALL CAP INVESTING

### **OUR SOLUTIONS**

CHALLENGES	OUR SOLUTIONS
Thousands of Stocks With No Top-heavy Concentration	Systematic methods allow for broader analysis of thousands of companies, identifying potential winners easily missed by more narrowly focused competitors. The nature of the small value investable universe requires a larger portfolio to adequately cover risk exposures.
Higher Volatility	We hold 250-300 stocks, limiting individual stock risk. We are consistently invested in all 11 economic sectors and all 24 economic subsectors, reducing economic cycle risk. Our ESG Capture® methodology also helps to limit volatility by avoiding companies with significant potential negative externalities and lagging ESG practices.
Limited Information	In addition to sometimes-limited financial statement data and analysis, we identify more universal behavioral finance anomalies to broaden our alpha opportunities, and employ advanced valuation techniques.
Higher Bankruptcy Risk	Our earnings quality focus, accounting and auditor red flag screening, credit risk measurement, and factor beta "value trap" identification all help weed out companies with going concern issues.
Liquidity Constraints	We employ proprietary and often contrarian stock selection factors to avoid crowding.  We emphasize characteristics more than individual stocks, allowing for patient, flexible trading. We broadly diversify, limiting maximum position sizes, and have deep trading experience and expertise.
Limited ESG Data and Poor ESG Vendor Score Coverage	We have proprietary E, S, and G factors with comprehensive small cap value coverage. We also combine ESG scores from multiple vendors to create a comparable composite score with much greater universe coverage.

# **Disclosures and Key Risks**

This presentation is confidential and can only be used by investment professionals. It cannot be reproduced in whole or in part or distributed to anyone else without the permission of Bailard. It is not for retail use. It does not constitute a recommendation of, or an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any particular security or investment product. It does not take into consideration the particular investment objectives, financial situations, or needs of individual clients.

The information is current as of the date indicated and Bailard undertakes no duty to update any of the information contained in this presentation. The presentation contains some forward-looking statements, which involve a number of risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially from these forward looking statements.

Any references to specific securities are included solely as general market commentary and were selected on criteria unrelated to Bailard's portfolio recommendations or the past performance of any security held in any Bailard account or fund. There is no guarantee Bailard or this strategy will achieve their performance or investment objectives. **Unless otherwise indicated, the performance data in this presentation does not reflect the performance of any Bailard product, strategy or account.** 

Past performance is no indication of future results. All investments have the risk of loss.

## **Key Risks**

The Bailard Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy is not by itself a complete investment program and is best suited for investors who can accept the above average risk generally associated with small cap and micro cap stocks. These companies may face greater economic cycle risk, credit risk, geographic risk, product, and customer concentration risk than that faced by larger companies. Small cap and—to a greater extent—micro cap stocks are more volatile and less liquid than larger cap stocks and may be more difficult to trade. There are times when the small cap value equity style underperforms other equity investment styles. The application of various environmental, social, and governance screens as part of a socially responsible investment strategy may result in the exclusion of securities that might otherwise merit investment, potentially resulting in higher or lower returns than a similar investment strategy without such screens. In addition, the Strategy is subject to the risk that the market value of an investment will fluctuate as the stock markets fluctuate and that investors can lose money. There can be no assurance that Bailard, Inc. will achieve its investment objectives.

## **Other Disclosures**

The information in this presentation is for informational purposes only and is not an offer to provide investment advice, an offer to sell securities or the solicitation of any offer to buy securities. Before making any investment decision, you should review Bailard, Inc.'s Form ADV Part 1A and Bailard's Form ADV Part 2A (available on the SEC's website at https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/110550), as well as Part 2B of Bailard's Form ADV (available from Bailard) and all other information that Bailard provides to you. You should also discuss all matters concerning any prospective investment that you desire with Bailard. The information provided herein is meant to demonstrate Bailard's general investment process. The outline of processes and steps taken is general in nature, and Bailard from time to time will deviate from the specific investment steps, limitations, screens, controls and overall process described. The description of the Bailard Ranking Model provided in this presentation is for conceptual illustration purposes only and is not meant to represent a complete example of the use of the model with respect to the Bailard Institutional Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy.

# **Performance Disclosures**

## Small Cap Value Composite Performance Disclosures

The Bailard Small Cap Value Composite (the "Composite") includes a Bailard Asset Management portfolio invested solely in small and micro capitalization U.S. equities that exhibit value characteristics. As of September 30, 2022, the Composite consisted of a single mutual fund which Bailard has been managing in an advisory or sub-advisory capacity since 2001 with a market value of \$84.1 million, which represented 3.6% of the total assets under Bailard Asset Management's management. The ESG Capture component was explicitly introduced to the portfolio in December 2019. Prior to 2006, the Composite had less consistent and lower overall exposure to micro cap stocks. The Composite's returns are total returns presented as labeled, either net of, or both gross and net of management fees ("net of fees") payable to Bailard, and assume reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. The returns do not reflect a fiduciary fulfilment fee payable to Bailard (where applicable), or custody and other account expenses not payable to Bailard. The return of this Composite is not the NAV return of the mutual fund.

Both gross of fee and net of fee returns are taken directly from Bailard's portfolio accounting system, and net of fee performance was calculated by netting down the gross return by actual management fee paid by the mutual fund client to Bailard as of the date paid. Composite returns do not reflect a fiduciary fulfilment fee payable to Bailard (where applicable), or custody and other expenses not payable to Bailard which the composite account incurred.

The Firm's annual fee schedule for new accounts is: 0.90% of the first \$25 million, 0.70% of the next \$25 million, 0.60% on the next \$50 million, and 0.50% on assets over \$100 million. The Composite's complete return history and a list of Bailard's composites are available upon request.

#### **Market Indices Definitions**

The S&P 500 Index, the Russell 1000 Growth Index, the Russell 2000 Growth Index, the Russell 2000 Growth Index, the Russell 2000 Index, the MSCI USA Small Cap ESG Leaders Index, the Russell 2000 Value Index, and the Russell Micro Cap Value Index shown in this presentation are different from a managed account in that they are unmanaged, uninvestable and do not reflect any transaction costs.

The Russell 2000 Value Index is a commonly used index that measures the performance of the small-cap value segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 2000 Index companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The Russell Microcap Value Index measures the performance of the microcap value segment of the U.S. equity market. It includes Russell Microcap companies that are considered more value oriented relative to the overall market as defined by Russell's leading style methodology. Unlike the Russell 2000 Value Index and the Russell Microcap Value Index, the Composite account can acquire stocks in initial public offerings and can hold cash equivalents and exchange-traded funds. The Composite account's stock holdings may differ materially from those of the Russell 2000 Value Index and the Russell Microcap Value Index, as the Composite: 1) can invest in stocks that are not in the indices; and 2) may omit securities that may otherwise merit investment due to the application of various environmental, social and governance screens. The Composite can hold microcap stocks and will tend to hold a higher percentage of microcap stocks (defined as stocks in the bottom 1% of major U.S. exchange-traded securities when measured by market capitalization) than the Russell 2000 Value Index. The Composite can hold small cap value stocks and will tend to hold a higher percentage of small cap value stocks (defined as stocks with lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected growth values and between 1% and 11% of major U.S. exchange-traded securities when measured by market capitalization) than the Russell Micro Cap Value Index. The Small Cap Value ESG Equity Strategy's hypothetical returns differ materially from that of the indices. As a result, the indices are not indicative of the past or future performance of the model portfolios.

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# Performance Disclosures (Continued)

S&P 500: The S&P 500 Index is a commonly used U.S. stock index of 500 large capitalization stocks.

Russell 1000 Growth: The Russell 1000 Growth Index measures the performance of the large cap growth segment of the US equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

Russell 1000 Value: The Russell 1000° Value Index measures the performance of the large cap value segment of the US equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected growth values

Russell 2000 Growth: The Russell 2000 Growth Index measures the performance of the small cap growth segment of the US equity universe. It includes those Russell 2000 companies with higher price-to-value ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

Russell 2000 Index: The Russell 2000 Index measures the performance of the small-cap segment of the US equity universe. The Russell 2000 Index is a subset of the Russell 3000 Index representing approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2,000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.

MSCI USA Small Cap ESG Leaders Index: The MSCI USA Small Cap ESG Leaders Index is a capitalization weighted index that provides exposure to companies with high Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance relative to their sector peers. MSCI USA Small Cap ESG Leaders Index consists of small cap companies in the US market. The Index is designed for investors seeking a broad, diversified sustainability benchmark with relatively low tracking error to the underlying equity market. The index is a member of the MSCI ESG Leaders Index series. Constituent selection is based on data from MSCI ESG Research.

#### Other Performance Definitions

Standard deviation is the annualized standard deviation of monthly returns. "Information ratio" is the ratio of added value to tracking error. "Tracking error" is the annualized standard deviation of monthly added value, where added value is [Composite return – benchmark return].

Past performance is no indication of future results. All investments have the risk of loss.

# For More Information:

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