

# Allspring Small Company Growth Fund

**Annual Report** 

MAY 31, 2023

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The views expressed and any forward-looking statements are as of May 31, 2023, unless otherwise noted, and are those of the Fund's portfolio managers and/or Allspring Global Investments. Discussions of individual securities or the markets generally are not intended as individual recommendations. Future events or results may vary significantly from those expressed in any forward-looking statements. The views expressed are subject to change at any time in response to changing circumstances in the market. Allspring Global Investments disclaims any obligation to publicly update or revise any views expressed or forward-looking statements.



ANDREW OWEN President Allspring Funds

In June 2022, stocks posted losses after a turbulent few months following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, resulting in their worst first half of a year in 50 years. Bonds didn't fare much better. Driving the losses were rising global inflation and fears of recession as central banks increased rates to try to curb soaring inflation. "

# Dear Shareholder:

We are pleased to offer you this annual report for the Allspring Small Company Growth Fund for the 12-month period that ended May 31, 2023. Globally, stocks and bonds experienced heightened volatility and poor performance through the challenging period. The market was focused on persistently high inflation as well as the impact of ongoing aggressive central bank rate hikes and the prospect of more rate hikes. Compounding these concerns were the global reverberations of the Russia-Ukraine war. Markets received a boost in December with the removal of China's strict COVID-19 lockdowns. In March 2023, a new wave of market anxiety resulted from several bank failures and unease over the possibility of more rate hikes. However, investors regained confidence and markets finished the period in relative calm.

For the 12-month period, stocks and bonds-both domestic U.S. and global-had mixed results. For the period, U.S. stocks, based on the S&P 500 Index, 1 gained 2.92%. International stocks, as measured by the MSCI ACWI ex USA Index (Net),2 lost 1.41%, while the MSCI EM Index (Net) (USD)<sup>3</sup> had weaker performance, with a return of -8.49%. Among bond indexes, the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index4 returned -2.14%, the Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex-USD Index (unhedged)<sup>5</sup> fell 6.49%, the Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index<sup>6</sup> gained 0.49%, and the ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Index<sup>7</sup> returned -0.09%.

## High inflation and central bank rate hikes rocked markets.

In June 2022, stocks posted losses after a turbulent few months following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, resulting in their worst first half of a year in 50 years. Bonds didn't fare much better. Driving the losses were rising global inflation and fears of recession as central banks increased rates to try to curb soaring inflation. The Federal Reserve (Fed) raised its short-term rate by 0.75% in June. Meanwhile, the U.S. unemployment rate remained historically low at 3.6% and the housing market remained only marginally affected by sharply higher mortgage

Markets rebounded in July, led by U.S. stocks. While U.S. economic activity showed signs of waning, the country's labor market remained strong: July nonfarm payrolls grew by more than 500,000 and U.S. unemployment dipped to 3.5%. Meanwhile, crude oil and retail gasoline prices—major contributors to recent overall inflation—fell substantially from earlier highs. And while U.S. home prices rose, sales fell as houses became less affordable with mortgage rates at a 13-year high. The Fed raised the federal funds rate another 0.75% in July—to a range of 2.25% to 2.50%—and forecasts pointed to further rate hikes.

The S&P 500 Index consists of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, and industry group representation. It is a market-value-weighted index with each stock's weight in the index proportionate to its market value. You cannot invest directly in an index.

The Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) All Country World Index (ACWI) ex USA Index (Net) is a free-float-adjusted market-capitalization-weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets, excluding the U.S. Source: MSCI. MSCI makes no express or implied warranties or representations and shall have no liability whatsoever with respect to any MSCI data contained herein. The MSCI data may not be further redistributed or used as a basis for other indexes or any securities or financial products. This report is not approved, reviewed, or produced by MSCI. You cannot invest directly in an index.

The MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index (Net) (USD) is a free-float-adjusted market-capitalization-weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of emerging markets. You cannot invest directly in an index.

The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index is a broad-based benchmark that measures the investment-grade, U.S.-dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market, including Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, mortgage-backed securities (agency fixed-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage pass-throughs), asset-backed securities, and commercial mortgage-backed securities. You cannot invest directly in an index.

The Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex-USD Index (unhedged) is an unmanaged index that provides a broad-based measure of the global investment-grade fixed income markets excluding the U.S.-dollar-denominated debt market. You cannot invest directly in an index.

The Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index is an unmanaged index composed of long-term tax-exempt bonds with a minimum credit rating of Baa. You cannot invest directly

The ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Index is a market-capitalization-weighted index of domestic and Yankee high yield bonds. The index tracks the performance of high yield securities traded in the U.S. bond market. You cannot invest directly in an index. Copyright 2023. ICE Data Indices, LLC. All rights reserved.

August was yet another broadly challenging month for financial markets. High inflation persisted, cresting 9% in the eurozone on an annual basis and remaining above 8% in the U.S. despite the Fed's aggressive monetary policy and a major drop in global crude oil and gasoline prices from their June peak. One positive was the resilient U.S. jobs market. However, the Fed's job was clearly not complete. One longer-term bright spot was the U.S. Congress's passage of the Inflation Reduction Act. Its primary stated goals include to reduce inflation (though not immediately) by curbing the deficit, capping health care spending by seniors, and investing in domestic sources of clean energy.

In September, all asset classes suffered further major losses. Central banks kept up their battle against rapidly rising prices with more rate hikes. The strength of the U.S. dollar weighed on results for investors holding non-U.S.-dollar assets. U.S. mortgage rates jumped to near 7% on 30-year fixed-rate mortgages; the decreased housing affordability began to cool demand somewhat. The U.K. experienced a sharp sell-off of government bonds and the British pound in September as investors panicked in response to a new government budget that was seen as financially unsound. The Bank of England (BoE) then stepped in and bought long-dated government bonds.

Equities had a reprieve in October. Globally, developed markets outpaced emerging market equities, which were hurt by weakness among Chinese stocks. Central banks continued to try to curtail high inflation with aggressive interest rate hikes. Geopolitical risks persisted, including the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war and economic, financial market, and political turmoil in the U.K. Concerns over Europe's energy crisis eased thanks to unseasonably warm weather and plentiful gas on hand. The U.S. labor market continued its resilience against rising prices as unemployment remained near a record low.

Stocks and bonds rallied in November. Economic news was encouraging, driven by U.S. labor market strength. Although central banks kept increasing rates, hopes rose for an easing in the pace of rate hikes and a possible end to central bank monetary tightening in 2023. Although inflation remained at record highs in the eurozone, we began to see signs of a possible decline in inflationary pressures as U.S. inflation moderated, with a 7.1% annual price rise in November and a monthly price increase of just 0.1%. China's economic data remained weak, reflecting its zero-COVID-19 policy.

Financial markets cooled in December, with U.S. equities declining overall in response to a weakening U.S. dollar. Fixed income securities ended one of their worst years ever, with generally flat monthly returns as markets weighed the hopes for an end to the monetary tightening cycle with the reality that central banks had not completed their jobs yet. U.S. Consumer Price Index (CPI)<sup>1</sup> data showed a strong consistent trend downward, which brought down the 12-month CPI to 6.5% in December from 9.1% in June. Other countries and regions reported still-high but declining inflation rates as the year wound down.

The year 2023 began with a rally across global equities and fixed income securities. Investor optimism rose in response to data indicating declining inflation rates and the reopening of China's economy with the abrupt end to its zero-COVID-19 policy. The U.S. reported surprisingly strong job gains—employers added more than 500,000 jobs—and unemployment fell to 3.4%, the lowest level since 1969. Meanwhile, wage growth, seen as a potential contributor to ongoing high inflation, continued to moderate. All eyes remained fixed on the Fed and on how many more rate hikes remain in this tightening cycle. The 0.25% federal funds rate hike announced in January was the Fed's smallest rate increase since March 2022.

Markets declined in February as investors responded unfavorably to resilient economic data. The takeaway: Central banks will likely continue their monetary tightening cycle for longer than markets had priced in. In this environment—where strong economic data is seen as bad news—the resilient U.S. labor market was seen as a negative while the inflation rate had not been falling quickly enough for the Fed, which raised interest rates by 0.25% in early February. Meanwhile, the BoE and the European Central Bank (ECB) both raised rates by 0.50%.

The U.S. Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. You cannot invest directly in an index.

The collapse of Silicon Valley Bank in March, the second-largest banking failure in U.S. history, led to a classic bank run that spread to Europe where Switzerland's Credit Suisse was taken over by its rival, UBS. "

For further

information about

your fund, contact

your investment

professional, visit

allspringglobal.com,

or call us directly at

1-800-222-8222.

our website at

The collapse of Silicon Valley Bank in March, the second-largest banking failure in U.S. history, led to a classic bank run that spread to Europe where Switzerland's Credit Suisse was taken over by its rival, UBS. The banking industry turmoil created an additional challenge for central banks in balancing inflationary concerns against potential economic weakening. Meanwhile, recent data pointed to economic strength in the U.S., Europe, and China. And China's economy continued to rebound after the removal of its COVID-19 lockdown. Inflation rates in the U.S., the U.K., and Europe all remained higher than central bank targets, leading to additional rate hikes in March.

Economic data released in April pointed to global resilience, as Purchasing Managers Indexes<sup>1</sup> in the U.S., U.K., and eurozone beat expectations, and China reported first-quarter annualized economic growth of 4.5%. Despite banking industry stress, developed market stocks had monthly gains. The U.S. labor market remained strong, with a 3.5% jobless rate and monthly payroll gains above 200,000. However, uncertainty and inflationary concerns weighed on investors in the U.S. and abroad.

May was marked by a divergence between expanding activity in services and an overall contraction in manufacturing activity in the U.S., U.K., and eurozone. Core inflation remained elevated in the U.S. and Europe, despite the ongoing efforts of the Fed and ECB, which included rate hikes of 0.25% by both in May. Stubborn inflation and the resilient U.S. labor market led to expectations of further interest rate hikes, overall monthly declines across bond indexes, and mixed results for stocks in May. Investor worries over a U.S. debt ceiling impasse were modest, and market confidence was buoyed by a deal in late May to avert a potential U.S. debt default.

## Don't let short-term uncertainty derail long-term investment goals.

Periods of investment uncertainty can present challenges, but experience has taught us that maintaining long-term investment goals can be an effective way to plan for the future. To help you create a sound strategy based on your personal goals and risk tolerance, Allspring Funds offers more than 100 mutual funds spanning a wide range of asset classes and investment styles. Although diversification cannot guarantee an investment profit or prevent losses, we believe it can be an effective way to manage investment risk and potentially smooth out overall portfolio performance. We encourage investors to know their investments and to understand that appropriate levels of risk-taking may unlock opportunities.

Thank you for choosing to invest with Allspring Funds. We appreciate your confidence in us and remain committed to helping you meet your financial needs.

Sincerely,

Andrew Owen President Allspring Funds

The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing and service sectors. You cannot invest directly in an index.

#### Notice to Shareholders

Beginning in July 2024, the Fund will be required by the Securities and Exchange Commission to send shareholders a paper copy of a new tailored shareholder report in place of the full shareholder report that you are now receiving. The tailored shareholder report will contain concise information about the Fund, including certain expense and performance information and fund statistics. If you wish to receive this new tailored shareholder report electronically, please follow the instructions on the back cover of this report.

Other information that is currently included in the shareholder report, such as the Fund's financial statements, will be available online and upon request, free of charge, in paper or electronic format.

## Performance highlights

Investment objective	The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.
Manager	Allspring Funds Management, LLC
Subadviser for the affiliated master portfolio*	Peregrine Capital Management, LLC
Portfolio managers	William A. Grierson, CFA, Paul E. von Kuster, CFA, Allison Lewis, CFA <sup>†</sup> , Ryan H. Smith, CFA, Samuel D. Smith,

#### AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS (%) AS OF MAY 31, 2023

		INCLUD	ING SALES	CHARGE	EXCLUD	ING SALES	S CHARGE	EXPENSE RA	ATIOS <sup>1</sup> (%)
	INCEPTION DATE	1 YEAR	5 YEAR	10 YEAR	1 YEAR	5 YEAR	10 YEAR	GROSS	NET <sup>2</sup>
Class A (WFSAX)	1-30-2004	-5.96	3.27	8.12	-0.22	4.50	8.76	1.33	1.28
Class C (WSMCX)	1-30-2004	-1.92	3.75	8.13	-0.92	3.75	8.13	2.08	2.03
Class R6 (WSCRX) <sup>3</sup>	10-31-2014	_	_	_	0.21*	4.95	9.24	0.91	0.86
Administrator Class (NVSCX)	11-11-1994	_	_	_	-0.11	4.61	8.91	1.26	1.19
Institutional Class (WSCGX)	3-31-2008	_	_	_	0.16	4.88	9.18	1.01	0.94
Russell 2000® Growth Index <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	-	2.68	2.74	7.90	-	-

Figures quoted represent past performance, which is no guarantee of future results, and do not reflect taxes that a shareholder may pay on an investment in a fund. 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. Performance shown without sales charges would be lower if sales charges were reflected. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted, which assumes the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. Current month-end performance is available on the Fund's website, allspringglobal.com.

Index returns do not include transaction costs associated with buying and selling securities, any mutual fund fees or expenses, or any taxes. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

For Class A shares, the maximum front-end sales charge is 5.75%. For Class C shares, the maximum contingent deferred sales charge is 1.00%. Performance including a contingent deferred sales charge assumes the sales charge for the corresponding time period. Class R6, Administrator Class and Institutional Class shares are sold without a front-end sales charge or contingent deferred sales charge.

- \* Total return differs from the return in the Financial Highlights in this report. The total return presented is calculated based on the NAV at which the shareholder transactions were processed. The NAV and total return presented in the Financial Highlights reflects certain adjustments made to the net assets of the Fund that are necessary under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.
- 1 Reflects the expense ratios as stated in the most recent prospectuses. The expense ratios shown are subject to change and may differ from the annualized expense ratios shown in the financial highlights of this report.
- <sup>2</sup> The manager has contractually committed through September 30, 2023 (September 30, 2024 for Class A and Class C), to waive fees and/or reimburse expenses to the extent necessary to cap total annual fund operating expenses after fee waivers at 1.28% for Class A, 2.03% for Class C, 0.86% for Class R6, 1.19% for Administrator Class and 0.94% for Institutional Class. Brokerage commissions, stamp duty fees, interest, taxes, acquired fund fees and expenses (if any) from funds in which the affiliated master portfolio invests, and extraordinary expenses are excluded from the expense caps. Net expenses from the affiliated master portfolio are included in the expense caps. Prior to or after the commitment expiration date, the caps may be increased or the commitment to maintain the caps may be terminated only with the approval of the Board of Trustees. Without these caps, the Fund's returns would have been lower. The expense ratio paid by an investor is the net expense ratio (the total annual fund operating expenses after fee waivers) as stated in the prospectuses.
- <sup>3</sup> Historical performance shown for the Class R6 shares prior to their inception reflects the performance of the Institutional Class shares, and includes the higher expenses applicable to the Institutional Class shares. If these expenses had not been included, returns for the Class R6 shares would be higher.
- <sup>4</sup> The Russell 2000® Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 2000 companies with higher price/book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. You cannot invest directly in an index.

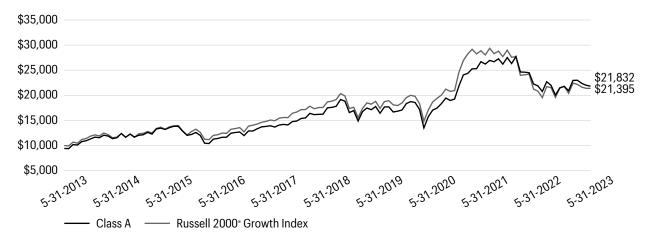
Stock values fluctuate in response to the activities of individual companies and general market and economic conditions. Smaller-company stocks tend to be more volatile and less liquid than those of larger companies. Certain investment strategies tend to increase the total risk of an investment (relative to the broader market). This fund is exposed to foreign investment risk. Consult the Fund's prospectus for additional information on these and other risks.

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<sup>\*</sup> The Fund is a feeder fund in a master-feeder structure that invests substantially all of its assets in a single affiliated master portfolio of the Allspring Master Trust with a substantially identical investment objective and substantially similar investment strategies. References to the investment activities of the Fund are intended to refer to the investment activities of the affiliated master portfolio in which it invests.

<sup>†</sup> Ms. Lewis became a portfolio manager of the Fund on June 30, 2023.

GROWTH OF \$10,000 INVESTMENT AS OF MAY 31, 20231



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The chart compares the performance of Class A shares for the most recent ten years with the Russell 2000® Growth Index. The chart assumes a hypothetical investment of \$10,000 in Class A shares and reflects all operating expenses and assumes the maximum initial sales charge of 5.75%.

#### MANAGER'S DISCUSSION

## Fund highlights

- The Fund underperformed its benchmark, the Russell 2000® Growth Index, for the 12-month period that ended May 31, 2023.
- Stock selection within the health care and industrials sectors were the largest detractors from performance.
- Positive stock selection in the consumer staples and consumer discretionary sectors were the largest contributors to performance in the period.

## The Fed, inflation, and the economic outlook have dominated the market narrative.

Early in the period, investors were skeptical of the Federal Reserve's (Fed's) hawkish position that aimed to curb 40-year-high inflation as it had lost credibility by insisting that inflation was only transitory. As the Fed realized its error, the increased pace and magnitude of the tightening of financial conditions in order to tame inflation "by any means necessary" was a persistent headwind to market returns. As a result, rate increases, weakening economic indicators, compression of stock valuations, and downward earnings revisions caused a significant sell-off in financial markets. Asset correlations also neared 40-year-highs as equity and fixed income correlations turned positive for the first time in more than 20 years. To make matters worse, the failures of SVB Financial Group and Signature Bank, two prominent regional lenders, were additional unforeseen shocks that further muddied forward visibility in March 2023.

TENII	ADOCCT	HOLDINGS	(0/) AC OF	NAAV 21	വവവി

TEN EMINOLOT HOLDINGO (70) NO OT MINTO 1, 2020	
PTC, Inc.	1.81
ICON PLC	1.64
elf Beauty, Inc.	1.61
KBR, Inc.	1.46
International Game Technology PLC	1.45
Box, Inc. Class A	1.38
Element Solutions, Inc.	1.37
Ciena Corp.	1.36
SS&C Technologies Holdings, Inc.	1.35
FTI Consulting, Inc.	1.31

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Each holding represents the Fund's allocable portion of the affiliated master portfolio security. Figures represent each holding as a percentage of the Fund's net assets. Holdings are subject to change and may have changed since the date specified.

## The Fund was overweight industrials, information technology (IT), and financials and underweight consumer discretionary and energy.

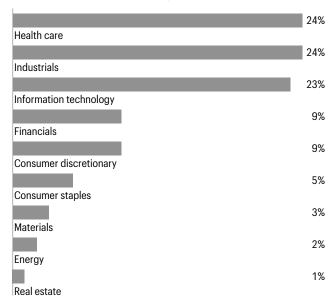
The Fund remained consistent with its long-term discipline of investing in rapidly growing companies purchased at attractive valuations. Relative to the benchmark, the Fund's largest overweight positions were in the industrials, IT, and financials sectors, where valuations remain attractive. Conversely, the Fund was most underweight the consumer discretionary and energy sectors.

## Stock selection in health care and industrials were the leading detractors.

Health care and industrials were the leading detracting sectors for the fiscal year. Underperformance in health care was driven by negative stock selection in biotechnology and life science tools and services. An underweight to biotechnology also detracted, as the group outperformed meaningfully after bottoming in June 2022. Within biotechnology, precommercial and speculative companies, which the Fund is underindexed to, drove outsized returns. Additionally, headwinds within the life sciences industry hurt Syneos Health, Inc.;\* Avantor, Inc.; Azenta, Inc.; and ICON Plc.

Underperformance in industrials was driven by weakness in the building products, construction, and engineering (C&E), and aerospace and defense industries. Building products and C&E holdings underperformed as recession fears began to mount while the Fund's aerospace and defense holdings were affected by company-specific program delays.

#### SECTOR ALLOCATION AS OF MAY 31, 20231



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Figures represent the sector allocation of the affiliated master portfolio as a percentage of the long-term investments of the affiliated master portfolio. Allocations are subject to change and may have changed since the date specified.

This security was no longer held at the end of the reporting period.

## Consumer staples and consumer discretionary were leading contributors.

Consumer staples and consumer discretionary were the top-contributing sectors for the fiscal year. Strong performance in consumer staples was driven by stock selection in personal care products and food products. Notable stock contributors included elf Beauty, Inc., a cosmetic and beauty products company, and Lamb Weston Holdings, Inc., a leading producer of frozen potato products. Outperformance in the consumer discretionary sector was driven by stock selection within broadline and specialty retail. Positive returns were generated from exposure to value/off-price retailers such as Academy Sports and Outdoors Inc.; Five Below, Inc.; and Ollie's Bargain Outlet Holdings Inc., which benefited from consumers trading down in response to rising inflation and economic uncertainty.

## Small-cap growth stocks continue to trade at reasonable valuations.

The Fed, an increased potential for a recession, and newly surfaced regional bank issues are risk factors worthy of heightened scrutiny when evaluating company fundamental trajectories. This is true in every market

environment, where known risks are incorporated into company valuations. However, in macro-focused and risk-averse environments like the ones seen over the past year, these known risks can overshoot, creating excellent opportunities for information gaps. The Fund has seen many market environments with myriad different risks. Through the diligent implementation of our discipline, in the long-term we have not only survived, we also thrived by reliably sourcing high-growth companies at attractive valuations. We see many favorable opportunities in the current market environment and we are excited to capitalize on a growing number of large information gaps.

# **Fund expenses**

As a shareholder of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs, including sales charges (loads) on purchase payments and contingent deferred sales charges (if any) on redemptions and (2) ongoing costs, including management fees, distribution (12b-1) and/or shareholder servicing fees, and other Fund expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds.

The example is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period from December 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023.

#### Actual expenses

The "Actual" line of the table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this line, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Actual" line under the heading entitled "Expenses paid during the period" for your applicable class of shares to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during this period.

#### Hypothetical example for comparison purposes

The "Hypothetical" line of the table below provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Fund's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Fund's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs, such as sales charges (loads) and contingent deferred sales charges. Therefore, the "Hypothetical" line of the table is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. In addition, if these transactional costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

	BEGINNING ACCOUNT VALUE 12-1-2022	ENDING ACCOUNT VALUE 5-31-2023	EXPENSES PAID DURING THE PERIOD <sup>1, 2</sup>	ANNUALIZED NET EXPENSE RATIO <sup>2</sup>
Class A				
Actual	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.02	\$ 6.43	1.29%
Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,018.50	\$ 6.49	1.29%
Class C				
Actual	\$1,000.00	\$ 999.99	\$10.17	2.04%
Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)	\$1,000.00	\$1,014.76	\$10.25	2.04%
Class R6				
Actual	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.04	\$ 4.29	0.86%
Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)	\$1,000.00	\$1,020.64	\$ 4.33	0.86%
Administrator Class				
Actual	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.03	\$ 5.93	1.19%
Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)	\$1,000.00	\$1,019.00	\$ 5.99	1.19%
Institutional Class				
Actual	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.04	\$ 4.69	0.94%
Hypothetical (5% return before expenses)	\$1,000.00	\$1,020.24	\$ 4.73	0.94%

<sup>1</sup> Expenses paid is equal to the annualized net expense ratio of each class multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 182 divided by 365 (to reflect the one-half-year period).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Amounts reflect net expenses allocated from the affiliated Master Portfolio in which the Fund invests.

# Portfolio of investments

								VALUE
Investment companies: 99.84%	•							
Affiliated master portfolio: 99.8 Allspring Small Company Grov							\$	700,121,306
Total investment companies (Co	ost \$581,049,76	60)					_	700,121,306
Total investments in securities ( Other assets and liabilities, ne		760)				99.84 0.16		700,121,306 1,154,003
Total net assets						100.00	9% \$	701,275,309
Transactions with the affiliated Ma	aster Portfolio w	ere as follows:	:					
	% OF OWNERSHIP, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	% OF OWNERSHIP, END OF PERIOD	NET REALIZED GAINS (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS ALLOCATED FROM AFFILIATED MASTER PORTFOLIO	NET CHANGE IN UNREALIZED GAINS (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS ALLOCATED FROM AFFILIATED MASTER PORTFOLIO	DIVIDENDS ALLOCATED FROM AFFILIATED MASTER PORTFOLIO	INTEREST ALLOCATED FROM AFFILIATED MASTER PORTFOLIO	AFFILIATED INCOME ALLOCATED FROM AFFILIATED MASTER PORTFOLIO	VALUE, END OF PERIOD
Allspring Small Company Growth Portfolio	97.57%	97.57%	\$29,634,010	\$(31,050,649)	\$2,933,185	\$398	\$707,998	\$700,121,306

# Financial statements

# Statement of assets and liabilities

Investments in affiliated Master Portfolio, at value (cost \$581,049,760)	\$700,121,306
Receivable for Fund shares sold	1,826,686
Receivable from manager	17,412
Prepaid expenses and other assets	39,307
Total assets	702,004,711
Liabilities	
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	576,992
Administration fees payable	61,034
Distribution fee payable	1,464
Trustees' fees and expenses payable	693
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	89,219
Total liabilities	729,402
Total net assets	\$701,275,309
Net assets consist of	
Paid-in capital	\$579,540,596
Total distributable earnings	121,734,713
Total net assets	\$701,275,309
Computation of net asset value and offering price per share	
Net assets-Class A	\$ 28,813,262
Shares outstanding-Class A <sup>1</sup>	1,035,172
Net asset value per share-Class A	\$27.83
Maximum offering price per share – Class A <sup>2</sup>	\$29.53
Net assets-Class C	\$ 2,304,628
Shares outstanding-Class C <sup>1</sup>	124,933
Net asset value per share-Class C	\$18.45
Net assets-Class R6	<b>\$040.704.754</b>
THE BOOKS OILSON	\$218,784,751
	\$218,784,751 6,511,205
Shares outstanding-Class R6 <sup>1</sup>	
Shares outstanding–Class R6 <sup>1</sup> Net asset value per share–Class R6	6,511,205 \$33.60
Shares outstanding–Class R6 <sup>1</sup> Net asset value per share–Class R6 Net assets–Administrator Class	6,511,205 \$33.60 \$ 40,292,544
Shares outstanding–Class R6 <sup>1</sup> Net asset value per share–Class R6 Net assets–Administrator Class Shares outstanding–Administrator Class <sup>1</sup>	6,511,205 \$33.60 \$ 40,292,544 1,305,982
Shares outstanding-Class R6 <sup>1</sup> Net asset value per share-Class R6 Net assets-Administrator Class Shares outstanding-Administrator Class Net asset value per share-Administrator Class Net asset value per share-Administrator Class	6,511,205
Shares outstanding-Class R6 <sup>1</sup> Net asset value per share-Class R6 Net assets-Administrator Class Shares outstanding-Administrator Class <sup>1</sup> Net asset value per share-Administrator Class	6,511,205 \$33.60 \$ 40,292,544 1,305,982 \$30.85

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Fund has an unlimited number of authorized shares.

 $<sup>^2 \ \</sup>text{Maximum offering price is computed as } 100/94.25 \ \text{of net asset value}. \ \text{On investments of $50,000 or more, the offering price is reduced}.$ 

# Statement of operations

Dividends allocated from affiliated Master Portfolio (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$6,617)	\$ 2,933,185
Affiliated income allocated from affiliated Master Portfolio	707,998
Interest allocated from affiliated Master Portfolio	398
Expenses allocated from affiliated Master Portfolio	(5,827,191
Total investment income	(2,185,610
Expenses	
Management fee	356,726
Administration fees	
Class A	64,801
Class C	7,587
Class R6	66,248
Administrator Class	54,011
Institutional Class	541,590
Shareholder servicing fees	
Class A	77,145
Class C	8,958
Administrator Class	103,719
Distribution fee	
Class C	26,648
Custody and accounting fees	24,275
Professional fees	42,482
Registration fees	40,234
Shareholder report expenses	65,109
Trustees' fees and expenses	21,093
Other fees and expenses	8,608
Total expenses	1,509,234
Less: Fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements	
Fund-level	(356,704
Class A	(4,859
Class R6	(33,037
Administrator Class	(14,446
Institutional Class	(146,183
Net expenses	954,005
Net investment loss	(3,139,615

Net realized gains on investments allocated from affiliated Master Portfolio

Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments

Net decrease in net assets resulting from operations

Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments allocated from affiliated Master Portfolio

29,634,010

(31,050,649)

(1,416,639)

\$ (4,556,254)

# Statement of changes in net assets

Statement of changes in net assets						
		ENDED 1, 2023		YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2022		
Operations						
Net investment loss		\$ (3,139,615)		\$ (5,624,754)		
Net realized gains on investments		29,634,010		234,292,155		
Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments		(31,050,649)		(380,610,924)		
Net decrease in net assets resulting from operations		(4,556,254)		(151,943,523)		
Distributions to shareholders from						
Net investment income and net realized gains						
Class A		(2,956,608)		(25,935,297)		
Class C		(524,720)		(5,561,323)		
Class R6		(18,290,276)		(100,466,883)		
Administrator Class		(3,736,177)		(21,521,432)		
Institutional Class		(31,910,643)		(248,029,970)		
Total distributions to shareholders		(57,418,424)		(401,514,905)		
<u>Capital share transactions</u>	SHARES		SHARES			
Proceeds from shares sold						
Class A	226,653	6,618,593	600,158	33,843,292		
Class C	8,202	151,573	89,397	4,393,866		
Class R6	939,968	32,682,134	837,876	41,916,286		
Administrator Class	179,672	5,855,715	132,770	6,666,051		
Institutional Class	5,808,569	199,389,086	8,331,378	426,789,587		
Reinvestment of distributions		244,697,101		513,609,082		
Class A	94,538	2,624,367	643,072	23,980,172		
Class C	27,185	501,841	206,792	5,422,079		
Class R6	535,212	17,897,479	2,119,772	93,248,751		
Administrator Class	121,376	3,732,301	525,535	21,483,861		
Institutional Class	460,271	15,239,567	3,043,545	132,759,448		
		39,995,555		276,894,311		
Payment for shares redeemed Class A	(637,477)	(18,452,346)	(611,917)	(25,389,359)		
Class C	(188,144)	(3,694,553)	(200,817)	(6,158,661)		
Class R6	(1,131,878)	(39,699,243)	(2,783,941)	(175,259,458)		
Administrator Class	(242,658)	(7,818,670)	(366,235)	(17,779,520)		
Institutional Class	(7,571,990)	(262,535,497)	(9,833,729)	(544,346,151)		
		(332,200,309)		(768,933,149)		
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from capital share transactions		(47,507,653)		21,570,244		
Total decrease in net assets		(109,482,331)		(531,888,184)		
Net assets						
Beginning of period		810,757,640		1,342,645,824		
End of period	:	\$ 701,275,309		\$ 810,757,640		

# Financial highlights

	YEAR ENDED MAY 31						
CLASS A	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019		
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$30.93	\$61.44	\$46.62	\$48.98	\$56.66		
Net investment loss	(0.23)1	$(0.47)^1$	(0.47) <sup>1</sup>	$(0.34)^1$	(0.36)		
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments	0.15	(5.55)	24.27	2.49	(3.22)		
Total from investment operations	(0.08)	(6.02)	23.80	2.15	(3.58)		
Distributions to shareholders from Net realized gains	(3.02)	(24.49)	(8.98)	(4.51)	(4.10)		
Net asset value, end of period	\$27.83	\$30.93	\$61.44	\$46.62	\$48.98		
Total return <sup>2</sup>	(0.22)%	(16.59)%	53.84%	3.70%	(6.13)%		
Ratios to average net assets (annualized)*							
Gross expenses	1.36%	1.34%	1.33%	1.32%	1.31%		
Net expenses	1.29%	1.29%	1.29%	1.32%	1.31%		
Net investment loss	(0.78)%	(1.04)%	(0.85)%	(0.69)%	(0.63)%		
Supplemental data							
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>3</sup>	37%	61%	44%	41%	54%		
Net assets, end of period (000s omitted)	\$28,813	\$41,795	\$44,249	\$36,534	\$64,182		

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  Ratios include net expenses allocated from the affiliated Master Portfolio which were as follows:

Year ended May 31, 2023	0.82%
Year ended May 31, 2022	0.81%
Year ended May 31, 2021	0.79%
Year ended May 31, 2020	0.78%
Year ended May 31, 2019	0.78%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Calculated based upon average shares outstanding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Total return calculations do not include any sales charges.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Portfolio turnover rate is calculated by multiplying the affiliated Master Portfolio's percentage of the Fund's total investment in securities at the end of the period by the affiliated Master Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate.

YEAR ENDED MAY 31				
2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
\$21.67	\$50.65	\$39.84	\$42.75	\$50.38
(0.32)1	$(0.60)^1$	$(0.75)^1$	(0.61) <sup>1</sup>	$(0.66)^1$
0.12	(3.89)	20.54	2.21	(2.87)
(0.20)	(4.49)	19.79	1.60	(3.53)
(3.02)	(24.49)	(8.98)	(4.51)	(4.10)
\$18.45	\$21.67	\$50.65	\$39.84	\$42.75
(0.92)%	(17.25)%	52.86%	2.92%	(6.82)%
2.09%	2.08%	2.08%	2.07%	2.06%
2.04%	2.04%	2.04%	2.07%	2.06%
(1.56)%	(1.71)%	(1.60)%	(1.44)%	(1.38)%
37%	61%	44%	41%	54%
\$2,305	\$6,018	\$9,235	\$9,336	\$13,968
	\$21.67 (0.32) <sup>1</sup> 0.12 (0.20) (3.02) \$18.45 (0.92)% 2.09% 2.04% (1.56)%	2023   2022     \$21.67   \$50.65     (0.32) <sup>1</sup>   (0.60) <sup>1</sup>   (0.12   (3.89)   (0.20)   (4.49)     (3.02)   (24.49)     \$18.45   \$21.67   (0.92)%   (17.25)%     2.09%   2.08%   2.04%   2.04%   (1.56)%   (1.71)%     37%   61%	2023         2022         2021           \$21.67         \$50.65         \$39.84           (0.32)¹         (0.60)¹         (0.75)¹           0.12         (3.89)         20.54           (0.20)         (4.49)         19.79           (3.02)         (24.49)         (8.98)           \$18.45         \$21.67         \$50.65           (0.92)%         (17.25)%         52.86%           2.09%         2.08%         2.08%           2.04%         2.04%         2.04%           (1.56)%         (1.71)%         (1.60)%           37%         61%         44%	2023         2022         2021         2020           \$21.67         \$50.65         \$39.84         \$42.75           (0.32)¹         (0.60)¹         (0.75)¹         (0.61)¹           0.12         (3.89)         20.54         2.21           (0.20)         (4.49)         19.79         1.60           (3.02)         (24.49)         (8.98)         (4.51)           \$18.45         \$21.67         \$50.65         \$39.84           (0.92)%         (17.25)%         52.86%         2.92%           2.09%         2.08%         2.08%         2.07%           2.04%         2.04%         2.04%         2.07%           (1.56)%         (1.71)%         (1.60)%         (1.44)%           37%         61%         44%         41%

<sup>\*</sup> Ratios include net expenses allocated from the affiliated Master Portfolio which were as follows:

Year ended May 31, 2023	0.82%
Year ended May 31, 2022	0.81%
Year ended May 31, 2021	0.79%
Year ended May 31, 2020	0.78%
Year ended May 31, 2019	0.78%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Calculated based upon average shares outstanding

 $<sup>^{\,2}\,</sup>$  Total return calculations do not include any sales charges.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Portfolio turnover rate is calculated by multiplying the affiliated Master Portfolio's percentage of the Fund's total investment in securities at the end of the period by the affiliated Master Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate.

		YEAR ENDED MAY 31			
CLASS R6	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$36.55	\$67.95	\$50.64	\$52.65	\$60.31
Net investment loss	$(0.12)^1$	$(0.26)^1$	(0.17)	$(0.14)^1$	(0.12)
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments	0.19	(6.65)	26.46	2.64	(3.44)
Total from investment operations	0.07	(6.91)	26.29	2.50	(3.56)
Distributions to shareholders from Net realized gains	(3.02)	(24.49)	(8.98)	(4.51)	(4.10)
Net asset value, end of period	\$33.60	\$36.55	\$67.95	\$50.64	\$52.65
Total return	0.24%	(16.24)%	54.53%	4.12%	(5.73)%
Ratios to average net assets (annualized)*					
Gross expenses	0.92%	0.91%	0.90%	0.90%	0.88%
Net expenses	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%	0.89%	0.88%
Net investment loss	(0.35)%	(0.48)%	(0.41)%	(0.27)%	(0.20)%
Supplemental data					
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>2</sup>	37%	61%	44%	41%	54%
Net assets, end of period (000s omitted)	\$218,785	\$225,464	\$407,311	\$462,050	\$564,516

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}\,$  Ratios include net expenses allocated from the affiliated Master Portfolio which were as follows:

Year ended May 31, 2023	0.82%
Year ended May 31, 2022	0.81%
Year ended May 31, 2021	0.79%
Year ended May 31, 2020	0.78%
Year ended May 31, 2019	0.78%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Calculated based upon average shares outstanding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Portfolio turnover rate is calculated by multiplying the affiliated Master Portfolio's percentage of the Fund's total investment in securities at the end of the period by the affiliated Master Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate.

	YEAR ENDED MAY 31				
ADMINISTRATOR CLASS	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$33.92	\$64.98	\$48.87	\$51.10	\$58.85
Net investment loss	(0.22)1	$(0.47)^1$	$(0.44)^1$	$(0.29)^1$	$(0.29)^1$
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments	0.17	(6.10)	25.53	2.57	(3.36)
Total from investment operations	(0.05)	(6.57)	25.09	2.28	(3.65)
<b>Distributions to shareholders from</b> Net realized gains	(3.02)	(24.49)	(8.98)	(4.51)	(4.10)
Net asset value, end of period	\$30.85	\$33.92	\$64.98	\$48.87	\$51.10
Total return	(0.11)%	(16.52)%	54.02%	3.80%	(6.02)%
Ratios to average net assets (annualized)*					
Gross expenses	1.27%	1.26%	1.25%	1.24%	1.23%
Net expenses	1.19%	1.19%	1.19%	1.20%	1.20%
Net investment loss	(0.68)%	(0.93)%	(0.74)%	(0.57)%	(0.51)%
Supplemental data					
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>2</sup>	37%	61%	44%	41%	54%
Net assets, end of period (000s omitted)	\$40,293	\$42,317	\$62,092	\$55,917	\$87,850

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}\,$  Ratios include net expenses allocated from the affiliated Master Portfolio which were as follows:

Year ended May 31, 2023	0.82%
Year ended May 31, 2022	0.81%
Year ended May 31, 2021	0.79%
Year ended May 31, 2020	0.78%
Year ended May 31, 2019	0.78%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Calculated based upon average shares outstanding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Portfolio turnover rate is calculated by multiplying the affiliated Master Portfolio's percentage of the Fund's total investment in securities at the end of the period by the affiliated Master Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate.

		YEAR ENDED MAY 31			
INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$36.24	\$67.62	\$50.47	\$52.51	\$60.20
Net investment loss	$(0.15)^1$	$(0.27)^1$	(0.29)	$(0.17)^1$	(0.15)
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments	0.19	(6.62)	26.42	2.64	(3.44)
Total from investment operations	0.04	(6.89)	26.13	2.47	(3.59)
Distributions to shareholders from  Net realized gains	(3.02)	(24.49)	(8.98)	(4.51)	(4.10)
Net asset value, end of period	\$33.26	\$36.24	\$67.62	\$50.47	\$52.51
Total return	0.16%	(16.31)%	54.39%	4.07%	(5.77)%
Ratios to average net assets (annualized)*					
Gross expenses	1.03%	1.01%	1.00%	1.00%	0.98%
Net expenses	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.95%	0.95%
Net investment loss	(0.43)%	(0.51)%	(0.49)%	(0.32)%	(0.26)%
Supplemental data					
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>2</sup>	37%	61%	44%	41%	54%
Net assets, end of period (000s omitted)	\$411,080	\$495,163	\$819,760	\$793,581	\$1,047,883

<sup>\*</sup> Ratios include net expenses allocated from the affiliated Master Portfolio which were as follows:

Year ended May 31, 2023	0.82%
Year ended May 31, 2022	0.81%
Year ended May 31, 2021	0.79%
Year ended May 31, 2020	0.78%
Year ended May 31, 2019	0.78%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Calculated based upon average shares outstanding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Portfolio turnover rate is calculated by multiplying the affiliated Master Portfolio's percentage of the Fund's total investment in securities at the end of the period by the affiliated Master Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate.

## Notes to financial statements

#### 1. ORGANIZATION

Allspring Funds Trust (the "Trust"), a Delaware statutory trust organized on March 10, 1999, is an open-end management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). As an investment company, the Trust follows the accounting and reporting guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946, Financial Services - Investment Companies. These financial statements report on the Allspring Small Company Growth Fund (the "Fund") which is a diversified series of the Trust.

The Fund is a feeder fund in a master-feeder structure that invests substantially all of its assets in a single master portfolio with a substantially identical investment objective and substantially similar investment strategies. The Fund invests in Allspring Small Company Growth Portfolio, a separate diversified portfolio (the "affiliated Master Portfolio") of Allspring Master Trust, a registered open-end management investment company. As of May 31, 2023, the Fund owned 97.57% of Allspring Small Company Growth Portfolio. The affiliated Master Portfolio directly acquires portfolio securities and the Fund acquires an indirect interest in those securities. The Fund accounts for its investment in the affiliated Master Portfolio as a partnership investment and records on a daily basis its share of the affiliated Master Portfolio's income, expense and realized and unrealized gains and losses. The financial statements of the affiliated Master Portfolio for the year ended May 31, 2023 are included in this report and should be read in conjunction with the Fund's financial statements.

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistently followed in the preparation of the financial statements of the Fund, are in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Securities valuation

All investments are valued each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (generally 4 p.m. Eastern Time), although the Fund may deviate from this calculation time under unusual or unexpected circumstances.

Investments in the affiliated Master Portfolio are valued daily based on the Fund's proportionate share of the affiliated Master Portfolio's net assets, which are also valued daily.

Investments which are not valued using the method discussed above are valued at their fair value, as determined in good faith by Allspring Funds Management, LLC ("Allspring Funds Management"), which was named the valuation designee by the Board of Trustees. As the valuation designee, Allspring Funds Management is responsible for day-to-day valuation activities for the Allspring Funds. In connection with these responsibilities, Allspring Funds Management has established a Valuation Committee and has delegated to it the authority to take any actions regarding the valuation of portfolio securities that the Valuation Committee deems necessary or appropriate, including determining the fair value of portfolio securities. On a quarterly basis, the Board of Trustees receives reports of valuation actions taken by the Valuation Committee. On at least an annual basis, the Board of Trustees receives an assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of Allspring Funds Management's process for determining the fair value of the portfolio of investments.

## Investment transactions, income and expenses

Investments in the affiliated Master Portfolio are recorded on a trade date basis. The Fund records daily its proportionate share of the affiliated Master Portfolio's income, expenses and realized and unrealized gains or losses. The Fund also accrues its own expenses.

#### Distributions to shareholders

Distributions to shareholders from net investment income and any net realized gains are recorded on the ex-dividend date and paid at least annually. Such distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations and may differ from U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Dividend sources are estimated at the time of declaration. The tax character of distributions is determined as of the Fund's fiscal year end. Therefore, a portion of the Fund's distributions made prior to the Fund's fiscal year end may be categorized as a tax return of capital at year end.

#### Federal and other taxes

The Fund intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company by distributing substantially all of its investment company taxable income and any net realized capital gains (after reduction for capital loss carryforwards) sufficient to relieve it from all, or substantially all, federal income taxes. Accordingly, no provision for federal income taxes was required.

The Fund's income and federal excise tax returns and all financial records supporting those returns for the prior three fiscal years are subject to examination by the federal and Delaware revenue authorities. Management has analyzed the Fund's tax positions taken on federal, state, and foreign tax returns, as applicable, for all open tax years and does not believe that there are any uncertain tax positions that require recognition of a tax liability.

As of May 31, 2023, the aggregate cost of all investments for federal income tax purposes was \$596,456,632 and the unrealized gains (losses) consisted of:

Gross unrealized gains \$103,664,674 Gross unrealized losses 0

Net unrealized gains \$103,664,674

Reclassifications are made to the Fund's capital accounts for permanent tax differences to reflect income and gains available for distribution (or available capital loss carryforwards) under federal income tax regulations. U.S. generally accepted accounting principles require that certain components of net assets be adjusted to reflect permanent differences between financial and tax reporting. These reclassifications have no effect on net assets or net asset values per share. The primary difference causing such reclassification is due to net operating losses. At May 31, 2023, as a result of permanent book-totax differences, the following reclassification adjustments were made on the Statements of Assets and Liabilities:

PAID-IN TOTAL DISTRIBUTABLE CAPITAL **EARNINGS** \$(4,248,166) \$4,248,166

As of May 31, 2023, the Fund had a qualified late-year ordinary loss of \$950,497 which will be recognized on the first day of the following fiscal year.

#### Class allocations

The separate classes of shares offered by the Fund differ principally in applicable sales charges, distribution, shareholder servicing, and administration fees. Class specific expenses are charged directly to that share class. Investment income, common fund-level expenses, and realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments are allocated daily to each class of shares based on the relative proportion of net assets of each class.

#### 3. FAIR VALUATION MEASUREMENTS

At May 31, 2023, the Fund's investment in the affiliated Master Portfolio was measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient. The investment objective and fair value of the affiliated Master Portfolio is as follows:

Allspring Small Company Growth Portfolio	Seek long-term capital appreciation	\$700.121.306
AFFILIATED MASTER PORTFOLIO	INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE	MASTER PORTFOLIO
		FAIR VALUE OF AFFILIATED

The affiliated Master Portfolio does not have a redemption period notice, can be redeemed daily and does not have any unfunded commitments.

#### 4. TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES

#### Management fee

Allspring Funds Management, a wholly owned subsidiary of Allspring Global Investments Holdings, LLC, a holding company indirectly owned by certain private funds of GTCR LLC and Reverence Capital Partners, L.P., is the manager of the Fund and provides advisory and fund-level administrative services under an investment management agreement. Under the investment management agreement, Allspring Funds Management is responsible for, among other services, implementing the investment objectives and strategies of the Fund, supervising the subadviser and providing fund-level administrative services in connection with the Fund's operations. As compensation for its services under the investment management agreement, Allspring Funds Management is entitled to receive a management fee at the following annual rate based on the Fund's average daily net assets:

AVERAGE DAILY NET ASSETS	MANAGEMENT FEE
First \$5 billion	0.050%
Next \$5 billion	0.040
Over \$10 billion	0.030

For the year ended May 31, 2023, the management fee was equivalent to an annual rate of 0.05% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

Allspring Funds Management also serves as the adviser to the affiliated Master Portfolio and is entitled to receive a fee from the affiliated Master Portfolio for those services.

#### Administration fees

Under a class-level administration agreement, Allspring Funds Management provides class-level administrative services to the Fund, which includes paying fees and expenses for services provided by the transfer agent, sub-transfer agents, omnibus account servicers and record-keepers. As compensation for its services under the class-level administration agreement, Allspring Funds Management receives an annual fee which is calculated based on the average daily net assets of each class as follows:

	CLASS-LEVEL ADMINISTRATION FEE
Class A	0.21%
Class C	0.21
Class R6	0.03
Administrator Class	0.13
Institutional Class	0.13

#### Waivers and/or expense reimbursements

Allspring Funds Management has contractually committed to waive and/or reimburse management and administration fees to the extent necessary to maintain certain net operating expense ratios for the Fund. When each class of the Fund has exceeded its expense cap, Allspring Funds Management will waive fees and/or reimburse expenses from fund-level expenses on a proportionate basis and then from class specific expenses. When only certain classes exceed their expense caps, waivers and/or reimbursements are applied against class specific expenses before fund-level expenses. Net expenses from the affiliated Master Portfolio are included in the expense caps. Allspring Funds Management has contractually committed through September 30, 2023 to waive fees and/or reimburse expenses to the extent necessary to cap expenses. Prior to or after the commitment expiration date, the caps may be increased or the commitment to maintain the caps may be terminated only with the approval of the Board of Trustees. As of May 31, 2023, the contractual expense caps are as follows:

	EXPENSE RATIO CAPS
Class A	1.29%
Class C	2.04
Class R6	0.86
Administrator Class	1.19
Institutional Class	0.94

#### Distribution fee

The Trust has adopted a distribution plan for Class C shares pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. A distribution fee is charged to Class C shares and paid to Allspring Funds Distributor, LLC ("Allspring Funds Distributor"), the principal underwriter, an affiliate of Allspring Funds Management, at an annual rate up to 0.75% of the average daily net assets of Class C shares.

In addition, Allspring Funds Distributor is entitled to receive the front-end sales charge from the purchase of Class A shares and a contingent deferred sales charge on the redemption of certain Class A shares. Allspring Funds Distributor is also entitled to receive the contingent deferred sales charges from redemptions of Class C shares. For the year ended May 31, 2023, Allspring Funds Distributor received \$1,035 from the sale of Class A shares. No contingent deferred sales charges were incurred by Class A and Class C shares for the year ended May 31, 2023.

## Shareholder servicing fees

The Trust has entered into contracts with one or more shareholder servicing agents, whereby Class A, Class C, and Administrator Class are charged a fee at an annual rate up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of each respective class. A portion of these total shareholder servicing fees were paid to affiliates of the Fund.

#### 5. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing substantially all of its assets in the affiliated Master Portfolio. Purchases and sales have been calculated by multiplying the Fund's ownership percentage of the affiliated Master Portfolio at the end of the period by the affiliated Master Portfolio's purchases and sales. Purchases and sales of investments, excluding U.S. government obligations (if any) and short-term securities, for the year ended May 31, 2023 were \$259,301,554 and \$348,989,594, respectively.

#### 6. BANK BORROWINGS

The Trust (excluding the money market funds), Allspring Master Trust and Allspring Variable Trust are parties to a \$350,000,000 revolving credit agreement whereby the Fund is permitted to use bank borrowings for temporary or emergency purposes, such as to fund shareholder redemption requests. Interest under the credit agreement is charged to the Fund based on borrowing rate equal to the higher of the Federal Funds rate or the overnight bank funding rate in effect on that day plus a spread. In addition, an annual commitment fee based on the unused balance is allocated to each participating fund.

For the year ended May 31, 2023, there were no borrowings by the Fund under the agreement.

## 7. DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS

The tax character of distributions paid during the years ended May 31, 2023 and May 31, 2022 were as follows:

	YEAR END		
	2023	2022	
Ordinary income Long-term capital gain	\$ 0 57,418,424	\$ 41,089,472 360,425,433	
As of May 31, 2023, the components of distributa	ble earnings on a tax basis were as follows:		
UNDISTRIBUTED LONG-TERM GAIN	UNREALIZED GAINS	LATE-YEAR ORDINARY LOSSES DEFERRED	
\$19,020,536	\$103,664,674	\$(950,497)	

#### 8. INDEMNIFICATION

Under the Fund's organizational documents, the officers and Trustees have been granted certain indemnification rights against certain liabilities that may arise out of performance of their duties to the Fund. The Fund has entered into a separate agreement with each Trustee that converts indemnification rights currently existing under the Fund's organizational documents into contractual rights that cannot be changed in the future without the consent of the Trustee. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain a variety of indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is dependent on future claims that may be made against the Fund and, therefore, cannot be estimated.

## To the Shareholders of the Fund and Board of Trustees Allspring Funds Trust:

#### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Allspring Small Company Growth Fund (the Fund), one of the funds constituting Allspring Funds Trust, including the portfolio of investments, as of May 31, 2023, the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the related notes (collectively, the financial statements) and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended. In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as of May 31, 2023, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

#### Basis for Opinion

These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and financial highlights, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights. Such procedures also included confirmation of interests held as of May 31, 2023, by correspondence with the transfer agent of the master portfolio. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements and financial highlights. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.



We have not been able to determine the specific year that we began serving as the auditor of one or more Allspring Funds investment companies; however, we are aware that we have served as the auditor of one or more Allspring Funds investment companies since at least 1955.

Boston, Massachusetts July 27, 2023

# Portfolio of investments

	SHARES	VALUE
Common stocks: 96.66%		
Communication services: 0.41% Entertainment: 0.41% Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. Class B †	303,834	\$ 2,944,151
Consumer discretionary: 8.66% Automobile components: 0.54% Fox Factory Holding Corp. †	43,818	3,896,296
Broadline retail: 0.79% Ollie's Bargain Outlet Holdings, Inc. †	103,239	5,690,534
Hotels, restaurants & leisure: 2.51%  Bowlero Corp. † International Game Technology PLC Papa John's International, Inc.	194,783 423,538 76,582	2,232,213 10,389,387 5,369,164 17,990,764
Household durables: 1.08% Skyline Champion Corp. † Sonos, Inc. †	103,362 119,588	6,008,433 1,737,614 <b>7,746,047</b>
Leisure products: 0.63% Topgolf Callaway Brands Corp. †	262,116	4,474,320
Specialty retail: 3.11%  Academy Sports & Outdoors, Inc.  Boot Barn Holdings, Inc. †  Burlington Stores, Inc. †  Five Below, Inc. †  Monro, Inc.	116,120 58,228 24,980 35,822 66,873	5,685,235 3,937,377 3,758,491 6,180,012 2,766,536 <b>22,327,651</b>
Consumer staples: 4.69% Consumer staples distribution & retail: 1.11% Performance Food Group Co. †	144,391	7,983,378
Food products: 1.97% Lamb Weston Holdings, Inc. TreeHouse Foods, Inc. †	73,337 125,881	8,155,075 5,960,465 <b>14,115,540</b>
Personal care products: 1.61% elf Beauty, Inc. †	111,207	11,567,752
Energy: 1.92% Energy equipment & services: 0.77% ChampionX Corp.	219,102	5,534,517

	SHARES	VALUE
Oil, gas & consumable fuels: 1.15%		
Callon Petroleum Co. †	120,498	\$ 3,690,853
Ranger Oil Corp. Class A	124,265	4,566,739
		8,257,592
Financials: 9.19%		
Banks: 0.81%		
Triumph Financial, Inc. †	111,966	5,813,274
Capital markets: 3.03%		
Evercore, Inc. Class A	54,811	5,916,848
Focus Financial Partners, Inc. Class A †	84,435	4,398,219
Stifel Financial Corp.	140,992	7,834,925
Virtu Financial, Inc. Class A	201,849	3,550,524
		21,700,516
Financial services: 1.78%		
Essent Group Ltd.	163,586	7,225,594
WEX, Inc. †	33,597	5,572,062
	33,337	12,797,656
		12,797,030
Insurance: 3.57%	070 440	7.550.705
BRP Group, Inc. Class A †	376,410	7,550,785
Palomar Holdings, Inc. †	92,949	5,080,592
Ryan Specialty Holdings, Inc. †	211,219	8,615,623
Skyward Specialty Insurance Group, Inc. †	186,103	4,393,892
		25,640,892
Health care: 23.31%		
Biotechnology: 5.87%	450.000	F 444 007
Amicus Therapeutics, Inc. †	453,926	5,111,207
Avid Bioservices, Inc. †	232,070	3,585,482
Blueprint Medicines Corp. †	82,757	4,677,426
Cytokinetics, Inc. †	105,274	3,967,777
Insmed, Inc. †	208,850	3,974,415
Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. †	86,081	3,520,713
Myriad Genetics, Inc. †	12,773	281,772
Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc. †	53,861	4,822,175
Sarepta Therapeutics, Inc. †	20,825	2,573,970
SpringWorks Therapeutics, Inc. †	97,790	2,677,490
Syndax Pharmaceuticals, Inc. †	134,602	2,688,002
Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical, Inc. †	85,710	4,230,646
		42,111,075
Health care equipment & supplies: 8.05%	400 5	0.570.745
Axonics, Inc. †	135,828	6,572,717
CONMED Corp.	67,474	8,184,596
	97,114	5,537,440
Glaukos Corp. †		
Glaukos Corp. † Haemonetics Corp. † iRhythm Technologies, Inc. †	74,297 38,136	6,285,526 4,357,801

	SHARES	VALUE
Health care equipment & supplies (continued)		
Novocure Ltd. †	23,174	\$ 1,664,125
Omnicell, Inc. †	89,583	6,577,184
Silk Road Medical, Inc. †	207,698	6,270,403
Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc. †	109,905	2,856,431
TransMedics Group, Inc. †	70,601	5,129,869
Treace Medical Concepts, Inc. †	161,262	4,289,569
		57,725,661
Health care providers & services: 2.22%		
HealthEquity, Inc. †	99,179	5,435,009
Privia Health Group, Inc. †	142,343	3,551,458
U.S. Physical Therapy, Inc.	68,190	6,965,609
		15,952,076
Health care technology: 2.08%		
Evolent Health, Inc. Class A †	180,942	5,272,650
Phreesia, Inc. †	181,505	5,448,780
Veradigm, Inc. †	357,475	4,211,055
		14,932,485
Life sciences tools & services: 4.18%		
Adaptive Biotechnologies Corp. †	267,808	1,863,944
Avantor, Inc. †	422,077	8,416,215
Azenta, Inc. †	69,092	2,988,229
BioLife Solutions, Inc. †	210,988	4,926,570
ICON PLC †	55,431	11,808,466
		30,003,424
Pharmaceuticals: 0.91%		
Axsome Therapeutics, Inc. †	61,632	4,547,209
Ventyx Biosciences, Inc. †	57,884	1,995,261
		6,542,470
Industrials: 23.05%		
Aerospace & defense: 1.24%		
Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc. †	321,075	4,218,926
Mercury Systems, Inc. †	115,380	4,683,274
		8,902,200
Air freight & logistics: 0.71%		
GXO Logistics, Inc. †	91,593	5,121,881
Building products: 3.26%		0.05
Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.	68,825	6,660,195
AZEK Co., Inc. †	197,151	4,583,761
Masonite International Corp. †	85,370	7,518,536
Zurn Elkay Water Solutions Corp. Class C	205,910	4,635,034
		23,397,526

	SHARES	VALUE
Commercial services & supplies: 0.90%		
Openlane, Inc. †	252,499	\$ 3,792,535
RB Global, Inc.	50,430	2,626,394
		6,418,929
Construction & engineering: 1.73%		
Dycom Industries, Inc. †	64,675	6,559,985
MYR Group, Inc. †	45,745	5,832,488
		12,392,473
Electrical equipment: 1.46%		
Atkore, Inc. †	51,262	5,985,863
Vicor Corp. †	81,528	4,512,575
		10,498,438
Ground transportation: 1.65%		
Knight-Swift Transportation Holdings, Inc.	110,599	6,081,839
Schneider National, Inc. Class B	221,279	5,735,552
		11,817,391
Machinery: 2.71%		
Chart Industries, Inc. †	51,161	5,613,897
SPX Technologies, Inc. †	109,442	8,356,991
Wabash National Corp.	234,222	5,492,506
		19,463,394
Professional services: 7.82%		
ASGN, Inc. †	108,792	7,118,260
Clarivate PLC †	421,304	3,286,171
FTI Consulting, Inc. †	50,262	9,449,759
ICF International, Inc.	78,083	8,744,515
KBR, Inc.	177,491	10,475,519
SS&C Technologies Holdings, Inc.	175,924 419,227	9,668,783 7,390,972
Verra Mobility Corp. †	419,227	<b>56,133,979</b>
		30,100,373
Trading companies & distributors: 1.57% Boise Cascade Co.	72,833	5,230,866
Core & Main, Inc. Class A †	225,050	6,017,837
		11,248,703
Information technology: 21.89%		
Communications equipment: 2.14%		
Ciena Corp. †	208,236	9,732,951
Lumentum Holdings, Inc. †	105,830	5,598,407
		15,331,358
Electronic equipment, instruments & components: 2.06%		
Itron, Inc. †	80,466	5,449,962

	SHARES	VALUE
Electronic equipment, instruments & components (continued)		
PAR Technology Corp. †	109,625	\$ 3,789,736
Rogers Corp. †	35,134	5,532,551
		14,772,249
Semiconductors & semiconductor equipment: 2.56%		
Onto Innovation, Inc. †	51,386	5,516,287
Silicon Motion Technology Corp. ADR	72,626	4,447,616
Synaptics, Inc. †	34,224	2,944,633
Teradyne, Inc.	54,791	5,489,511
		18,398,047
Software: 14.51%		
Bills Holdings, Inc. †	38,509	3,988,762
Black Knight, Inc. †	132,341	7,646,663
Box, Inc. Class A †	350,827	9,882,797
Confluent, Inc. Class A †	194,260	6,165,812
CyberArk Software Ltd. †	55,130	8,530,265
DoubleVerify Holdings, Inc. †	171,265	5,972,011
HashiCorp, Inc. Class A †	155,825	5,351,030
Jamf Holding Corp. †	296,031	5,441,050
JFrog Ltd. †	261,369	6,366,949
LiveRamp Holdings, Inc. †	161,368	3,927,697
Nutanix, Inc. Class A †	231,409	6,854,335
PagerDuty, Inc. †	248,154	6,752,270
PTC, Inc. †	96,568	12,978,739
Sprout Social, Inc. Class A †	114,844	4,973,894
Varonis Systems, Inc. †	182,122	4,786,166
Zuora, Inc. Class A †	416,271	4,491,564
		104,110,004
Technology hardware, storage & peripherals: 0.62%		
Pure Storage, Inc. Class A †	156,108	4,494,349
Materials: 2.76%		
Chemicals: 2.16%		
Element Solutions, Inc.	547,875	9,823,399
Orion Engineered Carbons SA	245,908	5,702,606
		15,526,005
Metals & mining: 0.60%		
Steel Dynamics, Inc.	46,685	4,290,352
Real estate: 0.78%		
Hotel & resort REITs: 0.78%		
Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc.	60,761	5,573,607
Total common stocks (Cost \$523,369,035)		693,638,956

	YI	ELD	SHARES	VALUE
Short-term investments: 3.18%				
Investment companies: 3.18% Allspring Government Money Market Fund Select Class ♠∞	5	.01%	22,796,664	\$ 22,796,664
Total short-term investments (Cost \$22,796,664)				22,796,664
Total investments in securities (Cost \$546,165,699)	99.84%			716,435,620
Other assets and liabilities, net	0.16			1,120,926
Total net assets	<u>100.00</u> %			\$717,556,546

<sup>†</sup> Non-income-earning security

#### Abbreviations:

ADR American depositary receipt REIT Real estate investment trust

#### Investments in affiliates

An affiliated investment is an investment in which the Portfolio owns at least 5% of the outstanding voting shares of the issuer or as a result of other relationships, such as the Portfolio and the issuer having the same adviser or investment manager. Transactions with issuers that were affiliates of the Portfolio at the end of the period were as follows:

	VALUE, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	PURCHASES	SALES PROCEEDS	NET REALIZED GAINS (LOSSES)	NET CHANGE IN UNREALIZED GAINS (LOSSES)	VALUE, END OF PERIOD	SHARES, END OF PERIOD	INCOME FROM AFFILIATED SECURITIES
Short-term investments Allspring Government Money Market Fund Select Class	\$32,660,804	\$232,852,801	\$(242,716,941)	\$ 0	\$0	\$22,796,664	22,796,664	\$ 706,851
Investments in affiliates no longer held at end of period  Securities Lending Cash Investments LLC	2,594,900	81,499,530	(84,094,991)	561	0	0	0	115,044 <sup>1</sup>
				\$561	\$0	\$22,796,664		\$ 821,895

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}$  Amount shown represents income before fees and rebates.

The issuer of the security is an affiliated person of the Portfolio as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940.

 $<sup>\</sup>infty$  The rate represents the 7-day annualized yield at period end.

# Financial statements

# Statement of assets and liabilities

#### Assets

Investments in unaffiliated securities, at value (cost \$523,369,035)	\$693,638,956
Investments in affiliated securities, at value (cost \$22,796,664)	22,796,664
Receivable for investments sold	2,771,892
Receivable for dividends	759,243
Prepaid expenses and other assets	17,346
Total assets	719,984,101
Liabilities	
Payable for investments purchased	1,895,032
Advisory fee payable	483,645
Trustees' fees and expenses payable	504
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	48,374
Total liabilities	2,427,555
Total net assets	\$717.556.546

# Statement of operations

Investment income

Other fees and expenses

**Total expenses** Net investment loss

Dividends (net of foreign withholdings taxes of \$6,787)	\$ 3,008,361
Income from affiliated securities	726,054
Interest	408
Total investment income	3,734,823
Expenses	
Advisory fee	5,792,866
Custody and accounting fees	45,908
Professional fees	61,872
Interest holder report expenses	16,477
Trustees' fees and expenses	22,389

Realized and unrealized	gaine (	loccoc	on invoctments
Realized and unitealized	gains	108868	on investments

Net decrease in net assets resulting from operations

Net realized gains on	
Unaffiliated securities	29,813,537
Affiliated securities	561
Net realized gains on investments	29,814,098
Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments	(30,986,997)
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments	(1.172.899)

38,269

5,977,781

(2,242,958)

\$ (3,415,857)

# Statement of changes in net assets

	YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023	YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2022	
Operations			
Net investment loss	\$ (2,242,958)	\$ (4,263,313)	
Net realized gains on investments	29,814,098	238,329,906	
Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments	(30,986,997)	(388,267,734)	
Net decrease in net assets resulting from operations	(3,415,857)	(154,201,141)	
Capital transactions			
Transactions in investors' beneficial interests			
Contributions	99,599,958	222,703,095	
Withdrawals	(207,887,653)	(617,532,776)	
Net decrease in net assets resulting from capital transactions	(108,287,695)	(394,829,681)	
Total decrease in net assets	(111,703,552)	(549,030,822)	
Net assets			
Beginning of period	829,260,098	1,378,290,920	
End of period	\$ 717,556,546	\$ 829,260,098	

# Financial highlights

	YEAR ENDED MAY 31				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total return	0.24%	(16.28)%	54.64%	4.08%	(5.64)%
Ratios to average net assets (annualized)					
Gross expenses	0.82%	0.81%	0.79%	0.78%	0.78%
Net expenses <sup>1</sup>	0.82%	0.81%	0.79%	0.78%	0.78%
Net investment loss	(0.31)%	(0.42)%	(0.34)%	(0.16)%	(0.09)%
Supplemental data					
Portfolio turnover rate	37%	61%	44%	41%	54%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net expense ratios reflect voluntary waivers, if any.

## Notes to financial statements

### 1. ORGANIZATION

Allspring Master Trust (the "Trust"), a Delaware statutory trust organized on March 10, 1999, is an open-end management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). As an investment company, the Trust follows the accounting and reporting guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946, Financial Services - Investment Companies. These financial statements report on the Allspring Small Company Growth Portfolio (the "Portfolio") which is a diversified series of the Trust.

Interests in the Portfolio are available solely through private placement transactions that do not involve any "public offering" within the meaning of Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933.

### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistently followed in the preparation of the financial statements of the Portfolio, are in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Securities valuation

All investments are valued each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (generally 4 p.m. Eastern Time), although the Portfolio may deviate from this calculation time under unusual or unexpected circumstances.

Equity securities that are listed on a foreign or domestic exchange or market are valued at the official closing price or, if none, the last sales price.

Investments in registered open-end investment companies (other than those listed on a foreign or domestic exchange or market) are valued at net asset value.

Investments which are not valued using any of the methods discussed above are valued at their fair value, as determined in good faith by Allspring Funds Management, LLC ("Allspring Funds Management"), which was named the valuation designee by the Board of Trustees. As the valuation designee, Allspring Funds Management is responsible for day-to-day valuation activities for the Allspring Funds. In connection with these responsibilities, Allspring Funds Management has established a Valuation Committee and has delegated to it the authority to take any actions regarding the valuation of portfolio securities that the Valuation Committee deems necessary or appropriate, including determining the fair value of portfolio securities. On a quarterly basis, the Board of Trustees receives reports of valuation actions taken by the Valuation Committee. On at least an annual basis, the Board of Trustees receives an assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of Allspring Funds Management's process for determining the fair value of the portfolio of investments.

### Securities lending

During the period, the Portfolio participated in a program to lend its securities from time to time in order to earn additional income in the form of fees or interest on securities received as collateral or the investment of any cash received as collateral. When securities were on loan, the Portfolio received interest or dividends on those securities. Cash collateral received in connection with its securities lending transactions was invested in Securities Lending Cash Investments, LLC (the "Securities Lending Fund"), an affiliated non-registered investment company. Interests in the non-registered investment company that were redeemable at net asset value were fair valued normally at net asset value. Effective at the close of business on March 29, 2023, the Portfolio is no longer participating in the securities lending program and the Securities Lending Fund was liquidated. Securities Lending Fund was managed by Allspring Funds Management and was subadvised by Allspring Global Investments, LLC ("Allspring Investments"), an affiliate of Allspring Funds Management and wholly owned subsidiary of Allspring Global Investments Holdings, LLC. Allspring Funds Management received an advisory fee starting at 0.05% and declining to 0.01% as the average daily net assets of the Securities Lending Fund increased. All of the fees received by Allspring Funds Management were paid to Allspring Investments for its services as subadviser.

Income earned from investment in the Securities Lending Fund (net of fees and rebates), if any, is included in income from affiliated securities on the Statement of Operations.

## Security transactions and income recognition

Securities transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains or losses are recorded on the basis of identified cost.

Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date. Dividend income is recorded net of foreign taxes withheld where recovery of such taxes is not assured.

#### Federal and other taxes

The Portfolio is not required to pay federal income taxes on its net investment income and net capital gains as it is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. All income, gains and losses of the Portfolio are deemed to have been "passed through" to the interest holders in proportion to their holdings of the Portfolio regardless of whether income and gains have been distributed by the Portfolio.

The Portfolio's income tax returns and all financial records supporting those returns for the prior three fiscal years are subject to examination by the federal revenue authority. Management has analyzed the Portfolio's tax positions taken on federal, state, and foreign tax returns, as applicable, for all open tax years and does not believe that there are any uncertain tax positions that require recognition of a tax liability.

As of May 31, 2023, the aggregate cost of all investments for federal income tax purposes was \$568,929,833 and the unrealized gains (losses) consisted

Gross unrealized gains \$217,313,843 Gross unrealized losses (69,808,056)

Net unrealized gains \$147,505,787

### 3. FAIR VALUATION MEASUREMENTS

Fair value measurements of investments are determined within a framework that has established a fair value hierarchy based upon the various data inputs utilized in determining the value of the Portfolio's investments. The three-level hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The Portfolio's investments are classified within the fair value hierarchy based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The inputs are summarized into three broad levels as follows:

- Level 1—quoted prices in active markets for identical securities
- Level 2—other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3—significant unobservable inputs (including the Portfolio's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

The inputs or methodologies used for valuing investments in securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used in valuing the Portfolio's assets and liabilities as of May 31, 2023:

	QUOTED PRICES (LEVEL 1)	OTHER SIGNIFICANT OBSERVABLE INPUTS (LEVEL 2)	SIGNIFICANT UNOBSERVABLE INPUTS (LEVEL 3)	TOTAL
Assets				
Investments in:				
Common stocks				
Communication services	\$ 2,944,151	\$0	\$0	\$ 2,944,151
Consumer discretionary	62,125,612	0	0	62,125,612
Consumer staples	33,666,670	0	0	33,666,670
Energy	13,792,109	0	0	13,792,109
Financials	65,952,338	0	0	65,952,338
Health care	167,267,191	0	0	167,267,191
Industrials	165,394,914	0	0	165,394,914
Information technology	157,106,007	0	0	157,106,007
Materials	19,816,357	0	0	19,816,357
Real estate	5,573,607	0	0	5,573,607
Short-term investments				
Investment companies	22,796,664	0	0	22,796,664
Total assets	\$716,435,620	\$0	\$0	\$716,435,620

Additional sector, industry or geographic detail, if any, is included in the Portfolio of Investments.

For the year ended May 31, 2023, the Portfolio did not have any transfers into/out of Level 3.

## 4. TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES AND OTHER EXPENSES

### Advisory fee

The Trust has entered into an advisory contract with Allspring Funds Management, a wholly owned subsidiary of Allspring Global Investments Holdings, LLC, a holding company indirectly owned by certain private funds of GTCR LLC and Reverence Capital Partners, L.P. The adviser is responsible for implementing investment policies and guidelines and for supervising the subadviser, who is responsible for day-to-day portfolio management of the Portfolio. Pursuant to the contract, Allspring Funds Management is entitled to receive an advisory fee at the following annual rate based on the Portfolio's average daily net assets:

AVERAGE DAILY NET ASSETS	ADVISORY FEE
First \$500 million	0.800%
Next \$500 million	0.775
Next \$1 billion	0.750
Next \$1 billion	0.725
Next \$1 billion	0.700
Over \$4 billion	0.680

For the year ended May 31, 2023, the advisory fee was equivalent to an annual rate of 0.79% of the Portfolio's average daily net assets.

Allspring Funds Management has retained the services of a subadviser to provide daily portfolio management to the Portfolio. The fee for subadvisory services is borne by Allspring Funds Management. Peregrine Capital Management, LLC, which is not an affiliate of Allspring Funds Management, is the subadviser to the Portfolio and is entitled to receive a fee from Allspring Funds Management at an annual rate of 0.38% of the Portfolio's average daily net assets.

### Interfund transactions

The Portfolio may purchase or sell portfolio investment securities to certain affiliates pursuant to Rule 17a-7 under the 1940 Act and under procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees. The procedures have been designed to ensure that these interfund transactions, which do not incur broker commissions, are effected at current market prices.

### 5. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

Purchases and sales of investments, excluding U.S. government obligations (if any) and short-term securities, for the year ended May 31, 2023 were \$265,968,778 and \$358,187,796, respectively.

### 6. BANK BORROWINGS

The Trust, along with Allspring Variable Trust and Allspring Funds Trust (excluding the money market funds), are parties to a \$350,000,000 revolving credit agreement whereby the Portfolio is permitted to use bank borrowings for temporary or emergency purposes, such as to fund interest holders withdrawal requests. Interest under the credit agreement is charged to the Portfolio based on borrowing rate equal to the higher of the Federal Funds rate or the overnight bank funding rate in effect on that day plus a spread. In addition, an annual commitment fee based on the unused balance is allocated to each participating fund.

For the year ended May 31, 2023, there were no borrowings by the Portfolio under the agreement.

#### 7. INDEMNIFICATION

Under the Portfolio's organizational documents, the officers and Trustees have been granted certain indemnification rights against certain liabilities that may arise out of performance of their duties to the Portfolio. The Portfolio has entered into a separate agreement with each Trustee that converts indemnification rights currently existing under the Portfolio's organizational documents into contractual rights that cannot be changed in the future without the consent of the Trustee. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Portfolio may enter into contracts with service providers that contain a variety of indemnification clauses. The Portfolio's maximum exposure under these arrangements is dependent on future claims that may be made against the Portfolio and, therefore, cannot be estimated.

## To the Interest Holders of the Portfolio and Board of Trustees Allspring Master Trust:

#### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Allspring Small Company Growth Portfolio (the Portfolio), one of the portfolios constituting Allspring Master Trust, including the portfolio of investments, as of May 31, 2023, the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the related notes (collectively, the financial statements) and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended. In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Portfolio as of May 31, 2023, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

#### Basis for Opinion

These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Portfolio's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Portfolio in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and financial highlights, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights. Such procedures also included confirmation of securities owned as of May 31, 2023, by correspondence with the custodian, transfer agent and brokers, or by other appropriate auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements and financial highlights. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.



We have not been able to determine the specific year that we began serving as the auditor of one or more Allspring Funds investment companies; however, we are aware that we have served as the auditor of one or more Allspring Funds investment companies since at least 1955.

Boston, Massachusetts July 27, 2023

# Other information

## Tax information

Pursuant to Section 852 of the Internal Revenue Code, \$57,418,424 was designated as a 20% rate gain distribution for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2023.

# Proxy voting information

A description of the policies and procedures used to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities is available without charge, upon request, by calling 1-800-222-8222, visiting our website at allspringglobal.com, or visiting the SEC website at sec.gov. Information regarding how the proxies related to portfolio securities were voted during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available on the website at allspringglobal.com or by visiting the SEC website at sec.gov.

# Quarterly portfolio holdings information

The Fund and Portfolio file their complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year as an exhibit to their reports on Form N-PORT. Shareholders and Interest holders may view the filed Form N-PORT by visiting the SEC website at sec.gov.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS**

Each of the Trustees and Officers listed in the table below acts in identical capacities for each fund in the Allspring family of funds, which consists of 128 mutual funds comprising the Allspring Funds Trust, Allspring Variable Trust, Allspring Master Trust and four closed-end funds (collectively the "Fund Complex"). This table should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information<sup>1</sup>. The mailing address of each Trustee and Officer is 1415 Vantage Park Drive, 3rd Floor, Charlotte, NC 28203. Each Trustee and Officer serves an indefinite term, however, each Trustee serves such term until reaching the mandatory retirement age established by the Trustees.

CLIDDENT OTHER

# **Independent Trustees**

NAME AND YEAR OF BIRTH	POSITION HELD AND LENGTH OF SERVICE*	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS DURING PAST FIVE YEARS OR LONGER	CURRENT OTHER PUBLIC COMPANY OR INVESTMENT COMPANY DIRECTORSHIPS
WILLIAM R. EBSWORTH (Born 1957)	Trustee, since 2015	Retired. From 1984 to 2013, equities analyst, portfolio manager, research director and chief investment officer at Fidelity Management and Research Company in Boston, Tokyo, and Hong Kong, and retired in 2013 as Chief Investment Officer of Fidelity Strategic Advisers, Inc. where he led a team of investment professionals managing client assets. Prior thereto, Board member of Hong Kong Securities Clearing Co., Hong Kong Options Clearing Corp., the Thailand International Fund, Ltd., Fidelity Investments Life Insurance Company, and Empire Fidelity Investments Life Insurance Company. Audit Committee Chair and Investment Committee Chair of the Vincent Memorial Hospital Foundation (non-profit organization). Mr. Ebsworth is a CFA charterholder.	N/A
JANE A. FREEMAN (Born 1953)	Trustee, since 2015; Chair Liaison, since 2018	Retired. From 2012 to 2014 and 1999 to 2008, Chief Financial Officer of Scientific Learning Corporation. From 2008 to 2012, Ms. Freeman provided consulting services related to strategic business projects. Prior to 1999, Portfolio Manager at Rockefeller & Co. and Scudder, Stevens & Clark. Board member of the Harding Loevner Funds from 1996 to 2014, serving as both Lead Independent Director and chair of the Audit Committee. Board member of the Russell Exchange Traded Funds Trust from 2011 to 2012 and the chair of the Audit Committee. Ms. Freeman is also an inactive Chartered Financial Analyst.	N/A
ISAIAH HARRIS, JR. (Born 1952)	Trustee, since 2009; Audit Committee Chair, since 2019	Retired. Member of the Advisory Board of CEF of East Central Florida. Chairman of the Board of CIGNA Corporation from 2009 to 2021, and Director from 2005 to 2008. From 2003 to 2011, Director of Deluxe Corporation. Prior thereto, President and CEO of BellSouth Advertising and Publishing Corp. from 2005 to 2007, President and CEO of BellSouth Enterprises from 2004 to 2005 and President of BellSouth Consumer Services from 2000 to 2003. Emeritus member of the Iowa State University Foundation Board of Governors. Emeritus Member of the Advisory board of Iowa State University School of Business. Advisory Board Member, Palm Harbor Academy (private school). Advisory Board Member, Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Mr. Harris is a certified public accountant (inactive status).	N/A
DAVID F. LARCKER (Born 1950)	Trustee, since 2009	Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution since 2022. James Irvin Miller Professor of Accounting at the Graduate School of Business (Emeritus), Stanford University, Director of the Corporate Governance Research Initiative and Senior Faculty of The Rock Center for Corporate Governance since 2006. From 2005 to 2008, Professor of Accounting at the Graduate School of Business, Stanford University. Prior thereto, Ernst & Young Professor of Accounting at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania from 1985 to 2005.	N/A
OLIVIA S. MITCHELL (Born 1953)	Trustee, since 2006; Nominating and Governance Committee Chair, since 2018	International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans Professor since 1993, Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Director of Wharton's Pension Research Council and Boettner Center on Pensions & Retirement Research, and Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Previously taught at Cornell University from 1978 to 1993.	N/A
TIMOTHY J. PENNY (Born 1951)	Trustee, since 1996; Chair, since 2018	President and Chief Executive Officer of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, a non-profit organization, since 2007. Vice Chair of the Economic Club of Minnesota, since 2007. Co-Chair of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, since 1995. Member of the Board of Trustees of NorthStar Education Finance, Inc., a non-profit organization, from 2007-2022. Senior Fellow of the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute from 1995 to 2017.	N/A

The Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about the Trustees and is available, without charge, upon request, by call 1-800-222-8222 or by visiting the website at allspringglobal.com.

NAME AND YEAR OF BIRTH	POSITION HELD AND LENGTH OF SERVICE*	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS DURING PAST FIVE YEARS OR LONGER	CURRENT OTHER PUBLIC COMPANY OR INVESTMENT COMPANY DIRECTORSHIPS
PAMELA WHEELOCK (Born 1959)  Trustee, since 2018  Trustee, since January 2020; previously Trustee from January 2018 to July 2019		Retired. Chief Marketing Officer, Source (ETF) UK Services, Ltd, from 2015 to 2017. From 2012 to 2015, Principal of The Polisson Group, LLC, a management consulting, corporate advisory and principal investing company. Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director at Russell Investments, Global Exchange Traded Funds from 2010 to 2012. Managing Director of Barclays Global Investors from 1998 to 2010 and Global Chief Marketing Officer for iShares and Barclays Global Investors from 2000 to 2010. Trustee of the San Francisco Mechanics' Institute, a non-profit organization, from 2013 to 2015. Board member of the Russell Exchange Traded Fund Trust from 2011 to 2012. Director of Barclays Global Investors Holdings Deutschland GmbH from 2006 to 2009. Mr. Polisson is an attorney and has a retired status with the Massachusetts and District of Columbia Bar Associations.	N/A
		Retired. Executive and Senior Financial leadership positions in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. Interim President and CEO, McKnight Foundation, 2020. Interim Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Services, 2019. Chief Operating Officer, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, 2017-2019. Vice President for University Services, University of Minnesota, 2012-2016. Interim President and CEO, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, 2011-2012. Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer, Minnesota Wild, 2002-2008. Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Finance, 1999-2002. Chair of the Board of Directors of Destination Medical Center Corporation. Board member of the Minnesota Wild Foundation.	N/A

<sup>\*</sup> Length of service dates reflect the Trustee's commencement of service with the Trust's predecessor entities, where applicable.

# Officers<sup>1</sup>

NAME AND YEAR OF BIRTH	POSITION HELD AND LENGTH OF SERVICE	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS DURING PAST FIVE YEARS OR LONGER		
ANDREW OWEN	President,	President and Chief Executive Officer of Allspring Funds Management, LLC since 2017 and Head of Global Fund Governance of Allspring Global Investments since 2022. Prior thereto, co-president of Galliard Capital Management, LLC, an affiliate of Allspring Funds Management, LLC, from 2019 to 2022 and Head of Affiliated Managers, Allspring Global Investments, from 2014 to 2019 and Executive Vice President responsible for marketing, investments and product development for Allspring Funds Management, LLC, from 2009 to 2014.		
(Born 1960)	since 2017			
JEREMY DEPALMA	Treasurer,	Senior Vice President of Allspring Funds Management, LLC since 2009. Senior Vice President of Evergreen		
(Born 1974)	since 2012 (for certain funds in the Fund Complex); since 2021 (for the remaining funds in the Complex)			
CHRISTOPHER BAKER	Chief Compliance	Global Chief Compliance Officer for Allspring Global Investments since 2022. Prior thereto, Chief Compliance		
(Born 1976)	Officer, since 2022	Officer for State Street Global Advisors from 2018 to 2021. Senior Compliance Officer for the State Street divisions of Alternative Investment Solutions, Sector Solutions, and Global Marketing from 2015 to 2018. From 2010 to 2015 Vice President, Global Head of Investment and Marketing Compliance for State Street Global Advisors.		
MATTHEW PRASSE	Chief Legal Officer,	Senior Counsel of the Allspring Legal Department since 2021. Senior Counsel of the Wells Fargo Legal Department from 2018 to 2021. Previously, Counsel for Barings LLC from 2015 to 2018. Prior to joining Barings, Associate at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP from 2008 to 2015.		
(Born 1983)	since 2022; Secretary, since 2021			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For those Officers with tenures at Allspring Global Investments and/or Allspring Funds Management, LLC that began prior to 2021, such tenures include years of service during which these businesses/entities were known as Wells Fargo Asset Management and Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC, respectively.

# Board consideration of investment management, advisory, and sub-advisory agreements:

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act"), the Board of Trustees (each, a "Board" and collectively, the "Boards") of each of Allspring Funds Trust ("Funds Trust") and Allspring Master Trust ("Master Trust", and collectively, the "Trusts") must determine annually whether to approve the continuation of the Trusts' investment management, advisory, and sub-advisory agreements, as applicable. In this regard, at a Board meeting held on May 15-17, 2023 (the "Meeting"), the Funds Trust Board, all the members of which have no direct or indirect interest in the investment management agreement and are not "interested persons" of the Trusts, as defined in the 1940 Act (the "Independent Trustees"), reviewed and approved for the Allspring Small Company Growth Fund, a portfolio of Funds Trust (the "Feeder Fund"), an investment management agreement (the "Feeder Fund Management Agreement") with Allspring Funds Management, LLC ("Allspring Funds Management").

At the Meeting, the Master Trust Board, all the members of which have no direct or indirect interest in the investment advisory and sub-advisory agreements and are Independent Trustees, reviewed and approved: (i) an investment advisory agreement (the "Master Portfolio Advisory Agreement") with Allspring Funds Management for the Allspring Small Company Growth Portfolio, a portfolio of Master Trust (the "Master Portfolio"); and (ii) an investment sub-advisory agreement (the "Sub-Advisory Agreement") with Peregrine Capital Management, LLC (the "Sub-Advisor") for the Master Portfolio.

The Feeder Fund and the Master Portfolio are collectively referred to as the "Funds." The Feeder Fund Management Agreement, the Master Portfolio Advisory Agreement, and the Sub-Advisory Agreement are collectively referred to as the "Advisory Agreements."

The Feeder Fund is a feeder fund that invest substantially all of its assets in the Master Portfolio. The Master Portfolio has a substantially similar investment objective and substantially similar investment strategies to the Feeder Fund. Information provided to the Boards regarding the Feeder Fund is also applicable to the Master Portfolio, as relevant.

At the Meeting, the Boards considered the factors and reached the conclusions described below relating to the selection of Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser and the approval of the Advisory Agreements. Prior to the Meeting, including at meeting of the Boards held in April 2023, and at the Meeting, the Trustees conferred extensively among themselves and with representatives of Allspring Funds Management about these matters. The Boards have adopted a team-based approach, with each team consisting of a sub-set of Trustees, to assist the full Boards in the discharge of their duties in reviewing investment performance and other matters throughout the year. The Independent Trustees were assisted in their evaluation of the Advisory Agreements by independent legal counsel, from whom they received separate legal advice and with whom they met separately.

The Boards noted that they initially approved the Advisory Agreements at a meeting of the Boards held in May 2021, all for a two-year term, in advance of the sale of Wells Fargo Asset Management to Allspring Global Investments Holdings, LLC, 1 a holding company indirectly owned by certain private funds of GTCR LLC and Reverence Capital Partners, L.P. (the "Transaction"). The Trustees also noted that, while they did not specifically consider the continuation of the Advisory Agreements in 2022 as a result of the two-year term that was approved in 2021, the Trustees received and considered certain information at a meeting of the Boards held in April 2022 that was applicable to the Advisory Agreements, including an overview and financial review of the Allspring Global Investments business, information regarding certain ancillary agreements that were approved by the Boards at the April 2022 Board meeting, and comparative data regarding Fund fees and expenses.

In providing information to the Boards, Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser were guided by a detailed set of requests for information submitted to them by independent legal counsel on behalf of the Independent Trustees at the start of the Boards' annual contract renewal process earlier in 2023. In considering and approving the Advisory Agreements, the Trustees considered the information they believed relevant, including but not limited to the information discussed below. The Boards considered not only the specific information presented in connection with the Meeting, but also the knowledge gained over time through interactions with Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser about various topics. In this regard, the Boards reviewed reports of Allspring Funds Management at each of their quarterly meetings, which included, among other things, portfolio reviews and investment performance reports. In addition, the Boards and the teams mentioned above confer with portfolio managers at various times throughout the year. The Boards did not identify any particular information or consideration that was all-important or controlling, and each individual Trustee may have attributed different weights to various factors.

After its deliberations, the Funds Trust Board unanimously determined that the compensation payable to Allspring Funds Management was reasonable, and approved the continuation of the Feeder Fund Management Agreement for a one-year term. Additionally, after its deliberations, the Master Trust Board unanimously determined that the compensation payable to Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser was reasonable, and approved the continuation of the Master Portfolio Advisory Agreement and the Sub-Advisory Agreement, each for a one-year term. The Boards considered the approval of the Advisory Agreements for the Funds as part of their consideration of agreements for funds across the complex, but their approvals were made on a fund-by-fund basis. The following summarizes a number of important, but not necessarily all, factors considered by the Boards in support of their approvals.

The trade name for the asset management firm that includes Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser is "Allspring Global Investments."

## Nature, Extent, and Quality of Services

The Boards received and considered various information regarding the nature, extent, and quality of services provided to the Feeder Fund and the Master Portfolio, as applicable, by Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser under the Advisory Agreements. This information included a description of the investment advisory services and Fund-level administrative services covered by the Feeder Fund Management Agreement, as well as, among other things, a summary of the background and experience of senior management of Allspring Global Investments, of which Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser are a part, and a summary of investments made in the Allspring Global Investments business. The Boards also considered information about retention arrangements with respect to key personnel of Allspring Global Investments that were put in place in connection with the Transaction. The Boards took into account information about the services that continue to be provided by Wells Fargo & Co. and/or its affiliates ("Wells Fargo") since the Transaction under a transition services agreement and the anticipated timeline for exiting the transition services agreement. In addition, the Boards received and considered information about the full range of services provided to the Fund and the Master Portfolio by Allspring Funds Management and

The Boards considered the qualifications, background, tenure, and responsibilities of each of the portfolio managers primarily responsible for the dayto-day portfolio management of the Master Portfolio. The Boards evaluated the ability of Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser to attract and retain qualified investment professionals, including research, advisory, and supervisory personnel.

The Boards further considered the compliance programs and compliance records of Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser. The Boards received and considered information about Allspring Global Investments' risk management functions, which included information about Allspring Funds Management's and the Sub-Adviser's business continuity plans, their approaches to data privacy and cybersecurity, Allspring Funds Management's role as administrator of the Funds' liquidity risk management programs. The Boards also received and considered information about Allspring Funds Management's intermediary and vendor oversight program.

## Fund Investment Performance and Expenses

The Boards considered the investment performance results for each of the Funds over various time periods ended December 31, 2022. The Boards considered these results in comparison to the investment performance of funds in a universe that was determined by Broadridge Inc. ("Broadridge") to be similar to the Feeder Fund (the "Universe"), and in comparison to the Feeder Fund's benchmark index and to other comparative data. Broadridge is an independent provider of investment company data. The Boards received a description of the methodology used by Broadridge to select the mutual funds in the performance Universe. The Funds Trust Board noted that the investment performance of the Feeder Fund (Administrator Class) was higher than the average investment performance of its Universe for all periods under review. The Funds Trust Board also noted that the investment performance of the Feeder Fund was higher than its benchmark index, the Russell 2000® Growth Index, for all periods under review.

The Master Trust Board took note of the investment performance of the Master Portfolio in the context of reviewing the investment performance of the Feeder Fund.

The Funds Trust Board also received and considered information regarding the Feeder Fund's net operating expense ratios, which include fees and expenses of the Master Portfolio, and their various components, including actual management fees assessed at the Feeder Fund and Master Portfolio levels, custodian and other non-management fees, and Rule 12b-1 and non-Rule 12b-1 shareholder service fees. The Funds Trust Board considered these ratios in comparison to the median ratios of funds in class-specific expense groups that were determined by Broadridge to be similar to the Feeder Fund (the "Groups"). The Funds Trust Board received a description of the methodology used by Broadridge to select the mutual funds in the expense Groups and an explanation of how funds comprising expense groups and their expense ratios may vary from year-to-year. Based on the Broadridge reports, the Funds Trust Board noted that the net operating expense ratios of the Feeder Fund were lower than, equal to or in range of the median net operating expense ratios of the expense Groups for all share classes. The Funds Trust Board noted that Allspring Funds Management had agreed to reduce the net operating expense caps for the Feeder Fund's Class A shares.

With respect to the Master Portfolio, the Master Trust Board reviewed the fee rates that are payable to Allspring Funds Management for investment advisory services (as discussed below), which are the only fees charged at the Master Portfolio level, relative to a corresponding expense Group.

The Boards took into account the Funds' investment performance and expense information provided to them among the factors considered in deciding to re-approve the Advisory Agreements.

## Investment Management, Advisory, and Sub-Advisory Fee Rates

The Funds Trust Board noted that Allspring Funds Management receives no advisory fees from the Feeder Fund as long as the Feeder Fund continues to invest all (or substantially all) of its assets in a single master portfolio. If the Feeder Fund were to change its investment structure so that it began investing in two or more master portfolios (a fund-of-funds), Allspring Funds Management would be entitled to receive an annual fee of 0.25% of the Feeder Fund's average daily net assets for providing investment advisory services to the Feeder Fund, including allocating the Feeder Fund's assets to the Master Portfolio.

The Funds Trust Board reviewed and considered the contractual fee rates that are payable by the Feeder Fund to Allspring Funds Management under the Feeder Fund Management Agreement for management services (other than investment advisory services), as well as the contractual fee rates payable by the Feeder Fund to Allspring Funds Management for class-level administrative services under a Class-Level Administration Agreement, which include, among other things, class-level transfer agency and sub-transfer agency costs (collectively, the "Management Rates").

The Master Trust Board reviewed and considered the contractual investment advisory fee rate that is payable by the Master Portfolio to Allspring Funds Management for investment advisory services under the Master Portfolio Advisory Agreement (the "Advisory Agreement Rate"). The Master Trust Board also reviewed and considered the contractual investment sub-advisory fee rate that is payable by Allspring Funds Management to the Sub-Adviser for investment sub-advisory services (the "Sub-Advisory Agreement Rate").

Among other information reviewed by the Funds Trust Board was a comparison of the Feeder Fund's Management Rate, which, for this purpose, includes the advisory fees paid at the Master Portfolio level, with the average contractual investment management fee rates of funds in the expense Groups at a common asset level as well as transfer agency costs of the funds in the expense Groups. The Funds Trust Board noted that the Management Rates of the Feeder Fund were in range of the sum of these average rates for the Feeder Fund's expense Groups for all share classes.

The Master Trust Board reviewed a comparison of the Advisory Agreement Rate of the Master Portfolio with those of other funds in the Master Portfolio's expense Group at a common asset level. The Master Trust Board noted that the Advisory Agreement Rate of the Master Portfolio was lower than the median rate for the Master Portfolio's expense Group.

The Master Trust Board also received and considered information about the portions of the total management fees that were retained by Allspring Funds Management after payment of the fees to the Sub-Advisor for sub-advisory services. In assessing the reasonableness of these amounts, the Master Trust Board received and evaluated information about the nature and extent of responsibilities retained and risks assumed by Allspring Funds Management and not delegated to or assumed by the Sub-Adviser, and about Allspring Funds Management's on-going oversight services.

The Boards also received and considered information about the nature and extent of services offered and fee rates charged by Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser to other types of clients with investment strategies similar to those of the Funds. In this regard, the Boards received information about the significantly greater scope of services, and compliance, reporting and other legal burdens and risks of managing proprietary mutual funds compared with those associated with managing assets of other types of clients, including third-party sub-advised fund clients and nonmutual fund clients such as institutional separate accounts.

Based on its consideration of the factors and information it deemed relevant, including those described here, the Funds Trust Board determined that the compensation payable to Allspring Funds Management under the Feeder Fund Management Agreement was reasonable, and the Master Trust Board determined that the compensation payable to Allspring Funds Management under the Master Portfolio Advisory Agreement and to the Sub-Adviser under the Sub-Advisory Agreement was reasonable.

## **Profitability**

The Boards received and considered information concerning the profitability of Allspring Funds Management, as well as the profitability of Allspring Global Investments, from providing services to the fund complex as a whole.

Allspring Funds Management reported on the methodologies and estimates used in calculating profitability, including a description of the methodology used to allocate certain expenses and differences in how Allspring Global Investments calculates its pre-tax profit metric versus the methodology used when Allspring Funds Management was part of Wells Fargo. It was noted that the impact of such differences had only minor impact on the financial results presented. Among other things, the Boards noted that the levels of profitability reported on a fund-by-fund basis varied widely, depending on factors such as the size, type, and age of fund.

Based on their review, the Boards did not deem the profits reported by Allspring Funds Management or Allspring Global Investments from services provided to the Funds to be at a level that would prevent the Boards from approving the continuation of the Advisory Agreements.

### Economies of Scale

The Boards received and considered information about the potential for Allspring Funds Management to experience economies of scale in the provision of management services to the Funds, the difficulties of calculating economies of scale at an individual fund level, and the extent to which potential scale benefits are shared with shareholders of the Funds. The Boards noted the existence of breakpoints in the Master Portfolio's advisory fee structure and the Feeder Fund's management fee structure, which operate generally to reduce the Funds' expense ratios as the Funds grow in size, and the size of the Master Portfolio and the Feeder Fund, respectively, in relation to such breakpoints. The Boards considered that, in addition to advisory fee and management fee breakpoints, Allspring Funds Management shares potential economies of scale from its management business in a variety of ways, including through fee waiver and expense reimbursement arrangements, competitive management fee rates set at the outset without regard to breakpoints, and investments in the business intended to enhance services available to shareholders.

The Boards concluded that Allspring Funds Management's arrangements with respect to each Fund, including contractual breakpoints, constituted a reasonable approach to sharing potential economies of scale with the Funds and their shareholders.

## Other Benefits to Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser

The Boards received and considered information regarding potential "fall-out" or ancillary benefits received by Allspring Funds Management, the Sub-Adviser, and their affiliates as a result of their relationships with the Funds. Ancillary benefits could include, among others, benefits directly attributable to other relationships with the Funds and benefits potentially derived from an increase in Allspring Funds Management's and the Sub-Adviser's business as a result of their relationships with the Funds. The Board noted that Allspring Funds Distributor, LLC, an affiliate of Allspring Funds Management, receives distribution-related fees in respect of shares sold or held through it.

The Boards also reviewed information about soft dollar credits earned and utilized by the Sub-Adviser and fees earned in the past by Allspring Funds Management and its affiliate from managing a private investment vehicle for the fund complex's securities lending collateral.

Based on their consideration of the factors and information they deemed relevant, including those described here, the Boards did not find that any ancillary benefits received by Allspring Funds Management, the Sub-Adviser, and their affiliates were unreasonable.

### Conclusion

At the Meeting, after considering the above-described factors and based on its deliberations and its evaluation of the information described above, the Funds Trust Board unanimously determined that the compensation payable to Allspring Funds Management was reasonable, and approved the continuation of the Feeder Fund Management Agreement for a one-year term. Additionally, after considering the above-described factors and based on its deliberations and its evaluation of the information described above, the Master Trust Board unanimously determined that the compensation payable to Allspring Funds Management and the Sub-Adviser was reasonable, and approved the continuation of the Master Portfolio Advisory Agreement and the Sub-Advisory Agreement, each for a one-year term.

# Liquidity risk management program

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Liquidity Rule"), Allspring Funds Trust ("Funds Trust") has adopted and implemented a liquidity risk management program (the "Program") on behalf of each of its series (other than the series that operate as money market funds), including the Fund, and Allspring Master Trust ("Master Trust" and together with Funds Trust, the "Trusts") has adopted and implemented the Program on behalf of each of its series, including the Portfolio, which is reasonably designed to assess and manage the Fund's and the Portfolio's liquidity risk. "Liquidity risk" is defined under the Liquidity Rule as the risk that the Fund or Portfolio is unable to meet redemption requests without significantly diluting remaining investors' interests in the Fund or Portfolio. The Trusts' Boards of Trustees (the "Boards") previously approved the designation of Allspring Funds Management, LLC ("Allspring Funds Management"), the Fund's investment manager and the Portfolio's investment adviser, to administer the Program, and Allspring Funds Management has established a Liquidity Risk Management Council (the "Council") composed of personnel from multiple departments within Allspring Funds Management and its affiliates to assist Allspring Funds Management in the administration of the Program.

The Program is comprised of various components designed to support the assessment and/or management of liquidity risk, including: (1) the periodic assessment (no less frequently than annually) of certain factors that influence the Fund's and the Portfolio's liquidity risk; (2) the periodic classification (no less frequently than monthly) of the Fund's and the Portfolio's investments into one of four liquidity categories that reflect an estimate of their liquidity under current market conditions; (3) a 15% limit on the acquisition of "illiquid investments" (as defined under the Liquidity Rule); (4) to the extent the Fund or the Portfolio does not invest primarily in "highly liquid investments" (as defined under the Liquidity Rule), the determination of a minimum percentage of the Fund's or Portfolio's assets that generally will be invested in highly liquid investments (an "HLIM"); (5) if the Fund or the Portfolio has established an HLIM, the periodic review (no less frequently than annually) of the HLIM and the adoption of policies and procedures for responding to a shortfall of the Fund's or the Portfolio's "highly liquid investments" below its HLIM; and (6) periodic reporting to the Boards.

At a meeting of the Boards held on May 16-17, 2023, the Boards received and reviewed a written report (the "Report") from Allspring Funds Management that, among other things, addressed the operation of the Program and assessed its adequacy and effectiveness for the period from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 (the "Reporting Period"). The Report noted significant liquidity events impacting the Funds and Portfolios related to extended foreign market holidays as well as the difficulty of trading and settlement of most Russia-related securities due to sanctions activity. The Report noted that there were no material changes to the Program during the Reporting Period.

Allspring Funds Management determined in the Report that the Program has been implemented and operates effectively to manage each Fund's and Portfolio's, including the Fund's and the Portfolio's, liquidity risk, and Allspring Funds Management continues to believe that the Program has been and continues to be adequately and effectively implemented to monitor and, as applicable, respond to the Fund's and the Portfolio's liquidity developments.

There can be no assurance that the Program will achieve its objectives under all circumstances in the future. With respect to the Fund, please refer to the Fund's prospectus for more information regarding the Fund's exposure to liquidity risk and other risks to which an investment in the Fund may be subject.





### For more information

More information about Allspring Funds is available free upon request. To obtain literature, please write, visit the Fund's website, or call:

Allspring Funds P.O. Box 219967 Kansas City, MO 64121-9967

Website: allspringglobal.com Individual investors: 1-800-222-8222 Retail investment professionals: 1-888-877-9275 Institutional investment professionals: 1-800-260-5969



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This report and the financial statements contained herein are submitted for the general information of the shareholders of the Fund. If this report is used for promotional purposes, distribution of the report must be accompanied or preceded by a current prospectus. Before investing, please consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the investment. For a current prospectus and, if available, a summary prospectus, containing this information, call **1-800-222-8222** or visit the Fund's website at **allspringglobal.com**. Read the prospectus carefully before you invest or send money.

Allspring Global Investments<sup>TM</sup> is the trade name for the asset management firms of Allspring Global Investments Holdings, LLC, a holding company indirectly owned by certain private funds of GTCR LLC and Reverence Capital Partners, L.P. These firms include but are not limited to Allspring Global Investments, LLC, and Allspring Funds Management, LLC. Certain products managed by Allspring entities are distributed by Allspring Funds Distributor, LLC (a broker-dealer and Member FINRA/SIPC).

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