

## Schwartz Value Focused Fund RCMFX



2023 annual report

#### **Schwartz Value Focused Fund**

**Shareholder Services** c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC

P.O. Box 46707 Cincinnati, OH 45246 (888) 726-0753 **Investment Adviser** 

Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc. 801 W. Ann Arbor Trail Suite 244 Plymouth, MI 48170

#### Dear Fellow Shareholders:

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Schwartz Value Focused Fund ("the Fund") had a total return of 1.18%, compared to 25.47% for the benchmark S&P 1500 Index and 15.44% for the Morningstar Mid-Cap Blend category average. After two strong years of outperformance in 2021 and 2022, why did the Fund perform so poorly in 2023? The simple answer is that we believe our contrarian, value investment style was out-of-favor. Large-caps and growth stocks vastly outperformed small-caps and value stocks last year. Reminiscent of the early 1970s "Nifty Fifty" period and the late 1990s "Internet Bubble", the major stock market indices were driven by a narrow group of large-cap, growth oriented, technology stocks - this time it's the "Magnificent 7 or MAG7" (Alphabet, Amazon, Apple, Meta, Microsoft, NVIDIA, and Tesla). These well-known and highly publicized companies all had soaring stock prices in 2023. Institutional investors that did not have a significant weighting in the "MAG7" most likely underperformed their benchmarks in 2023. The Fund was no exception, as it does not own any of the "MAG7" stocks. Further hampering the Fund's 2023 performance were: 1) weakness in energyrelated holdings; 2) value stocks underperforming growth stocks; and 3) small-cap stocks underperforming large-cap stocks.

While not satisfied with the Fund's underperformance last year, it was not completely unexpected, given the Fund's value-focused approach and concentrated portfolio. It is a feature of value investing that it results in short-term periods of underperformance. But history has shown that value investing can produce superior long term investment results. Likewise, despite the underperformance last year, the Fund's longer term performance comparisons remain favorable. For the 3-year and 5-year periods ending December 31, 2023, the Fund placed in the 1st percentile and 2nd percentile, respectively, in Morningstar's Mid-Cap Blend category. The Fund's 1, 3, 5, and 10-year performance figures for periods ending December 31, 2023 are as follows:

Average Annual Total Return
For the Periods Ending 12/31/23

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Schwartz Value Focused Fund	1.18%	17.14%	16.32%	7.78%
S&P 1500 Index	25.47%	9.83%	15.39%	11.76%

The Fund's five best performing stocks in 2023 were:

Company	Industry	2023 Performance
The St. Joe Company	Real Estate	55.80%
A.O. Smith Corporation	Industrial Machinery	46.62%
Masco Corporation	Home & Building Products	41.35%
Moody's Corporation	Business & Financial Services	38.79%
CME Group Inc.	Financial Data & Exchanges	28.06%

The Fund's five worst performing stocks in 2023 were:

Company	Industry	2023 Performance
Texas Pacific Land Corporation	Real Estate/Royalties	-32.45%
Devon Energy Corporation	Oil/gas Exploration & Production	-22.13%
Chevron Corporation	Integrated Oil & Natural Gas	-15.00%
Franco-Nevada Corporation	Commodity Royalties	-11.64%
Chesapeake Energy Corporation	Oil/gas Exploration & Production	-10.05%

In managing the Fund, we strive to be contrarian investors, because one cannot buy stocks of popular companies at bargain prices. You can have one or the other, but not both. As a result, we're constantly on the lookout for great companies where the consensus outlook is cloudy or uncertain (due to temporary factors) and thus results in the stock price being unduly depressed. Investors' single-minded infatuation with "MAG7" has produced more opportunities to purchase shares of outstanding companies (industry leaders, good growth prospects, strong balance sheets) at a discount to intrinsic value. Many current Fund holdings fit this description, so we've increased our exposure to these names. That's the essence of contrarian, value investing and we remain committed to it, with the steadfast belief that it provides the best opportunity for superior, long-term investment results.

Thank you for being a shareholder in the Schwartz Value Focused Fund.

Timothy S. Schwartz, CFA Lead Portfolio Manager

Jim Schwart

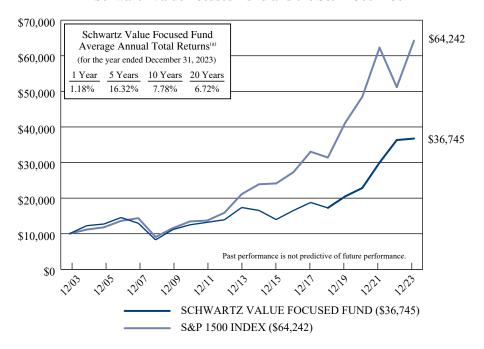
George P. Schwartz, CFA Co-Portfolio Manager

George P. Schwart

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Rank in Category is the fund's total return percentile rank relative to all funds that have the same Morningstar Category. The highest (or most favorable) percentile rank is 1 and the lowest (or least favorable) percentile rank is 100. The top-performing fund in a category will always receive a rank of 1.

# SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND PERFORMANCE (Unaudited)

## Comparison of the Change in Value of a \$10,000 Investment in Schwartz Value Focused Fund and the S&P 1500 Index



(a) The returns shown do not reflect the deduction of taxes a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption of Fund shares.

Expense Ratio information as of:	Year Ended 12-31-22 (as disclosed in May 1, 2023 prospectus)	Year Ended 12-31-23
Gross	1.30%*	1.17%
Net	1.27%*	1.25%

<sup>\*</sup> Includes Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND ANNUAL TOTAL RATES OF RETURN COMPARISON WITH MAJOR INDICES (Unaudited)

	SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND <sup>(a)</sup>	S&P 1500 INDEX <sup>(b)</sup>	VALUE LINE COMPOSITE <sup>(c)</sup>
1984	11.1%	N/A	-8.4%
1985	21.7%	N/A	20.7%
1986	16.4%	N/A	5.0%
1987	-0.6%	N/A	-10.6%
1988	23.1%	N/A	15.4%
1989	8.3%	N/A	11.2%
1990	-5.3%	N/A	-24.3%
1991	32.0%	N/A	27.2%
1992	22.7%	N/A	7.0%
1993	20.5%	N/A	10.7%
1994	-6.8%	N/A	-6.0%
1995	16.9%	36.5%	19.3%
1996	18.3%	22.4%	13.4%
1997	28.0%	32.9%	21.1%
1998	-10.4%	26.4%	-3.8%
1999	-2.5%	20.3%	-1.4%
2000	9.3%	-7.0%	-8.7%
2001	28.1%	-10.6%	-6.1%
2002	-14.9%	-21.3%	-28.6%
2003	39.3%	29.6%	37.4%
2004	22.6%	11.8%	11.5%
2005	3.8%	5.7%	2.0%
2006	14.3%	15.3%	11.0%
2007	-11.1%	5.5%	-3.8%
2008	-35.9%	-36.7%	-48.7%
2009	34.8%	27.2%	36.8%
2010	12.0%	16.4%	20.5%
2011	5.6%	1.7%	-11.4%
2012	5.4%	16.2%	9.5%
2013	24.7%	32.8%	35.5%
2014	-4.7%	13.1%	2.7%
2015	-15.5%	1.0%	-11.2%
2016	18.1%	13.0%	13.5%
2017	13.7%	21.1%	11.1%
2018	-8.1%	-5.0%	-16.0%
2019	18.7%	30.9%	16.9%
2020	11.6%	17.9%	1.2%
2021	31.1%	28.5%	18.1%
2022	21.2%	-17.8%	-20.2%
2023	1.2%	25.5%	10.7%

<sup>(</sup>a) Schwartz Value Focused Fund's performance combines the performance of the Fund since its commencement of operations as a registered investment company on July 20, 1993, and the performance of RCM Partners Limited Partnership for periods prior thereto.

<sup>(</sup>b) Inception date of the S&P 1500 Index is December 30, 1994.

<sup>(</sup>c) Excluding dividends.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS As of December 31, 2023 (Unaudited)

	SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND <sup>(a)</sup>	S&P 1500 INDEX <sup>(b)</sup>	VALUE LINE COMPOSITE <sup>(c)</sup>
3 Years	17.1%	9.8%	1.5%
5 Years	16.3%	15.4%	4.7%
10 Years	7.8%	11.8%	2.0%
20 Years	6.7%	9.8%	2.5%
40 Years	9.2%	N/A	2.8%

<sup>(</sup>a) Schwartz Value Focused Fund's performance combines the performance of the Fund since its commencement of operations as a registered investment company on July 20, 1993, and the performance of RCM Partners Limited Partnership for periods prior thereto.

<sup>(</sup>b) Inception date of the S&P 1500 Index is December 30, 1994.

<sup>(</sup>c) Excluding dividends.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND TEN LARGEST HOLDINGS December 31, 2023 (Unaudited)

Shares	Security Description	Fair Value	% of Net Assets
5,500	Texas Pacific Land Corporation	\$ 8,648,475	26.0%
52,600	St. Joe Company (The)	3,165,468	9.5%
9,000	Pioneer Natural Resources Company	2,023,920	6.1%
4,500	Mastercard, Inc Class A	1,919,295	5.7%
24,800	Masco Corporation	1,661,104	5.0%
4,000	Moody's Corporation	1,562,240	4.7%
29,800	Schlumberger Ltd.	1,550,792	4.6%
9,800	Intercontinental Exchange, Inc	1,258,614	3.8%
8,000	Chevron Corporation	1,193,280	3.6%
6,400	Madison Square Garden Sports Corporation	1.163,712	3.5%

## **ASSET ALLOCATION (Unaudited)**

	% of Net Assets
COMMON STOCKS	
Sector	
Consumer Discretionary	10.9%
Energy	22.6%
Financials	10.3%
Industrials	2.6%
Materials	7.4%
Real Estate	35.5%
Technology	10.4%
Money Market Funds, Liabilities in Excess of Other Assets	0.3%
	100.0%

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS December 31, 2023

COMMON STOCKS — 99.7%	Shares	Fair Value
Consumer Discretionary — 10.9%		
Home Construction — 5.0%		
Masco Corporation	24,800	<u>\$ 1,661,104</u>
Leisure Facilities & Services — 3.5%		
Madison Square Garden Sports Corporation *	6,400	1,163,712
Leisure Products — 2.4%		
YETI Holdings, Inc. *	15,300	792,234
Energy — 22.6%		
Oil & Gas Producers — 18.0%		
Chesapeake Energy Corporation	6,000	461,640
Chevron Corporation	8,000	1,193,280
ConocoPhillips	9,000	1,044,630
Devon Energy Corporation	20,000	906,000
Occidental Petroleum Corporation	6,000	358,260
Pioneer Natural Resources Company	9,000	2,023,920
		5,987,730
Oil & Gas Services & Equipment — 4.6%		
Schlumberger Ltd.	29,800	1,550,792
Financials — 10.3%		
Institutional Financial Services — 7.0%		
CME Group, Inc.	5,100	1,074,060
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	9,800	1,258,614
		2,332,674
Insurance — 3.3%		
Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. — Class A *	2	1,085,250
Industrials — 2.6%		
Electrical Equipment — 2.6%		
A.O. Smith Corporation	10,600	873,864
Materials — 7.4%		
Metals & Mining — 7.4%		
Barrick Gold Corporation	35,300	638,577
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Franco—Nevada Corporation	9,700	1,074,857
Pan American Silver Corporation	45,500	743,015
		2,456,449

# SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

COMMON STOCKS — 99.7% (Continued)	Shares	Fair Value
Real Estate — 35.5%		
Real Estate Owners & Developers — 35.5%		
St. Joe Company (The)	52,600	\$ 3,165,468
Texas Pacific Land Corporation	5,500	8,648,475 11,813,943
Technology — 10.4%  Technology Services — 10.4%  Mastercard, Inc. — Class A  Moody's Corporation	4,500 4,000	1,919,295 1,562,240 3,481,535
<b>Total Common Stocks</b> (Cost \$18,346,143)		\$ 33,199,287

MONEY MARKET FUNDS — 0.4%	Shares	Fair Value
Federated Hermes Government Obligations Tax-Managed Fund - Institutional Shares, 5.21% (a) (Cost \$131,457)	131,457	\$ 131,457
<b>Total Investments at Fair Value — 100.1%</b> (Cost \$18,477,600)		\$ 33,330,744
Liabilities in Excess of Other Assets — (0.1%)		(42,251)
Net Assets — 100.0%		\$ 33,288,493

<sup>\*</sup> Non-income producing security.

<sup>(</sup>a) The rate shown is the 7-day effective yield as of December 31, 2023.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES December 31, 2023

ASSETS	
Investments, at fair value (cost of \$18,477,600) (Note 1)	\$ 33,330,744
Receivable for capital shares sold	16,949
Dividends receivable	37,060
Other assets	11,770
TOTAL ASSETS	33,396,523
LIABILITIES	
Payable for capital shares redeemed	33,958
Payable to Adviser (Note 2)	62,486
Payable to administrator (Note 2)	3,023
Other accrued expenses	8,563
TOTAL LIABILITIES	108,030
NET ASSETS	\$ 33,288,493
NET ASSETS CONSIST OF:	
Paid-in capital	\$ 18,435,349
Distributable earnings	14,853,144
NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 33,288,493</u>
Shares of beneficial interest outstanding (unlimited number of shares authorized, no par value)	<u>761,224</u>
Net asset value, offering price and redemption price per share (Note 1)	\$ 43.73

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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INVESTMENT INCOME	
Dividends	\$ 718,639
Foreign withholding taxes on dividends	(9,209)
TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	709,430
EXPENSES	
Investment advisory fees (Note 2)	304,926
Administration, accounting and transfer agent fees (Note 2)	41,174
Registration and filing fees	34,679
Legal fees	30,421
Shareholder reporting expenses	16,755
Audit and tax services fees	13,743
Trustees' fees and expenses (Note 2)	6,878
Custodian and bank service fees	6,868
Postage and supplies	4,654
Insurance expense	2,563
Compliance service fees (Note 2)	1,433
Other expenses	12,649
TOTAL EXPENSES	476,743
Less fee reductions by the Adviser (Note 2)	(10,358)
Previous investment advisory fee reductions recouped	
by the Adviser (Note 2)	41,825
NET EXPENSES	508,210
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	201,220
REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAINS (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS	
Net realized gains from investment transactions	1,394,285
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(2,658,521)
NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED LOSSES ON INVESTMENTS .	(1,264,236)
NET DECREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	<u>\$ (1,063,016)</u>

### SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Year Ended December 31, 2023	Year Ended December 31, 2022
FROM OPERATIONS		
Net investment income	\$ 201,220	\$ 448,585
Net realized gains (losses) from investment transactions	1,394,285	(221,016)
Net change in unrealized appreciation	, ,	
(depreciation) on investments	(2,658,521)	6,358,455
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from		
operations	(1,063,016)	6,586,024
FROM DISTRIBUTIONS TO		
SHAREHOLDERS (Note 1)	(1,374,652)	(448,446)
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FROM CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS	12 222 700	26.260.100
Proceeds from shares sold	13,333,788	26,360,198
Reinvestment of distributions to shareholders	1,288,235	401,888
Payments for shares redeemed	_(30,668,436)	(4,688,357)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from capital share transactions	(16,046,413)	22,073,729
transactions	(10,040,413)	
TOTAL INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS $\dots$	(18,484,081)	28,211,307
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of year	51,772,574	23,561,267
End of year	\$ 33,288,493	\$ 51,772,574
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SUMMARY OF CAPITAL SHARE ACTIVITY		
Shares sold	297,002	621,397
Shares issued in reinvestment of distributions to		
shareholders	29,238	8,925
Shares redeemed	(714,086)	(109,141)
Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding	(387,846)	521,181
Shares outstanding, beginning of year	1,149,070	627,889
Shares outstanding, end of year	761,224	1,149,070

### SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

#### Per Share Data for a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Year

	Year Ended Dec. 31, 2023	Year Ended Dec. 31, 2022	Year Ended Dec. 31, 2021	Year Ended Dec. 31, 2020	Year Ended Dec. 31, 2019
Net asset value at beginning of year	\$ 45.06	\$ 37.52	\$ 30.54	\$ 28.03	\$ 23.62
Income (loss) from investment operations:  Net investment income (loss)  Net realized and unrealized gains on investments  Total from investment operations	$ \begin{array}{c c} 0.27 \\  \hline 0.27^{(a)} \\  \hline 0.54 \end{array} $	0.39	0.12 9.39 9.51	0.15	(0.03)
Less distributions from: Net investment income Net realized gains on investments Total distributions	(0.27) (1.60) (1.87)	(0.39) ————————————————————————————————————	(0.12) (2.41) (2.53)	(0.15) (0.60) (0.75)	 
Net asset value at end of year	<u>\$ 43.73</u>	<u>\$ 45.06</u>	<u>\$ 37.52</u>	\$ 30.54	<u>\$ 28.03</u>
Total return (b)	1.18%	21.15%	31.14%	11.62%	18.67%
Ratios/Supplementary Data: Net assets at end of year (000's)	\$ 33,288	<u>\$ 51,773</u>	<u>\$ 23,561</u>	<u>\$ 18,097</u>	<u>\$ 22,461</u>
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.17% <sup>(c)</sup>	1.28%	1.51%	1.71%	1.61%
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets (d)	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets (d)	0.50%	1.39%	0.28%	0.49%	(0.13%)
Portfolio turnover rate	24%	14%	18%	45%	28%

<sup>(</sup>a) Represents a balancing figure derived from other amounts in the financial highlights table that captures all other changes affecting net asset value per share. This per share amount does not correlate to the aggregate of the net realized and unrealized losses on the Statement of Operations for the same period.

<sup>(</sup>b) Total return is a measure of the change in value of an investment in the Fund over the period covered, which assumes any dividends or capital gains distributions are reinvested in shares of the Fund. Returns shown do not reflect the deduction of taxes a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption of Fund shares.

<sup>(</sup>c) The ratio would have been 1.28% if the amounts recouped by the Adviser were included.

<sup>(</sup>d) Ratio was determined after advisory fee reductions and/or recoupments (Note 2).

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2023

#### 1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Schwartz Value Focused Fund (the "Fund") is a non-diversified series of Schwartz Investment Trust (the "Trust"), an open-end management investment company established as an Ohio business trust under a Declaration of Trust dated August 31, 1992. Other series of the Trust are not incorporated in this report. The Fund is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act").

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek long-term capital appreciation. See the Prospectus for information regarding the principal investment strategies of the Fund.

Shares of the Fund are sold at net asset value ("NAV"). To calculate the NAV, the Fund's assets are valued and totaled, liabilities are subtracted, and the balance is divided by the number of shares outstanding. The offering price and redemption price per share are equal to the NAV per share.

The Fund follows accounting and reporting guidance under Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946, "Financial Services – Investment Companies." The following is a summary of the Fund's significant accounting policies used in the preparation of its financial statements. These policies are in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

(a) Valuation of investments — Securities which are traded on stock exchanges, other than NASDAQ, are valued at the closing sales price as of the close of the regular session of trading on the New York Stock Exchange on the day the securities are being valued, or, if not traded on a particular day, at the closing bid price. Securities which are quoted by NASDAQ are valued at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price or, if an Official Closing Price is not available, at the most recently quoted bid price. Securities traded in the over-the-counter market are valued at the last reported sales price or, if there is no reported sale on the valuation date, at the most recently quoted bid price. Securities which are traded both in the over-the-counter market and on a stock exchange are valued according to the broadest and most representative market. Fixed income securities, if any, are generally valued using prices provided by an independent pricing service. The independent pricing service uses information with respect to transactions in bonds, quotations from bond dealers, market transactions in comparable securities and various relationships between securities in determining these prices. Investments representing shares of other open-end investment companies are valued at their NAV as reported by such companies. When using quoted prices and when the market for the securities are considered active, the securities will be classified as Level 1 within the fair value hierarchy (see below). Securities (and other assets) for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at their fair value as determined in good faith by Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc. (the "Adviser"), as the valuation designee, in accordance with consistently applied procedures established by and under the general supervision of the Board of Trustees pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act, and will be classified as Level 2 or 3 within the fair value hierarchy, depending on the inputs used. Fair value pricing may be used, for example, in situations where (i) a portfolio security is so thinly traded

that there have been no transactions for that stock over an extended period of time; (ii) the exchange on which the portfolio security is principally traded closes early; or (iii) trading of the portfolio security is halted during the day and does not resume prior to the Fund's NAV calculation. A portfolio security's "fair value" price may differ from the price next available for that portfolio security using the Fund's normal pricing procedures.

GAAP establishes a single authoritative definition of fair value, sets out a framework for measuring fair value and requires additional disclosures about fair value measurements.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

- Level 1 quoted prices in active markets for identical securities
- Level 2 other significant observable inputs
- Level 3 significant unobservable inputs

U.S. Government & Agencies securities held by the Fund, if any, are classified as Level 2 since the values for such securities are based on prices provided by an independent pricing service that utilizes various "other significant observable inputs" including bid and ask quotations, prices of similar securities and interest rates, among other factors.

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risks associated with investing in those securities. The inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, for disclosure purposes, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement falls in its entirety is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The following is a summary of the Fund's investments and the levels assigned to the investments, by security type, as of December 31, 2023:

	Level 1	Leve	el 2	L	evel 3	Total
Common Stocks	\$ 33,199,287	\$	_	\$	_	\$ 33,199,287
Money Market Funds	131,457					131,457
Total	\$ 33,330,744	\$		\$		\$ 33,330,744

Refer to the Fund's Schedule of Investments for a listing of the securities by security type, sector and industry type. There were no Level 3 securities or derivative instruments held by or transferred in/out of the Fund as of or during the year ended December 31, 2023.

**(b) Income taxes** — The Fund has qualified and intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Qualification generally will relieve the Fund of liability for federal income taxes to the extent 100% of its net investment income and net realized capital gains are distributed in accordance with the Code.

In order to avoid imposition of the excise tax applicable to regulated investment companies, it is also the Fund's intention to declare as dividends in each calendar year at least 98% of its net investment income and 98.2% of its net realized capital gains plus undistributed amounts from prior years.

The following information is computed on a tax basis for each item as of December 31, 2023:

Federal income tax cost	\$ 18,477,600
Gross unrealized appreciation	\$ 15,091,034
Gross unrealized depreciation	(237,890)
Net unrealized appreciation	14,853,144
Distributable earnings	\$ 14,853,144

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund utilized \$221,016 of short-term capital loss carryforwards against current year gains.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund reclassified \$24 of over-distribution against paid-in capital on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Such reclassification, the result of permanent differences between the financial statement and income tax reporting requirements, has no effect on the Fund's net assets or NAV per share.

The Fund recognizes the tax benefits or expenses of uncertain tax positions only when the position is "more-likely-than-not" to be sustained assuming examination by tax authorities. Management has reviewed the tax positions taken on federal income tax returns for all open tax years (generally, three years) and has concluded that no provision for unrecognized tax benefits or expenses is required in these financial statements.

The Fund recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to unrecognized tax benefits as income tax expense on the Statement of Operations. During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund did not incur any interest or penalties.

- (c) Investment transactions and investment income Investment transactions are accounted for on the trade date. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Non-cash dividends included in dividend income, if any, are recorded at the fair value of the securities received. Interest income is recognized on the accrual basis. Realized capital gains and losses on investment transactions are determined on the identified cost basis. Withholding taxes on foreign dividends have been recorded in accordance with the Fund's understanding of the applicable country's rules and tax rates.
- (d) Dividends and distributions Dividends from net investment income and distributions of net realized capital gains, if any, are declared and paid annually in December. Dividends and distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-

dividend date. The tax character of distributions paid to shareholders during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 was as follows:

			L	ong-Term		Total
Years Ended	Ordir	nary Income	Ca	pital Gains	Dis	stributions*
December 31, 2023	\$	201,353	\$	1,173,299	\$	1,374,652
December 31, 2022	\$	448,446	\$	_	\$	448,446

- \* Total Distributions may not tie to the amounts listed on the Statements of Changes in Net Assets due to reclassifications of the character of the distributions as a result of permanent differences between the financial statements and income tax reporting.
- **(e) Estimates** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.
- **(f)** Common expenses Common expenses of the Trust are allocated among the Fund and the other series of the Trust based on relative net assets of each series or the nature of the services performed and the relative applicability to each series.
- (g) Regulatory update Tailored Shareholder Reporting for Mutual Funds and Exchange-Traded Funds ("ETFs") Effective January 24, 2023, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") adopted rule and form amendments to require mutual funds and ETFs to transmit concise and visually engaging streamlined annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders that highlight key information. Other information, including financial statements, will no longer appear in a streamlined shareholder report but must be available online, delivered free of charge upon request, and filed on a semi-annual basis on Form N-CSR. The rule and form amendments have a compliance date of July 24, 2024. At this time, management is evaluating the impact of these amendments on the shareholder reports for the Fund.

#### 2. Investment Advisory Agreement and Transactions with Related Parties

The Chairman and President of the Trust is also the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Adviser. Certain other officers of the Trust are officers of the Adviser, or of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC ("Ultimus"), the administrative, accounting and transfer agent for the Fund, or of Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC (the "Distributor"), the Fund's principal underwriter.

Pursuant to an Investment Advisory Agreement between the Trust and the Adviser, the Adviser is responsible for the management of the Fund and provides investment advice along with the necessary personnel, facilities, equipment and certain other services necessary to the operations of the Fund. The Adviser receives from the Fund a quarterly fee at the annual rate of 0.75% per annum of the Fund's average daily net assets.

The Adviser has contractually agreed to reduce its advisory fees or reimburse a portion of the Fund's expenses until at least May 1, 2024, so that the ordinary operating expenses of the Fund do not exceed 1.25% per annum of average daily net assets. Accordingly,

during the year ended December 31, 2023, the Adviser reduced its investment advisory fees by \$10,358.

Any fee reductions or expense reimbursements by the Adviser are subject to repayment by the Fund for a period of three years after such fees and expenses were incurred, provided repayment to the Adviser does not cause the ordinary operating expenses of the Fund to exceed 1.25% per annum of average daily net assets. During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund recouped \$41,825 of prior years' investment advisory fee reductions. As of December 31, 2023, the Adviser may seek recoupment of investment advisory fee reductions totaling \$110,832 no later than the dates stated below:

December 31, 2024	\$	64,264
December 31, 2025		36,210
December 31, 2026	_	10,358
Total	\$	110,832

The Chief Compliance Officer of the Trust (the "CCO") is an employee of the Adviser. The Trust pays the Adviser a fee for providing CCO services, of which the Fund pays its proportionate share along with the other series of the Trust. In addition, the Trust reimburses the Adviser for out-of-pocket expenses incurred, if any, for providing these services.

Pursuant to a Mutual Fund Services Agreement between the Trust and Ultimus, Ultimus supplies regulatory and compliance services, calculates the daily NAV per share, maintains the financial books and records of the Fund, maintains the records of each shareholder's account, and processes purchases and redemptions of the Fund's shares. For these services Ultimus receives fees computed as a percentage of the average daily net assets of the Fund, subject to a minimum monthly fee.

Pursuant to a Distribution Agreement between the Trust and the Distributor, the Distributor serves as the Fund's exclusive agent for the distribution of its shares. The Distributor is an affiliate of Ultimus.

Trustees and officers affiliated with the Adviser or Ultimus are not compensated by the Trust for their services. Each Trustee who is not an affiliated person of the Adviser or Ultimus ("Independent Trustee") receives from the Trust an annual retainer of \$63,000 (except that such fee is \$76,500 for the Lead Independent Trustee/Chairman of the Governance Committee and \$71,500 for the Chairman of the Audit Committee), payable quarterly; a fee of \$6,000 for attendance at each meeting of the Board of Trustees; plus reimbursement of travel and other expenses incurred in attending meetings. Trustee Emeritus, if any, receives one-half of both the annual retainer and fee for attendance at each meeting; plus reimbursement of travel and other expenses incurred in attending meetings. The Fund paid its proportionate share of the Independent Trustees' fees and expenses along with the other series of the Trust.

#### 3. Investment Transactions

During the year ended December 31, 2023, cost of purchases and proceeds from sales and maturities of investment securities, excluding short-term investments and U.S. government securities, amounted to \$9,115,820 and \$18,081,675, respectively.

#### 4. Contingencies and Commitments

The Fund indemnifies the Trust's officers and Trustees for certain liabilities that might arise from their performance of their duties to the Fund. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Fund enters into contracts that contain a variety of representations and warranties and which provide general indemnifications. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet occurred. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

#### 5. Sector Risk

If the Fund has significant investments in the securities of issuers in industries within a particular sector, any development affecting that sector will have a greater impact on the value of the net assets of the Fund than would be the case if the Fund did not have significant investments in that sector. In addition, this may increase the risk of loss of an investment in the Fund and increase the volatility of the Fund's NAV per share. From time to time, circumstances may affect a particular sector and the companies within such sector. For instance, economic or market factors, regulation or deregulation, and technological or other developments may negatively impact all companies in a particular sector and therefore the value of the Fund's portfolio will be adversely affected. As of December 31, 2023, the Fund had 35.5% of the value of its net assets invested in common stocks within the real estate sector. The Fund had 26.0% of the value of its net assets invested in Texas Pacific Land Corporation ("TPL") within the real estate sector. The financial statements for TPL can be found at www.sec.gov.

#### 6. Subsequent Events

The Fund is required to recognize in the financial statements the effects of all subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed as of the date of the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. For non-recognized subsequent events that must be disclosed to keep the financial statements from being misleading, the Fund is required to disclose the nature of the event as well as an estimate of its financial effect, or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made. Management has evaluated subsequent events through the issuance of these financial statements and has noted no such events.

### SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Shareholders and the Board of Trustees of Schwartz Investment Trust:

#### Opinion on the Financial Statements and Financial Highlights

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the schedule of investments, of the Schwartz Value Focused Fund, one of the series constituting the Schwartz Investment Trust (the "Fund"), as of December 31, 2023, the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, and the related notes. In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as of December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **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 the Fund's 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 Funds 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. The Fund is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audit, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

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. 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. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2023, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers; when replies were not received from brokers, we performed

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM (Continued)

other auditing procedures. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Chicago, Illinois

February 22, 2024

We have served as the auditor of one or more Schwartz Investment Trust investment companies since 1993.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS (Unaudited)

Overall responsibility for management of the Trust rests with the Board of Trustees. The Trustees serve during the lifetime of the Trust and until its termination, or until death, resignation, retirement or removal. The Trustees, in turn, elect the officers of the Trust to actively supervise its day-to-day operations. The officers have been elected for an annual term. The following are the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust:

Trustee/Officer	Address	Year of Birth	Position Held with the Trust	Length of Time Served
Interested Trustee:				
* George P. Schwartz, CFA	801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI	1944	Chairman of the Board/President/ Trustee	Since 1992
Independent Trustees:				
Donald J. Dawson, Jr.	801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI	1947	Trustee	Since 1993
John J. McHale, Jr.	801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI	1949	Trustee	Since 2014
Edward J. Miller	801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI	1946	Trustee	Since 2017
William A. Morrow	801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI	1947	Trustee	Since 2018
Executive Officers:				
* Robert C. Schwartz	801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI	1976	Vice President and Secretary	Since 2013
* Timothy S. Schwartz, CFA	5060 Annunciation Circle Ave Maria, FL	, 1971	Treasurer	Since 2000
* Cathy M. Stoner, CPA, IACCP	801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI	1970	Chief Compliance Officer	Since 2010

<sup>\*</sup> George P. Schwartz, Robert C. Schwartz, Timothy S. Schwartz and Cathy M. Stoner, as affiliated persons of Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc., the Funds' investment adviser, are "interested persons" of the Trust within the meaning of Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. George P. Schwartz is the father of Robert C. Schwartz and Timothy S. Schwartz.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS (Unaudited) (Continued)

Each Trustee oversees seven series of the Trust: the Ave Maria Value Fund, the Ave Maria Growth Fund, the Ave Maria Rising Dividend Fund, the Ave Maria World Equity Fund, the Ave Maria Focused Fund, the Ave Maria Bond Fund and the Fund. The principal occupations of the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust during the past five years and public directorships held by the Trustees are set forth below:

- George P. Schwartz, CFA is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc. and the co-portfolio manager of the Fund.
- Donald J. Dawson, Jr. retired in March 2015. Prior to retirement, he was Chairman of Payroll 1, Inc. (a payroll processing company).
- John J. McHale, Jr. is a consultant to the Commissioner of Major League Baseball. From 2015 until 2020, he was the Special Assistant to Commissioner of Major League Baseball.
- Edward J. Miller retired in 2019. Prior to his retirement, he was Vice Chairman and Director of Detroit Investment Fund from 2001 until 2019 and Invest Detroit Foundation (financiers for redevelopment of Detroit, Michigan) from 2010 until 2019.
- William A. Morrow retired in 2017. Prior to his retirement, he was Senior Executive Vice President of Crain Communications, Inc. (business media) from 1985 until 2017.
- Robert C. Schwartz is Executive Vice President and Secretary of Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc.
- Timothy S. Schwartz, CFA is President and Chief Investment Officer of Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc. and the lead portfolio manager of the Fund.
- Cathy M. Stoner, CPA, IACCP is Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Compliance Officer, and Treasurer of Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc.
- Additional information regarding the Trustees and executive officers is available in the Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"). To obtain a free copy of the SAI, please call (888) 726-0753.

Effective January 1, 2024, George P. Schwartz stepped down as Chief Executive Officer of Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc. and Timothy S. Schwartz became the new Chief Executive Officer of Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND ABOUT YOUR FUND'S EXPENSES (Unaudited)

We believe it is important for you to understand the impact of costs on your investment. As a shareholder of the Fund, you incur ongoing costs, including management fees and other Fund expenses. The following examples are 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.

A mutual fund's ongoing costs are expressed as a percentage of its average net assets. This figure is known as the expense ratio. The ongoing costs reflected in the table below are based on an investment of \$1,000 made at the beginning of the most recent semi-annual period (July 1, 2023) and held until the end of the period (December 31, 2023).

The table below illustrates the Fund's ongoing costs in two ways:

Actual fund return – This section helps you to estimate the actual expenses that you paid over the period. The "Ending Account Value" shown is derived from the Fund's actual return, and the third column shows the dollar amount of operating expenses that would have been paid by an investor who started with \$1,000 in the Fund. You may use the information here, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period.

To do so, 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 given for the Fund under the heading "Expenses Paid During Period."

Hypothetical 5% return – This section is intended to help you compare the Fund's ongoing costs with those of other mutual funds. It assumes that the Fund had an annual return of 5% before expenses during the period shown, but that the expense ratio is unchanged. In this case, because the return used is not the Fund's actual return, the result does not apply to your investment. The example is useful in making comparisons because the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") requires all mutual funds to calculate expenses based on a 5% return. You can assess the Fund's ongoing costs by comparing this hypothetical example with the hypothetical examples that appear in shareholder reports of other funds.

Note that expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight and help you compare ongoing costs only. The Fund does not charge sales loads or redemption fees.

The calculations assume no shares were bought or sold during the period. Your actual costs may have been higher or lower, depending on the amount of your investment and the timing of any purchases or redemptions.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND ABOUT YOUR FUND'S EXPENSES (Unaudited) (Continued)

More information about the Fund's expenses, including historical annual expense ratios, can be found in this report. For additional information on operating expenses and other shareholder costs, please refer to the Fund's Prospectus.

	Beginning Account Value July 1, 2023	Ending Account Value December 31, 2023	Net Expense Ratio <sup>(a)</sup>	Expenses Paid During Period <sup>(b)</sup>
Based on Actual Fund Return	\$1,000.00	\$1,094.60	1.25%	\$6.60
Based on Hypothetical 5% Return (before expenses)	\$1,000.00	\$1,018.90	1.25%	\$6.36

<sup>(</sup>a) Annualized, based on the Fund's most recent one-half year expenses.

<sup>(</sup>b) Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized net expense ratio multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 184/365 (to reflect the one-half year period) for Actual Fund Return and Hypothetical 5% Return information, respectively.

# SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND OTHER INFORMATION (Unaudited)

A description of the policies and procedures the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities is available without charge upon request by calling toll-free (888) 726-0753, or on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is also available without charge upon request by calling toll-free (888) 726-0753, or on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

The Trust files a complete listing of portfolio holdings for the Fund with the SEC as of the end of the first and third quarters of each fiscal year as an exhibit on Form N-PORT. The filings are available free of charge, upon request, by calling (888) 726-0753. Furthermore, you may obtain a copy of the filings on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

#### **FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION (Unaudited)**

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund designated \$1,173,269 as long-term capital gain distributions.

**Qualified Dividend Income** – The Fund designates 100% of its ordinary income dividends, or up to the maximum amount of such dividends allowable pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, as qualified dividend income eligible for the reduced tax rate.

**Dividends Received Deduction** – Corporate shareholders are generally entitled to take the dividends received deduction on the portion of the Fund's dividend distributions that qualifies under tax law. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, 100% of ordinary income dividends qualified for the corporate dividends received deduction.

## SCHWARTZ VALUE FOCUSED FUND LIQUIDITY RISK (Unaudited)

The Fund has adopted and implemented a written liquidity risk management program as required by Rule 22e-4 (the "Liquidity Rule") under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The program is reasonably designed to assess, manage, and periodically review the Fund's liquidity risk, taking into consideration, among other factors, the Fund's investment strategy and the liquidity of its portfolio investments during normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions; its short and long-term cash flow projections; and its cash holdings and access to other funding sources. The Board of Trustees approved the appointment of a Liquidity Risk Management Program Administrator (the "Liquidity Administrator"), which includes representatives from Schwartz Investment Counsel, Inc., the Fund's investment adviser. The Liquidity Administrator is responsible for the administration of the program and its policies and procedures and for reporting to the Board on an annual basis regarding the program's operation, adequacy and effectiveness, as well as any material changes to the program. The Liquidity Administrator assessed the Fund's liquidity risk profile and the adequacy and effectiveness of the liquidity risk management program's operations during the period from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (the "Review Period") in order to prepare a written report for the Board of Trustees (the "Report") for consideration at its meeting held on August 4, 2023. During the Review Period, the Fund did not experience unusual stress or disruption to its operations from any purchase and redemption activity. Also, during the Review Period the Fund held adequate levels of cash and highly liquid investments to meet shareholder redemption activities in accordance with applicable requirements. The Report concluded that (i) the Fund's liquidity risk management program is reasonably designed to prevent violations of the Liquidity Rule and (ii) the Fund's liquidity risk management program has been effectively implemented during the Review Period.

#### Schwartz Value Focused Fund

series of Schwartz Investment Trust 801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 244 Plymouth, Michigan 48170

www.schwartzvaluefocusedfund.com

#### **Board of Trustees**

George P. Schwartz, CFA, Chairman Donald J. Dawson, Jr., Lead Independent Trustee John J. McHale, Jr. Edward J. Miller William A. Morrow

#### **Executive Officers**

George P. Schwartz, CFA, President Robert C. Schwartz, V.P./Secretary Timothy S. Schwartz, CFA, Treasurer Cathy M. Stoner, CPA, IACCP, Chief Compliance Officer

#### **Investment Adviser**

SCHWARTZ INVESTMENT COUNSEL, INC. 801 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 244 Plymouth, Michigan 48170

5060 Annunciation Circle, Suite 101 Ave Maria, Florida 34142

#### Distributor

ULTIMUS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, LLC 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450 Cincinnati, Ohio 45246

#### Custodian

US BANK, N.A. 425 Walnut Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

#### Administrator

ULTIMUS FUND SOLUTIONS, LLC P.O. Box 46707 Cincinnati, Ohio 45246

## Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

111 S. Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606

#### **Legal Counsel**

SULLIVAN & WORCESTER LLP 1666 K Street, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20006