### **Portfolio Update: First Quarter 2025**

During the quarter ending March 31, 2025, the Core Equity Strategy (the "Strategy") returned -6.19% net of fees, trailing the -4.72% return for the Russell 3000<sup>®</sup> Index (the "benchmark") and the broader market's -4.27% total return for the S&P 500 Index.

Performance	3 Months	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception (4/1/2005)
Core Equity Strategy (net of IM fees)	-6.19%	-6.19%	-0.59%	+4.06%	+14.11%	+10.28%	+8.36%
Core Equity Strategy (net of IM & WM fees)	-6.44%	-6.44%	-1.58%	+3.04%	+12.99%	+9.19%	+7.29%
Russell 3000 <sup>*</sup> Index	-4.72%	-4.72%	+7.22%	+8.22%	+18.18%	+11.80%	+10.08%
S&P 500 Index	-4.27%	-4.27%	+8.25%	+9.06%	+18.59%	+12.50%	+10.27%

Inception date: April 1, 2005. Performance is presented net of RMB Asset Management's maximum management fee and transaction costs. Performance is annualized for periods greater than one year. Please see important disclosures at the end of this document. Past performance is not indicative of future results, and there is a risk of loss of all or part of your investment. All data is as of March 31, 2025.

U.S. equity markets came into the year with a high bar for success after two consecutive years of 20%+ returns. Accordingly, the S&P 500 retraced some of those gains in the first quarter. Technology and Consumer discretionary stocks were hit the hardest, while defensive sectors like Consumer Staples, Healthcare, and Utilities were up in the quarter. This presents itself as "value" outperforming "growth" and can be observed in the returns of the Russell 1000® Growth Index declining -10.0% compared to the Russell 1000® Value index increasing 2.1%. The S&P 500 declined -4.27%

In January, a Chinese AI outfit, DeepSeek, released a surprisingly efficacious AI model while claiming to use much less in the way of compute power (costing much less and using less energy). While leading edge AI would still require leading edge chips, DeepSeek's open-source nature and much lower cost shocked markets and called into question whether the U.S. and leading companies have sustainable competitive advantages and whether the capital expenditure arms race could sustain pace. Investors used this shock as a catalyst to sell mega-cap tech stocks. Meta, (who's open-source Llama model was used by DeepSeek) was the only one of the Magnificent 7¹ that wasn't down double-digits.

It would be an understatement to say that changes in Washington influenced markets during the quarter. In his first days in office, President Trump made it clear that tariffs were going to be an important tool for reducing the trade deficits with our trading partners, including Mexico and Canada and especially China. This began by declaring a national emergency related to Fentanyl trafficking and undocumented immigration. There were retaliations, escalations, postponements, and exemptions, but by March, Trump was focused on promoting April 2<sup>nd</sup> as "Liberation Day" when "reciprocal" tariffs would be announced. Even in advance of these tariff details, companies, consumers, and investors began adjusting expectations and behaviors in anticipation of the changes. It is worthwhile mentioning that the shift towards fiscal policy and executive orders has taken the spotlight off of monetary policy. That continued into the second quarter, but investors are closely watching how the Fed will respond to the impacts on inflation and employment, which could face the unusual tension of slowing economic growth and rising prices (stagflation).

Companies in the Financials sector were the only meaningful positive contributors, while those in Information Technology, Communication Services, and Consumer Discretionary were the largest detractors from results.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The "Magnificent 7" refers to the following stocks: Apple Inc. (AAPL), Microsoft Corp. (MSFT), Alphabet Inc. (GOOG), Amazon.com Inc. (AMZN), Tesla Inc. (TSLA), Meta Platforms Inc. (META), and NVIDIA Corp. (NVDA).



One North Wacker Drive, Suite 3500, Chicago, Illinois 60606 P 312.993.5800 curirmbcapital.com/asset-management

#### **Contributors and Detractors**

Progressive Corp. (PGR) was a positive contributor to performance. Progressive has become a household name thanks to its witty commercials for auto and home insurance in the U.S. Insurance stocks performed relatively well in the first guarter

in what was a relatively soft equity market environment for U.S. stocks. Auto insurance is one of the more 'defensive' corners within Financials. Progressive reported exceptional monthly earnings (they report monthly), with very strong underwriting margins and sustained growth in their policy counts and premiums.

Eli Lilly and Co. (LLY) was a positive contributor to performance, despite pre-announcing lower than expected 4Q revenue in January. LLY is a well-managed pharmaceutical with strong exposure to high-growth therapeutic areas, particularly diabetes and obesity. The company's growth is underpinned by the success of its blockbuster therapies, including Mounjaro and Zepbound (targeting diabetes and obesity) and Verzenio (for breast cancer). The GLP-1 market, estimated at \$100-\$200 billion, presents a substantial opportunity as these chronic-use drugs see increasing adoption and expanded indications. Investors are getting excited about next-generation assets, including Orforglipron (oral GLP-1) with Phase 3 type 2 diabetes data expected in 2Q25 followed by Phase 3 obesity data in the summer. More recently, the stock has been volatile on uncertainty regarding potential pharmaceutical tariffs, but LLY recently announced the largest pharma manufacturing investment in U.S. history that could better the company's position on a relative basis.

Alphabet Inc. (GOOGL/GOOG) detracted from performance during the quarter. On its Q424 earnings report, GOOGL posted revenue and operating margins results slightly ahead of consensus expectations, but growth in the Google Cloud Platform cloud services business – a closely watched business metric – came in just below expectations. GCP growth slowed in

Core Equity
FIRST QUARTER 2025 CONTRIBUTION REPORT
Ranked by Basis Point Contribution

В	Average Weight	
Top Contributors		
Progressive Corp	+77	4.48%
Visa Inc.	+63	6.79%
Verisk Analytics, Inc.	+18	2.61%
Eli Lilly and Co.	+9	2.02%
Apple Inc.	+8	0.29%
<b>Bottom Detractors</b>		
Salesforce, Inc.	-102	5.08%
Amazon.com, Inc.	-88	6.83%
Alphabet Inc. Class C	-71	4.05%
Alphabet Inc. Class A	-71	3.87%
PTC Inc.	-62	3.95%

Past performance is not indicative of future results, and there is a risk of loss of all or part of your investment. The above does not represent all holdings in the Strategy. Holdings listed might not have been held for the full period. To obtain a copy of RMB Asset Management's calculation methodology and a list of all holdings with contribution analysis, please contact your service team. The data provided is supplemental. Please see important disclosures at the end of this document.

a similar fashion to the other large cloud providers, suggesting this was not a company-specific trend. Management noted that more computing capacity was needed to drive GCP growth and correspondingly announced a plan for \$75B in capital expenditures in 2025. This was received by investors with caution in the wake of the DeepSeek revelations. We remain comfortable with its spending plans as long as usage of GCP's AI features continues to grow and efficiencies continue to improve the return profile. Overall, we continue to see GOOGL as one of the best positioned companies to address the AI opportunity in total.

PTC Inc. (PTC) was also a detractor in the quarter. PTC develops software solutions and services that help companies design products, manage product information, and improve their products. PTC serves over 30,000 customers globally with software for Product and Application Lifecycle Management (PLM, ALM) and Computer-Aided Design (CAD), among others. PTC underperformed in Q1 due to a combination of idiosyncratic and macro risk factors. The announced go-to-market reorganization appeared to drive some short-term disruptions of the business as PTC cut the full year FY25 revenue growth guidance to 8% and guided down the upcoming quarter annual recurring revenue (ARR) growth to below 10% for



the first time in company history. The macro wasn't helping either as the company has operated in a challenging macro environment for a while and is now getting worse with the ongoing tariff uncertainties.

### **Portfolio Activity**

The Strategy added two new companies to the portfolio, Apple Inc. (AAPL) and Broadcom Inc. (AVGO). We sold Advanced Micro Devices Inc. (AMD) and Jack Henry & Associates Inc. (JKHY) to fund the purchases.

We initiated a position in Apple Inc. (AAPL) during the quarter. Apple has become a household name as a high-margin, cash-generating technology leader with a powerful ecosystem of hardware, software, and services. Its loyal customer base and premium brand support consistent demand for flagship products like the iPhone, while services (e.g. iCloud, Apple Music, App Store) and wearables (e.g. Apple Watch, AirPods) provide recurring revenue and margin expansion. With a strong balance sheet, aggressive share buybacks, and growing services revenue, Apple offers both defensive stability and long-term growth potential. Continued innovation in Al (Apple Intelligence), AR/VR (e.g. Vision Pro) and health tech further enhance its upside. In initiating the position, we took advantage of the stock's -14% return to start the year on concerns about the impact of tariffs and policy uncertainty in general.

During the first quarter, we sold shares of Advanced Micro Devices Inc. (AMD) and used the proceeds to initiate a position in Broadcom Inc. (AVGO). Broadcom is a leading supplier of diverse semiconductors and software solutions. Its semiconductor products, which make up 60% of its revenues, span networking, compute, wireless, wired, storage, and industrial end markets. The software segment, representing 40% of revenues, covers mainframe, enterprise, and security software, and includes the recent VMware acquisition. Broadcom is mostly fabless and relies on third-party manufacturers for most of the wafer manufacturing and testing operations. TSMC does most of their front-end wafer manufacturing. Skillful acquisitions are part of the company's DNA and critical to its business strategy. The current portfolio was built in part from over a dozen acquisitions in the last few decades. The company is also known for highly skilled business integration, cutting costs, optimizing portfolios, and targeting higher return projects and products, resulting in the highest margins and free cash flow generation of its semiconductor peer group. We believe Broadcom is in a great position to benefit from the sustainable Al infrastructure build-out by supplying the market leading Application-Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC)-based Al accelerators and Al networking solutions. The recent announcement of new customers and sizable TAM expansion highlighted our investment thesis on Broadcom taking share from merchant GPUs supplied by NVDA and AMD. In addition, we have increased conviction on the company's investment in the software business, punctuated by the recent acquisition of VMWare, which was a big success.

### **Outlook**

The near-term outlook is cautious given the likely behavior of companies and consumers in the face of heightened uncertainty. As Q1 earnings results and conference calls begin, we expect many companies to reduce, widen, or remove 2025 earnings guidance. We expect companies to slow capital allocation decisions such as capital expenditures and mergers & acquisitions. Consumers may pull forward some purchases in advance or tariffs or defer purchases and tighten their belts. The likelihood of a recession has increased dramatically. Investors tend to pay a premium for greater visibility, predictability and growth, all of which have likely decreased. Unlike the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic or the Great Financial Crisis, the forward path can change with the stroke of a Sharpie or a social media post. We saw some of this volatility shortly after quarter-end when President Trump delayed the reciprocal tariffs by 90days, likely in response to an increasingly adverse stock market and higher treasury yields. We remain cautious and aware that delays and deferrals help with the magnitude of the disruption, but do not negate the risks.

Longer-term, we believe this may be a turning point in the global economic order. The U.S. has benefited from the U.S. dollar as a reserve currency, access to global markets, and influence over global institutions. Through the benefits of comparative advantage, globalization delivered low-cost goods to US manufacturers and consumers at the expense of



domestic manufacturing jobs. The costs of globalization became increasingly apparent as the wealth gap widened to the highest levels since the 1920s. The disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic revealed the fragility of tight global supply chains. The Russian invasion of Ukraine shed light on the strategic benefits of producing some essential goods locally (defense, steel, pharmaceuticals, etc.). Retreating globalization began years ago, but the pace of the current transformation is accelerating.

The magnitude of the changes occurring may lead to a more rapid evolution of winning and losing companies. Companies adapting to the changing competitive environment will likely outperform those that are either stuck on the status quo or have more structural impediments to change. This should create opportunities for active investors like us to differentiate performance vs. the indexes and the passive investors that follow them.

We focus on identifying companies that we believe can beat market expectations for growth and returns on capital. Economic cycles, interest rates, and investor preferences all influence short-term absolute and relative performance. Over the long-term, we believe that investing in high quality companies that create value for shareholders can result in long-term shareholder returns that beat the overall market.

Thank you for your confidence in the team and the Strategy. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Tom Fanter Portfolio Manager John O'Connor, CFA Portfolio Manager

#### **TOP TEN HOLDINGS AS OF 3/31/25**

Company	% of Assets
Visa Inc.	7.38%
Alphabet Inc. (Class A & C)	7.14%
Amazon.com Inc.	6.40%
Booking Holdings Inc.	5.29%
Tyler Technologies Inc.	5.07%
Microsoft Corp.	4.97%
Progressive Corp.	4.91%
S&P Global Inc.	4.87%
TJX Companies Inc.	4.83%
Salesforce Inc.	4.64%

Holdings are subject to change. Past performance is not indicative of future results, and there is risk of loss of all or part of your investment. The data provided is supplemental. Please see disclosures at the end of this document.



Past performance is not indicative of future results, and there is a risk of loss of all or part of your investment. The opinions and analyses expressed in this newsletter are based on Curi RMB Capital, LLC's ("Curi RMB Capital") research and professional experience are expressed as of the date of our mailing of this newsletter. Certain information expressed represents an assessment at a specific point in time and is not intended to be a forecast or guarantee of future results, nor is it intended to speak to any future time periods. Curi RMB Capital makes no warranty or representation, express or implied, nor does Curi RMB Capital accept any liability, with respect to the information and data set forth herein, and Curi RMB Capital specifically disclaims any duty to update any of the information and data contained in this newsletter. The information and data in this newsletter does not constitute legal, tax, accounting, investment or other professional advice. Returns are presented net of fees. An investment cannot be made directly in an index. The index data assumes reinvestment of all income and does not bear fees, taxes, or transaction costs. The investment strategy and types of securities held by the comparison index may be substantially different from the investment strategy and types of securities held by your account. RMB Asset Management is a division of Curi RMB Capital.

A complete list of security recommendations made during the past 12 months is available upon request. An investment cannot be made directly in an index. The index data assumes reinvestment of all income and does not account for fees, taxes or transaction costs. The investment strategy and types of securities held by the comparison index may be substantially different from the investment strategy and types of securities held by your account. The Russell 3000® measures the performance of the largest 3000 U.S. companies, representing approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity market. The Russell 3000® Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive, unbiased, and stable barometer of the broad market and is completely reconstituted annually. The S&P 500 includes 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The S&P 500 focuses on the large-cap segment of the market and covers approximately 75% of U.S. equities. High-quality stocks are those that we believe offer greater reliability and less risk. The quality assessment is made based on a combination of soft (e.g., management credibility) and hard (e.g., balance sheet stability) criteria.



#### **RMB Asset Management**

Core Equity Composite // GIPS Report

Organization | Curi RMB Capital, LLC ("Curi RMB Capital") is an independent investment advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and established in 2005. The GIPS firm is defined as RMB Asset Management ("RMB AM"), a division of Curi RMB Capital. Previously, the firm was defined as RMB Capital and was redefined on January 1, 2016 to only include the asset management business due to the difference in how its investment strategies and services are offered. RMB AM claims compliance with the Global investment Performance Standards (GIPS\*) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. RMB AM has been independently verified for the periods April 1, 2005 through December 31, 2022. The verification report(s) is/are available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report.

**Description** | The Core Equity Strategy reflects the performance of fully discretionary equity accounts, which have an investment objective of long-term growth using a portfolio of primarily small-, mid-, and large-cap stocks and for comparison purposes is measured against the Russell 3000 \* and S&P 500 indices. The inception date of the Core Equity Composite is April 1, 2005 and the Composite was created on April 1, 2005. Valuations and returns are computed and stated in U.S. Dollars.

	Total	Composite Assets		Annual Performance Results							
Year End	Firm Assets as of 12/31 (\$M)	USD (\$M)	# of Accounts Managed	Composite Gross-of-Fees (%)	Composite Net-of-Fees (%)	Russell 3000° (%)	S&P 500 (%)	Composite 3-YR ST DEV (%)	Russell 3000° 3-YR ST DEV (%)	S&P 500 3-YR ST DEV (%)	Composite Dispersion (%)
2023	6,235.5	507.9	387	25.83	25.23	25.96	26.29	18.96	17.46	17.29	0.64
2022	5,228.7	421.5	357	-22.82	-23.24	-19.21	-18.11	21.58	21.48	20.87	0.43
2021	6,277.6	574.4	417	23.95	23.36	25.66	28.71	18.24	17.94	17.17	0.37
2020	5,240.6	463.4	361	22.22	21.63	20.89	18.40	19.57	19.41	18.53	1.31
2019	4,947.9	487.6	737	32.14	31.53	31.02	31.49	13.43	12.21	11.93	0.92
2018	4,196.9	382.9	697	-1.81	-2.30	-5.24	-4.38	13.01	11.18	10.80	0.46
2017	3,610.6	356.8	625	23.48	22.89	21.13	21.83	12.41	10.09	9.92	0.37
2016	3,047.5	307.5	621	13.88	13.34	12.74	11.96	13.56	10.88	10.59	1.02
2015	3,706.0	298.2	666	-4.60	-5.08	0.48	1.38	12.77	10.56	10.47	0.54
2014	3,312.9	368.3	748	6.44	5.91	12.56	13.69	10.96	9.29	8.97	0.44

Fees | Effective January 1, 2011, Curi RMB Capital's management fee schedule for this Composite is as follows: 0.50% on the first \$3.0 million, 0.475% on the next \$2.0 million, 0.450% on the next \$5.0 million, 0.425% on the next \$15.0 million, and 0.400% over \$25.0 million. Net returns are computed by subtracting the highest applicable fee (1.00% on an annual basis) on a quarterly basis from the gross composite quarterly return, and the resulting quarterly net figures are compounded to calculate the annual net return. Actual management fees charged by Curi RMB Capital may vary. Composite performance is presented on a gross-of-fees and net-of-fees basis and includes the reinvestment of all income. Gross-of-fees returns means it is net of transaction costs but gross of asset management fees and custodian fees. The payment of actual fees and expenses would reduce gross returns. The compound effect of such fees and expenses should be considered when reviewing gross returns. The composite includes accounts that pay asset-based pricing for trading expenses. The maximum fee is 15 basis points per year; however, many accounts pay lower amounts due to household break-point relief. Returns for those accounts prior to 3/1/19 do not reflect the deduction of asset-based pricing are therefore gross of trading expenses. These accounts represent approximately 84% of composite assets. In addition to a management fee, some accounts pay a wealth management fee based on the percentage of assets under management to Curi RMB Capital. The annual composite dispersion is an asset-weighted standard deviation calculated for the accounts in the Composite the entire year. Risk measures presented are calculated using gross-of-fees performance. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request.

**Minimum Value Threshold** | The account minimum in the Core Equity composite is currently \$500 thousand. Prior to July 2020, the composite did not have a minimum.

Comparison with Market Indices | Curi RMB Capital compares its Composite returns to a variety of market indices such as the Russell 3000 and the S&P 500. The indices represent unmanaged portfolios whose characteristics differ from the Composite portfolios; however, it tends to represent the investment environment existing during the time period shown. The Russell 3000 \* Index consists of the 3000 largest publicly listed U.S. companies, representing about 98% of the U.S. equity market. The index does not reflect investment management fees, brokerage commissions, or other expenses associated with investing in equity securities. The S&P 500 Index is widely regarded as the best single gauge of the U.S. equity market. It includes 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The index focuses on the large-cap segment of the market and covers approximately 75% of the U.S. The index includes dividends reinvested. An investment cannot be made directly in an index. The returns of the index do not include any transaction costs, management fees, or other costs. The investment strategy and types of securities held by your account in the Composite. Benchmark returns presented are not covered by the report of independent verifiers.

**Other** | Past performance is no guarantee of future performance. Historical rates of return may not be indicative of future rates of return. Individual client performance returns may be different than the composite returns listed. Total Firm Assets as of 12/31 for the years 2011 and 2012 have been revised to exclude assets from personal trading accounts that were included in previously reported figures. GIPS\* is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. A list of Composite Descriptions and a list of Broad Distribution Pooled Funds are available upon request.

