

## GRANT PARK ABSOLUTE RETURN FUND

Annual Performance Update  
2017

### SUMMARY

GPHIX gained 16.52% during a period of strong performance in the equity markets in which the Fund invests. The Fund’s quantitative strategies were able to identify profitable investments, while actively trading and managing risk. Throughout the year, the Fund dynamically reduced exposure to avoid adverse market moves and increased exposure when potentially profitable opportunities were present.

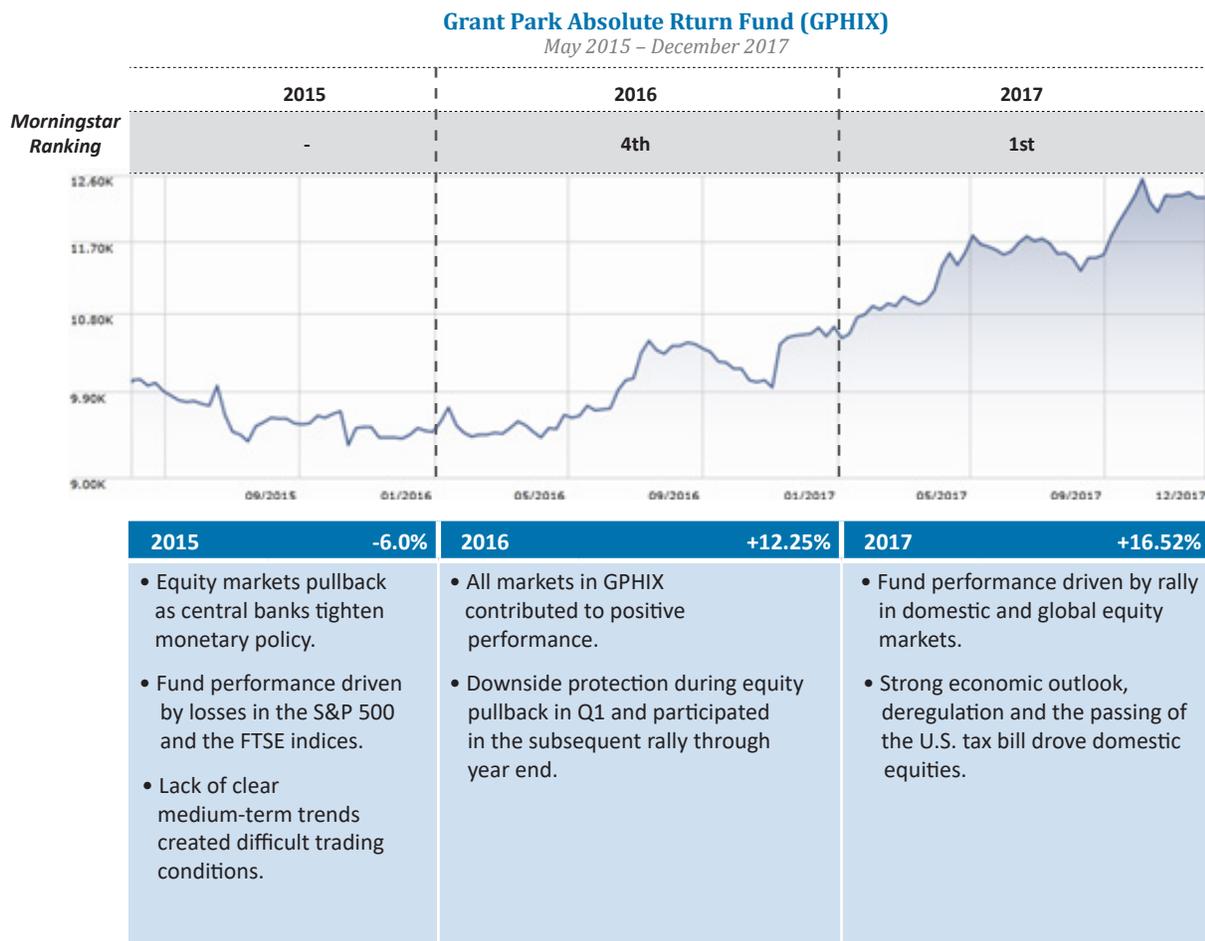
We appreciate your support and commitment to the Fund.

### 2018 POTENTIAL MARKET DRIVERS

Market factors to consider as you make changes to client portfolios:

- Duration of the extended bull market in domestic equities.
- Uncertainty in European equities.
- Global central banks deviate from market expectations.
- An increasingly chaotic geopolitical landscape.

### HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE



*The Fund was ranked 1st in the Morningstar Market Neutral category for the one-year period ending 12/31/2017 based on total returns. The Fund was ranked 4th in the Morningstar Market Neutral category for the one-year period ending 12/31/2016 based on total returns. As of December 31, 2017 there are 150 funds in the Morningstar Market Neutral category.*

## POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF ADDING GPHIX TO A PORTFOLIO

- Strong returns with a low correlation to stocks and bonds.

	May 2015 - Dec 2017			2017
	Annualized RoR	Standard Deviation	Correlation	RoR
GPHIX	8.04%	8.51	1.00	16.52%
Stocks*	9.21%	10.30	0.17	23.07%
Bonds**	2.52%	6.05	0.08	7.49%

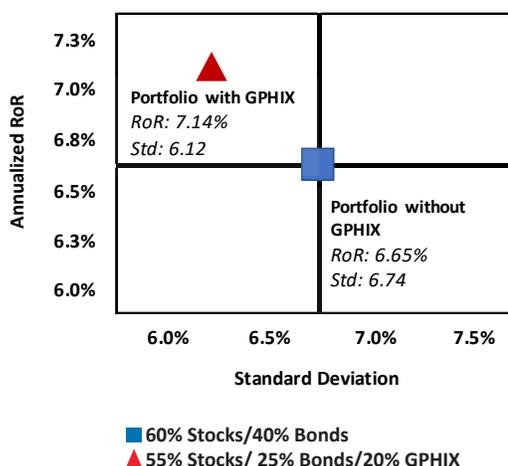
\*Stocks: MSCI World Equity Index

\*\*Bonds: Citi Government Bond World Index

- Historically reduced portfolio risk and improved long-term returns.

### Potential Benefits of Adding GPHIX to a Traditional Portfolio

May 2015 - December 2017



- **7% increase in portfolio returns** when GPHIX is added to a traditional portfolio (6.65% vs. 7.14%).
- **9% reduction in volatility** when GPHIX is added to a traditional portfolio (6.74 vs. 6.12).

## STRATEGIC DIVERSIFICATION

- Downside protection during equity reversals.
- Upside participation during equity rallies.

### Equity Composite Index: 5 Worst Months

May 2015 - December 2017

Period	Morningstar Category Averages				
	Composite Index	GPHIX	Market Neutral	L/S Equity	Bear Market
Aug 2015	-7.19%	1.16%	-0.39%	-3.50%	8.76%
Jan 2016	-6.83%	0.74%	-0.16%	-3.31%	8.86%
Sep 2015	-4.12%	0.31%	0.15%	-1.79%	4.24%
Jun 2016	-3.61%	0.21%	-0.42%	-0.93%	-0.41%
Dec 2015	-2.76%	-1.36%	-0.10%	-1.21%	3.68%
<b>Cum. Return</b>	<b>-24.50%</b>	<b>1.06%</b>	<b>-0.89%</b>	<b>-10.74%</b>	<b>25.13%</b>

### Equity Composite Index: 5 Best Months

May 2015 - December 2017

Period	Morningstar Category Averages				
	Composite Index	GPHIX	Market Neutral	L/S Equity	Bear Market
Oct 2015	9.43%	0.52%	0.71%	2.79%	-11.30%
Mar 2016	7.09%	-0.32%	0.47%	2.52%	-10.86%
Jul 2016	5.24%	3.72%	0.40%	1.95%	-6.99%
Dec 2016	4.31%	5.20%	0.47%	0.85%	-2.23%
May 2017	3.91%	5.14%	-0.33%	0.21%	-1.77%
<b>Cum. Return</b>	<b>29.98%</b>	<b>14.26%</b>	<b>1.72%</b>	<b>8.32%</b>	<b>-33.15%</b>

The Composite Index consist of 20% each S&P 500 TR Index, Nasdaq 100, FTSE 100, Dax, Dow Jones Eurostoxx 50

Past Performance is not indicative of future results.

## SECTOR DIVERSIFICATION

- Active, quantitative strategies attempt to identify profitable opportunities in rising and falling equity markets.

### Grant Park Absolute Return Fund vs. Equity Market Performance

2015		2016				2017			
Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
GPHIX -1.84%	DAX +11.21%	S&P 500 +0.77%	GPHIX +2.43%	Nasdaq +10.37%	DAX +9.23%	Nasdaq +11.77%	Eurostoxx +4.89%	Eurostoxx +8.01%	Nasdaq +6.98%
S&P 500 -6.13%	Nasdaq +9.86%	GPHIX +0.64%	S&P 500 +1.90%	DAX +8.58%	S&P 500 +3.25%	Eurostoxx +7.91%	GPHIX +4.80%	Nasdaq +5.89%	GPHIX +6.58%
Nasdaq -6.44%	S&P 500 +6.45%	Nasdaq -2.39%	Nasdaq -1.47%	GPHIX +7.22%	Eurostoxx +2.95%	DAX +7.25%	Nasdaq +3.88%	DAX +4.09%	S&P 500 +6.12%
Eurostoxx -9.22%	Eurostoxx +2.40%	FTSE -3.36%	DAX -2.86%	Eurostoxx +6.27%	GPHIX +1.56%	S&P 500 +5.53%	FTSE +3.57%	S&P 500 +3.96%	FTSE +4.27%
FTSE -10.55%	FTSE +0.27%	Eurostoxx -3.68%	FTSE -2.91%	FTSE +3.69%	Nasdaq -0.25%	GPHIX +4.32%	S&P 500 +2.57%	FTSE +3.82%	DAX +0.69%
DAX -11.74%	GPHIX -2.19%	DAX -7.24%	Eurostoxx -7.25%	S&P 500 +3.31%	FTSE -1.46%	FTSE +4.16%	DAX +0.10%	GPHIX 0.00%	Eurostoxx -2.53%

- GPHIX historically provided market diversification, downside protection, and upside participation.

## THEMES THAT COULD AFFECT GLOBAL MARKETS IN 2018:

- Duration of the extended bull market in domestic equities.** A more favorable corporate tax rate could help with valuations and spur additional upside in equity markets.
- Uncertainty in European equities.** As the U.K. transitions out of the EU, uncertainty about the full impact of the move may weaken growth. Economic conditions across Europe will be dictated by central banks' decisions to maintain accommodative monetary and fiscal policies.
- Global central banks deviate from market expectations.** Additional easing or tightening of monetary policy could create volatility across global fixed income, currency and equity markets. A recent example is the sell-off in the Canadian dollar after the Central Bank of Canada kept rates at 1.00%, when markets expected an additional 25bps hike.
- An increasingly chaotic geopolitical landscape.** Globally, there are multiple flashpoints which could create significant and sustained dislocations across multiple markets and asset classes - and create sustained opportunities in long and short trading opportunities in the financial and commodity sectors.

## CONCLUSION

Since the Fund's inception in 2015, two factors have driven the global markets:

- An extraordinary bull market across global equity markets, largely funded by low interest rates and unprecedented quantitative easing initiatives.
- An attempt by regional central banks to return their monetary policies to fiscally sound practices that include raising interest rates and dealing with exceptionally large balance sheets.

During 2016 and 2017, individual central banks began to take actions that were primarily aimed at addressing regional priorities, creating "directionally divergent" policies that no longer synchronized with other central banks:

- U.S. continued to raise interest rates as it reduced its balance sheet.
- European Central Bank maintained low interest rates and continued its quantitative easing.
- Bank of Japan maintained its decades-long easing program as it began to deal with inflation.
- China's efforts to price oil in RMB would elevate its currency to a reserve status, an action that could have a profound impact across global markets.

We believe that this continued move towards normalization will create significant opportunities across the investible universe of the Fund.

## Performance

	Dec	Q4	2017	Since Inception
<b>Without Max Sales Charge</b>				
Class I (GPHIX)	-0.64%	6.58%	16.52%	8.04%
<b>With Max Sales Charge*</b>				
Class A (GPHAX)	-6.34%	0.27%	9.58%	5.44%

The performance data quoted here represents past performance. For performance data current to the most recent month end, please call toll-free 855.501.4758 or visit our website, grantparkfunds.com. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted above. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment in the Funds will fluctuate so that investors' shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. The Fund's investment adviser has contractually agreed to reduce its fees and/or absorb expenses until at least April 30, 2018, to ensure that net annual, operating expenses of the Class A, C, I and N Shares will not exceed 1.89%, 2.64%, 1.64% and 1.89% respectively, subject to possible recoupment from the Fund in future years. Without these waivers, Class A, C, I and N share total annual operating expenses would be 7.85%, 8.66%, 7.82% and 8.43%. Please review the Fund's

## Prospectus Offering

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the Grant Park Absolute Return Fund. This and other important information about the Fund is contained in the prospectus, which can be obtained by calling 855.501.4758. The prospectus should be read carefully before investing. The Grant Park Absolute Return Fund is distributed by Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, member FINRA/SIPC. Dearborn Capital Management, LLC is not affiliated with Northern Lights Distributors, LLC.

## Risk Disclosure

Mutual Funds involve risks including the possible loss of principal.

The Fund's direct and indirect use of derivative instruments involves risks including leverage, tracking and issuer default risk. Counterparties could default on obligations, either through the counterparty's failure or inability to perform its obligations or bankruptcy, effecting the Fund's investment activities and/or resulting in losses to the Fund. Use of derivatives to increase the Fund's long/short exposure creates leverage which can magnify the potential for gain or loss. Illiquid securities may be difficult to purchase or sell at advantageous times or prices.

Currency trading risks include market, credit, and country risk, and a risk that material changes in currency exchange rates will negatively affect securities denominated in, and /or receiving revenues in, foreign and domestic currencies. Foreign and emerging market investing involves risks including adverse fluctuations in foreign currency values, adverse political, social and economic developments, less liquidity, greater volatility, less developed and/or less efficient trading markets, political instability and differing auditing and legal standards.

There could be an imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of its forward or futures contracts. The value of specific securities can be more volatile and perform differently than the market as a whole, especially those of smaller issuers. The advisor's and sub-advisor's use of models and data, their judgment about the attractiveness, value and potential appreciation of particular asset classes and securities in which the Fund invests may prove to be incorrect and may not produce the desired results.

Factors such as domestic and foreign economic growth and market conditions, interest rate levels, and political events affect the securities and derivatives markets in which the Fund invests and the value of the Fund. Securities with positive momentum may be more volatile than a broad cross section of securities. A higher portfolio turnover may result in higher transactional and brokerage costs. The Fund may invest in volatile instruments that appreciate or depreciate significantly in value over short periods of time. The Fund will incur a loss if the price of a short position increases in value between the date of the short sale and the date of an offsetting purchase.

Sovereign debt investments are subject to the risk that a governmental entity may delay or refuse to pay interest or repay principal on its sovereign debt. Obligations of U.S. Government agencies and authorities are supported by varying degrees of credit but generally are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to investment advisory fees and other expenses, which will be indirectly paid by the Fund and as a result the cost will be higher than a direct investment.

**Investments in alternative funds may not be suitable for all investors.**

Fund distributions will vary depending upon market conditions and number of shares outstanding. All dates and distributions are subject to board approval. Past distributions are no guarantee of future distributions or performance results.

## Glossary

**Citi Government Bond World Index:** Measures the performance of fixed rate, local currency, investment grade sovereign bonds. The index comprises sovereign debt from over 20 countries and serves as a benchmark for the global sovereign fixed income market.

**DAX Index:** A stock index that represents 30 of the largest and most liquid German companies that trade on the Frankfurt Exchange.

**DJ Eurostoxx 50:** A market capitalization-weighted stock index of 50 large, blue-chip European companies operating within eurozone nations.

**FTSE:** A company that specializes in index calculation. Although not part of a stock exchange, co-owners include the London Stock Exchange and the Financial Times. The FTSE is similar to Standard & Poor's in the United States.

**Long:** Buying a security such as a stock, commodity or currency, with the expectation that the asset will rise in value.

**MSCI World Equity Index:** Captures large and mid cap equity representation across 23 developed markets and countries. The index covers approximately 83% of the market capitalization in each country.

**Nasdaq:** An index made up of stocks that represent the Nasdaq Global Market. The NASDAQ Global Market Composite consists of 1,450 stocks that meet Nasdaq's strict financial and liquidity requirements, and corporate governance standards.

**Short:** Selling a security such as a stock, commodity or currency, with the expectation that the asset will fall in value.

**Standard & Poor's 500 Total Return Index:** A weighted index consisting of the 500 stocks in the S&P 500 Index, which are chosen by Standard & Poor's based on industry representation, liquidity, and stability. The stocks in the S&P 500 Index are not the 500 largest companies, rather the index is designed to capture the returns of many different sectors of the U.S. economy. The Total Return calculation includes the price-plus-gross cash dividend return. Investors cannot directly invest in an index and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges.

**Standard & Poor's Europe 350 Index:** This is a Standard & Poor's index which consists of 350 leading blue-chip companies drawn from 16 developed European markets.

## Fund Dividend & Capital Gains Distributions

Record Date: December 15, 2017

Ex-Dividend/Payable/Reinvestment Date: Dec 18, 2017

Share Class	Re-Investment Price	Dividend Income	Short-Term Capital Gain	Long-Term Capital Gain	Distribution Total
A (GPHAX)	\$11.21	\$0.0000	\$0.2955	\$0.4344	\$0.7299
C (GPHCX)	\$10.95	\$0.0000	\$0.2955	\$0.4344	\$0.7299
I (GPHIX)	\$11.27	\$0.0118	\$0.2955	\$0.4344	\$0.7417
N (GPHNX)	\$11.19	\$0.0000	\$0.2955	\$0.4344	\$0.7299

All charts in this document were prepared by Dearborn Capital Management, LLC.  
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