

## Portfolio Update: Fourth Quarter 2022

During the fourth quarter ending December 31, 2022, the RMB Small Cap Fund (the “Fund” or “RMBBX”) returned +4.67%, net of fees, compared to a +6.23% return for the Russell 2000® Index.

	Quarter	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception (8/30/2002)
RMBBX	+4.67%	-24.80%	-24.80%	+3.22%	+5.91%	+8.78%	+9.52%
Russell 2000® Index	+6.23%	-20.44%	-20.44%	+3.10%	+4.13%	+9.01%	+9.12%

**Performance listed is as of December 31, 2022. Performance over one year is annualized. The performance data quoted represents past performance and is not a guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate, so that those shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the data quoted. To obtain performance as of the most recent month end, please call 855-280-6423. The Fund’s gross expense ratio is 1.06%.**

**The Fund’s investment advisor, RMB Capital Management, LLC, has adapted a contractual expense limitation agreement for each fund through April 30, 2023, reducing the applicable Fund’s operating expenses. This may be continued from year to year thereafter if agreed upon by all parties. In the absence of such waivers and/or reimbursements, the applicable Fund’s total return and yield would be lower.**

The quarter extended a year of extreme volatility. We believe above average volatility is primarily an outcome of two conditions. First, less liquidity as the Federal Reserve continues to reduce its balance sheet and raise rates at a record pace to get inflation down to its 2% target. Second, investor uncertainty around how to price inflation, recession, and earnings risks. The fourth quarter ended up on the right side of volatility as inflation shows signs of peaking, the economic data continue to surprise on the upside and earnings continue to come in stronger than expected.

According to our data, 57% of companies in the Russell 2000® Index met or exceeded earnings expectations, while 60% met or exceeded sales. Our portfolio of companies performed even better with 70% meeting or exceeding earnings expectations, and 68% meeting or exceeding sales expectations. We anticipated that if inflation and economic data came in better than expected that the market could increase and the portfolio’s “quality cyclicals” that were priced for a recession would drive excess return. We did indeed experience that outcome. The market rose and portfolio return was led by our quality cyclicals, particularly among our Consumer Discretionary, Financial, Materials and REIT holdings. However, we did not anticipate the extreme downside volatility from our healthcare holdings, which is the major reason the portfolio lagged by 152 basis points this quarter.

This year value outperformed growth by 20%.<sup>1</sup> This hasn’t happened since 2000. Our portfolio lifecycle diversification kept us pretty well balanced between growth and value but we were about 300 basis points tilted toward growth and a bit higher on a volatility adjusted basis as the volatility increased among our life sciences holdings. To be clear, the growth factor was not much of a headwind, but the company specific performance of our life science holdings was, which we will address further below.

## Contributors and Detractors

All five of the top contributors can be described as “quality cyclicals.”

Fair Isaac Corp. (FICO +45.15%) helps businesses improve credit decisions by offering tools that automate and connect decisions across business units. These tools help customers increase loyalty and profitability, cut fraud losses, manage credit risk, and meet regulatory and competitive demands. FICO also helps millions of individuals manage their credit

<sup>1</sup> Source: RMB Capital, Russell 3000® Value Index vs. Russell 3000® Growth Index annual returns 12/31/79 - 12/31/22.

health through its [www.myFICO.com](http://www.myFICO.com) website. We have owned FICO since 2016 believing that Will Lansing, CEO, would drive an innovation renaissance within FICO and transform the business from a utility-like mature business with recurring revenue into a more dynamic growth company. The thesis is playing out and this quarter's results convinced the doubters as FICO handily beat expectations demonstrating pricing power and margin improvement.

Eagle Materials Inc. (EXP +23.84%) is a producer and manufacturer of cement, concrete, and gypsum wallboard benefitting from positive supply demand dynamics. This is a classic value creation holding where supply is constrained by years of government regulation restricting new capacity. Increased demand for infrastructure spending positions EXP very well as a low-cost producer with pricing power and rising margins. Exceptional quarterly results confirmed pricing power and margin improvement, generating enthusiasm for the company and moving it towards fair value.

Valmont Industries Inc. (VMI +23.10%) manufactures metal structures sold into the agriculture and infrastructure end markets. Its management team is operationally skilled and has been able to maintain double digit economic returns while facing cyclical headwinds. Now that these headwinds have become tailwinds, VMI is poised to improve margins and Return on Investment (ROI) and increase shareholder value. Recent quarterly results confirmed our thesis with margin and sales expectations ahead of consensus as well as a record order backlog confirming strengthening tailwinds.

Portfolio detractors were concentrated in the healthcare sector - more specifically, among our companies benefiting from the biotech revolution. We have been investing in this theme since 2000 when we were early investors in Illumina, which was the first company to decode the human genome. At that time, it cost \$5 billion to decode a human genome and we remember when Jay Flatley (founder of ILMN) predicted the cost would drop to \$100 per person over the next 20 years. Back then he predicted that rapidly declining costs for genetic decoding would fuel massive innovation and a boom in new drug discovery. Over the last 20 years, we have invested and participated in what we believe are still the early innings of this theme, which is uniquely concentrated in the small cap space. As Jay Flatley predicted, the falling cost of genetic decoding has given birth to new therapeutic classes such as gene editing, mRNA, immunotherapy, targeted antibodies, and antibody drug conjugates. These new therapeutic classes are already saving lives that would be lost to malicious diseases only a decade ago. The life sciences companies we own are enabling record-breaking drug discoveries and have contributed to longer term excess return for our portfolio. Unfortunately, we gave back a lot of last year's excess performance in the healthcare sector as these companies have been lumped into what is being termed the biotech bubble. And while we certainly believe there are a lot of busted bubbles out there that will not recover, we do not believe that biotech is one of them. Rather, biotech reminds us of the "internet bubble" of 1999 where world changing businesses rose from the ashes of the ".com tech bust" to give birth to the internet revolution and innovation machines like Amazon, Google, Netflix, Salesforce, and Facebook to name a few. Our life sciences and biotech holdings took a beating along with many other growthier names this quarter and year. Peak fundamentals from the Covid tailwinds were exacerbated on the downside due to supply chain issues, labor issues and tough comps. The momentum investors sold en masse and Omnicell Inc. (OMCL) -42.07%, Repligen Corp. (RGEN) -9.51%, Catalent Inc. (CTLT) -37.80%,

## RMB Small Cap Fund

### FOURTH QUARTER 2022 CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Ranked by Basis Point Contribution

	Basis Point Contribution	Return
<b>Top Contributors</b>		
Fair Isaac Corp.	+94	+45.15%
TriCo Bancshares	+67	+14.86%
Eagle Materials Inc.	+65	+23.84%
Valmont Industries Inc.	+58	+23.10%
Visteon Corp.	+55	+23.21%
<b>Bottom Detractors</b>		
Omnicell Inc.	-81	-42.07%
Catalent Inc.	-80	-37.80%
Chart Industries Inc.	-63	-36.94%
Repligen Corp.	-32	-9.51%
CRISPR Therapeutics AG	-29	-37.80%

*The performance presented above is sourced through Factset Research Systems Inc. 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 Fund. Holdings listed might not have been held for the full period. To obtain a copy of RMB'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.*

and CRISPR Therapeutics AG (CRSP) -37.80% experienced significant underperformance. We are playing the long game and still have high conviction in these names. We expect the first half of the year to continue to be a headwind for these holdings, but comps get much easier after the second quarter and we expect forward-looking investors to eventually recognize the value in these names. We have no problem staying patient and are reminded of Warren Buffett's words, "The stock market is a device for transferring money from the impatient to the patient."

## Portfolio Activity

Higher volatility created more opportunities to trim outsized winners, harvest tax losses for lower conviction names, and increase weights in higher conviction names. We trimmed big winners: Devon Energy Corp. (CRS), Stock Yards Bancorp Inc. (SYBT), Carpenter Technology Corp. (CRS), Badger Meter Inc. (BMI), Essential Properties Realty Trust Inc. (EPRT), Kadant Inc. (KAI), TriCo Bankshares (TCBK), EastGroup Properties Inc. (EGP), Visteon Corp. (VC), and Eagle Materials Inc. (EXP). We tax-loss harvested Guidewire Software Inc. (GWRE) and Sonos Inc. (SONO). We sold Chart Industries Inc. (GTLS) because they paid too much and bet the firm on an acquisition of Howden at the top of the cycle using massive amounts of leverage right as interest rates were going up. This was not part of our positive thesis, so we sold the shares. We added to Matador Resources Co. (MTDR), a founder led low-cost oil producer with undervalued mid-stream assets. Additionally, Matador is using significant free cash flow to reduce debt. We added to Range Resources Corp. (RRC), an undervalued natural gas producer poised to benefit from long-term increasing demand for cleaner burning cheap fossil fuel.

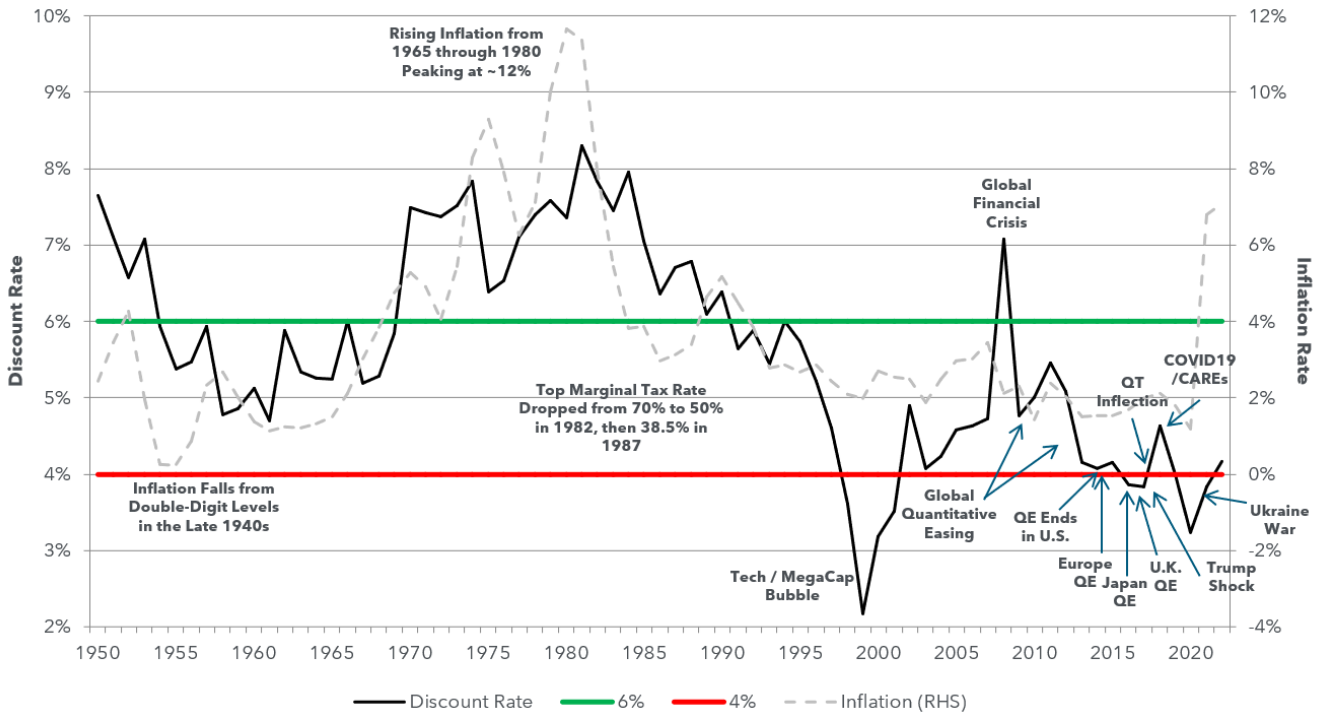
## Outlook

Volatility is likely to remain elevated as the market tries to price inflation, recession, and earnings risks. All three risks are elevated and highly uncertain with what we believe is an equally probable bullish or bearish outlook.

The bearish outlook is based on a belief that all three risks are currently mispriced - too optimistically. Bears are betting inflation will remain above the Fed's 2% target. Getting below 4% will be difficult due to a tight labor market and trillions of dollars in new government spending creating excess demand while supply chains are still trying to adapt to a post-Covid world. Thus, the Federal Reserve would have to raise rates higher than the market is expecting - and for longer - to reduce demand. This leads to the second mispriced risk related to recession. While many investors, economists, and CEOs concede a recession is likely in 2023, there is little consensus around how deep or long it might last. The Bears argue the Fed cannot hit their 2% target without causing a deep recession, much deeper than currently implied by earnings estimates, which brings us to the third mispriced risk. Earnings estimates are forecast to decline 9%, but a typical recession results in about a 20-30% decline. A deep recession could result in earnings declines of greater than 30%, which is not priced in. As we handicap the downside to the Bear argument, we estimate the market could drop another 30-40% if the real discount rate approaches past bear market peak levels to fully reflect the Bears' inflation, economic and earnings risks.

The bullish outlook is based on the belief that all three risks are mispriced - too pessimistically. The Bulls argue inflation has peaked and is coming down rapidly. Several commodities have come down to pre-inflation levels, for example lumber oil and natural gas. As it relates to recession risk, when many CEO's expect one, the only way to surprise anyone is if there isn't one! Economic data continues to surprise on the upside. The Infrastructure Bill and the Inflation Reduction Act, reshoring by corporate America, and a strong labor market all point to either no or a modest recession. The housing market is already in deep recession, yet the housing stocks have stopped going down indicating a lot of bad news is priced in, including further negative earnings revisions. Bulls also believe that if they are wrong, meaning the economy rapidly transitions into a hard landing, that the Fed will capitulate and lower interest rates, start buying debt and ignite another "risk on" bull market. Heads I win. Tails you lose.

## Exhibit 1. Discount Rate History



Source: Credit Suisse HOLT ValueSearch and RMB Asset Management Research Core (Data Date: December 31, 2022)

Unfortunately, we don't know which is more likely, but suspect there will be a tug of war between the Bulls and the Bears leading to another volatile year as the market digests data on inflation, the economy, and earnings. Our portfolio dual diversification construction process recognizes the axiom that more things can happen than will happen. We seek to own great companies that can create value over the long term with a portfolio constructed in a way that can perform well even when factor volatility increases.

As always, we believe the companies we aim to invest in demonstrate high managerial skill in capital allocation and adaptability, which we believe can create value for customers, employees, communities, and shareholders.

Thank you for your commitment to the Fund. Should you have any questions regarding your investment, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Chris Faber  
Portfolio Manager

## TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS OF 12/31/22

<b>Company</b>	<b>% of Assets</b>
<b>TriCo Bancshares</b>	4.38%
<b>Seacoast Banking Corp. of Florida</b>	3.94%
<b>Valmont Industries Inc.</b>	3.41%
<b>Repligen Corp.</b>	3.15%
<b>PTC Inc.</b>	3.09%
<b>Exponent Inc.</b>	3.03%
<b>Devon Energy Corp.</b>	3.02%
<b>EastGroup Properties Inc.</b>	3.00%
<b>Curtiss-Wright Corp.</b>	2.97%
<b>American Financial Group Inc.</b>	2.83%

*Holdings are subject to change. The above is a list of all securities that composed 32.81% of holdings managed as of 12/31/2022 under the RMB Small Cap Fund ("Fund") of RMB Capital Management, LLC ("RMB Capital") based on the aggregate dollar value. This list is provided for informational purposes only and may or may not represent the current securities managed. It does not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for advisory clients (under the Fund or otherwise) during the calendar quarter ending 12/31/2022. The reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable. For a complete list of historical recommendation for the Fund, please contact RMB Investors Trust at 855-280-6423.*

---

*The opinions and analyses expressed in this letter are based on RMB Capital Management, LLC's ("RMB Capital") research and professional experience are expressed as of the date of our mailing of this letter. Certain information expressed represents an assessment at a specific point in time and is not intended to be a forecast or guarantee of future performance, nor is it intended to speak to any future time periods. RMB Capital makes no warranty or representation, express or implied, nor does RMB Capital accept any liability, with respect to the information and data set forth herein, and RMB Capital specifically disclaims any duty to update any of the information and data contained in this letter. The information and data in this letter does not constitute legal, tax, accounting, investment, or other professional advice. Past performance is not indicative of future results, and there is a risk of loss of all or part of your investment. This information is confidential and may not be reproduced or redistributed to any other part without the permission of RMB Capital.*

*Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against a loss in a declining market.*

*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. The Russell 2000 Index measures the performance of the 2,000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index. The index does not reflect investment management fees, brokerage commissions, or other expenses associated with investing in equity securities.*

**Basis Point (bps):** *A unit that is equal to 1/100th of 1% and is used to denote the change in a financial instrument.*

**Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. For complete information about the Fund, including a free prospectus, please contact RMB Investors Trust at 855-280-6423, or visit the website at [www.rmbfunds.com](http://www.rmbfunds.com). The prospectus contains important information about the funds, including investment objectives, risks, management fees, sales charges, and other expenses, which you should consider carefully before you invest or send money.**

*All investing involves risk including the possible loss of principal. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. Investments in smaller companies involve additional risks such as limited liquidity and greater volatility. Incorporation of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors into the Fund's investment process may cause the Fund to make different investments and have different investment performance and exposures to different issuers and industries than funds that do not incorporate ESG considerations.*

*Foreside Fund Services, LLC, Distributor*