

Annual Shareholder Report

June 30, 2023



Share Class | Ticker

Institutional | FHUMX

R6* | FHURX

* Effective close of business on August 18, 2023, Class R6 Shares will be liquidated.

Federated Hermes U.S. SMID Fund

Fund Established 2020

A Portfolio of Federated Hermes Adviser Series

Dear Valued Shareholder,

We are pleased to present the Annual Shareholder Report for your fund covering the period from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. This report includes Management's Discussion of Fund Performance, a complete listing of your fund's holdings, performance information and financial statements along with other important fund information.

As a global leader in active, responsible investment management, Federated Hermes is guided by our conviction that responsible investing is the best way to create wealth over the long term. The company provides capabilities across a wide range of asset classes to investors around the world.

In addition, FederatedHermes.com/us offers quick and easy access to valuable resources that include timely fund updates, economic and market insights from our investment strategists and financial planning tools. You can also access many of those insights by following us on Twitter (@FederatedHermes) and LinkedIn.

Thank you for investing with us. We hope you find this information useful and look forward to keeping you informed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Christopher Donahue".

J. Christopher Donahue, President

Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee

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Management's Discussion of Fund Performance (unaudited)

The total return of Federated Hermes U.S. SMID Fund (the "Fund"), based on net asset value for the 12-month reporting period ended June 30, 2023, was 23.38% for the Institutional Shares and 23.38% for the Class R6 Shares. The total return of the Russell 2500[®] Index (Russell 2500),¹ the Fund's broad-based securities market index was 13.58%, for the same period. The total return of the Morningstar U.S. Mid-Cap Blend Funds Average (MUSMCBA),² a peer group average for the Fund, was 13.96% for the same period. The Fund's and MUSMCBA's total returns for the most recently completed reporting period reflected actual cash flows, transaction costs and expenses, which were not reflected in the total return of the Russell 2500.

During the reporting period, the Fund's investment strategy focused on security selection, which was the most significant factor affecting the Fund's performance relative to the Russell 2500. The following discussion will focus on the performance of the Fund's R6 Shares relative to the Russell 2500.

MARKET OVERVIEW

U.S. small-cap³ and mid-cap⁴ stocks, as represented by the Russell 2500, rose 13.6% during the reporting period. Equity markets rallied in the final quarter of 2022, which continued into the first half of 2023 as inflationary pressures eased. The Federal Reserve (the "Fed") maintained their hawkish monetary policy although the pace of rate hikes was dialed back to 25 basis points in the second half of the reporting period and then was paused in June. The Fed awaits the effects of their tightening cycle to trickle through the economy, although the updated dot plot indicates further rate hikes later this year. The U.S. economy has remained resilient despite higher rates and was one of the strongest performing regions over the first half of 2023 as enthusiasm around Artificial Intelligence boosted technology stocks. There were tentative signs of a cooling in the labor market as unemployment rose to 3.7% in June 2023. This was a larger increase than expected; however, the labor market remained historically tight.

At a sector level during the reporting period, Industrials (30.5%) was the strongest performing sector followed by Consumer Discretionary (22.5%). Financials (-2.7%) and Telecommunications (-2.5%) lagged the broader index and were the worst performing sectors during the reporting period. Large cap stocks, as represented by the S&P 500[®] Index,⁵ returned 19.6% while small cap stocks, as represented by the Russell 2000 Index,⁶ returned 12.3% during the reporting period. The Russell 2500 Growth Index,⁷ returned 18.6%, while the Russell 2500 Value Index,⁸ returned 10.3% during the reporting period.

SECURITY SELECTION

The Fund outperformed the Russell 2500 over the period as strong stock selection and the Fund's overweight position in Industrials, strong stock selection in Utilities and an underweight position in Real Estate were positive. This counteracted the detraction from stock selection in Health Care and an underweight position in Consumer Discretionary.

The largest single contributors to relative returns over the period were Axon Enterprise, Inc., Clean Harbors, Inc. and Eagle Materials, Inc. Axon Enterprise, a global public safety company, had strong, broad based back-to-back quarterly results which continued into the start of 2023. Axon Enterprise's 2023 guidance also beat expectations and its 2025 targets pointed to a robust outlook. Clean Harbors, an environmental and industrial services company, had strong quarterly results and a positive 2023 outlook with a health demand expected for its network of waste services. It continued its strong performance in the first half of 2023 as the market appreciated improving conditions in each of its main business streams, and in particular, its ability to raise prices in its landfill operations. Eagle Materials, a building materials company, climbed following strong quarterly results. The company has benefitted from a healthy demand in cement for industrial projects and multi-family residential construction.

The largest detractors were Azenta, Inc., Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc. and Community Bank System, Inc. Azenta, a cryogenic equipment company, fell after a number of quarterly results missed expectations. Revenue shortfall was driven by inflation pressure, a strong U.S. dollar, fading Covid demand, a slower recovery in China and its acquisition of B Medical Systems in 2022. Azenta Management is confident that organic growth will accelerate in the second half of 2023. Bio-Rad, a life science research and clinical diagnostic products company, declined as quarterly results missed expectations. The company's management lowered revenue growth for its fiscal year 2023. Community Bank, a regional U.S. bank, declined alongside other banks following the collapse of three regional U.S. banks and a fear of contagion in the banking sector. While not immune to volatility, all of the Fund's U.S. regional bank holdings have greater diversification on both sides of their balance sheet, a more diversified depositor base (over 50% insured) and a loan book with exposure to a broader set of end markets. This was in stark contrast to the make-up of the collapsed banks and highlights the importance of Fund Management's investment process. Fund Management always required a detailed analysis of individual banks deposit book and avoided banks whose exposure was too focused on one part of the economy.

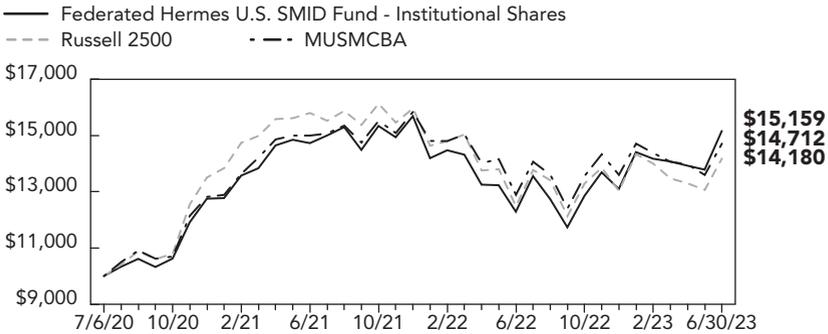
- 1 Please see the footnotes to the line graph below for definitions of, and further information about, the Russell 2500.
 - 2 Please see the footnotes to the line graph below for definitions of, and further information about, the Morningstar peer group.
 - 3 Since the Fund invests in smaller companies, it may be more volatile, and subject to greater short-term risk, than funds that invest in larger companies. Smaller companies may have limited resources, product lines and markets and their securities may trade less frequently and in more limited volumes than securities of larger companies.
 - 4 Mid-capitalization companies often have narrower markets and limited managerial and financial resources compared to larger and more established companies.
 - 5 The S&P 500[®] Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.*
 - 6 The Russell 2000[®] Index measures the performance of the small-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell 2000[®] Index is a subset of the Russell 3000[®] Index representing approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2,000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.*
 - 7 The Russell 2500[®] Growth Index measures the performance of the small to mid-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 2500[®] companies with higher growth earning potential.*
 - 8 The Russell 2500[®] Value measures the performance of the small to mid-cap value segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 2500[®] companies that are considered more value oriented relative to the overall market.*
- * The index is unmanaged, and it is not possible to invest directly in an index.

FUND PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT

The graph below illustrates the hypothetical investment of \$10,000¹ in the Federated Hermes U.S. SMID Fund (the “Fund”) from July 6, 2020² to June 30, 2023 compared to the Russell 2500[®] Index (the “Russell 2500”)³ and the Morningstar U.S. Mid-Cap Blend Funds Average (MUSMCBA).⁴ The Average Annual Total Return table below shows returns averaged over the stated periods.

GROWTH OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT

Growth of \$10,000 as of June 30, 2023



The Fund offers multiple share classes whose performance may be greater than or less than its other share class(es) due to differences in sales charges and expenses. See the Average Annual Total Return table below for the returns of additional classes not shown in the graph above.

Average Annual Total Returns for the Period Ended 6/30/2023

	1 Year	Start of Performance ²
Institutional Shares	23.38%	14.90%
R6 Shares⁵	23.38%	14.91%
Russell 2500	13.58%	12.38%
MUSMCBA	13.96%	13.72%

Performance data quoted represents past performance which is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Mutual fund performance changes over time and current performance may be lower or higher than what is stated. For current to the most recent month-end performance and after-tax returns, visit FederatedHermes.com/us or call 1-800-341-7400. Returns shown do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption of Fund shares. Mutual funds are not obligations of or guaranteed by any bank and are not federally insured.

- 1 *The Fund's performance assumes the reinvestment of all dividends and distributions. The Russell 2500 and the MUSMCBA have been adjusted to reflect reinvestment of dividends on securities in the index and the average.*
- 2 *The Fund commenced operations on July 6, 2020.*
- 3 *The Russell 2500 Index measures the performance of the small to midcap segment of the U.S. equity universe, commonly referred to as "smid" cap. The Russell 2500[®] Index is a subset of the Russell 3000[®] Index. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 2500[®] Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the small to mid-cap segment. The index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small to mid-cap opportunity set.*
- 4 *Morningstar figures represent the average of the total returns reported by all the funds designated by Morningstar as falling into the respective category indicated. They do not reflect sales charges. The Morningstar figures in the Growth of a \$10,000 Investment line graph are based on historical return information published by Morningstar and reflect the return of the funds comprising the category in the year of publication. Because the funds designated by Morningstar as falling into the category can change over time, the Morningstar figures in the line graph may not match the Morningstar figures in the Cumulative Total Returns table, which reflect the return of the funds that currently comprise the category.*
- 5 *The Fund's Class R6 Shares commenced operations on June 11, 2021. For the period prior to the commencement of operations of R6 Shares, the performance information shown for the Fund's R6 Shares is for the Institutional Shares. The performance of the Institutional Shares has not been adjusted to reflect the expenses of the R6 Shares, since the R6 Shares has a lower expense ratio than the expense ratio of the Institutional Shares.*

Portfolio of Investments Summary Table (unaudited)

At June 30, 2023, the Fund's sector classification¹ was as follows:

Sector Classification	Percentage of Total Net Assets
Industrials	28.0%
Information Technology	21.4%
Financials	14.1%
Health Care	12.9%
Consumer Discretionary	11.2%
Materials	8.6%
Energy	2.0%
Real Estate	1.5%
Utilities	0.9%
Other Assets and Liabilities—Net ²	(0.6)%
TOTAL	100%

- ¹ Except for Other Assets and Liabilities, sector classifications are based upon, and individual portfolio securities are assigned to, the classifications of the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) except that the Adviser assigns a classification to securities not classified by the GICS and to securities for which the Adviser does not have access to the classification made by the GICS.
- ² Assets, other than investments in securities, less liabilities. See Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Portfolio of Investments

June 30, 2023

Shares		Value
	COMMON STOCKS—100.6%	
	Consumer Discretionary—11.2%	
940	Brunswick Corp.	\$ 81,442
442	Columbia Sportswear Co.	34,140
1,670	LKQ Corp.	97,311
16	¹ NVR, Inc.	101,610
926	Pulte Group, Inc.	71,932
589	Service Corp. International	38,043
	TOTAL	424,478
	Energy—2.0%	
2,411	Championx Corp.	74,838
	Financials—14.1%	
359	Assurant, Inc.	45,133
982	Brown & Brown	67,601
1,183	Community Bank System, Inc.	55,459
1,377	Lazard Ltd., Class A	44,064
643	¹ Palomar Holdings, Inc.	37,320
419	Reinsurance Group of America	58,111
1,194	Webster Financial Corp. Waterbury	45,073
481	¹ WEX, Inc.	87,576
34	White Mountains Insurance Group, Inc.	47,223
632	Wintrust Financial Corp.	45,896
	TOTAL	533,456
	Health Care—12.9%	
957	¹ AMN Healthcare Services, Inc.	104,428
845	¹ Azenta, Inc.	39,444
168	¹ Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc., Class A	63,692
493	¹ ICU Medical, Inc.	87,848
566	Revvity, Inc.	67,235
307	STERIS PLC	69,069
1,519	¹ Vericel Corp.	57,069
	TOTAL	488,785

Shares

Value

COMMON STOCKS—continued		
Industrials—28.0%		
542	¹ Axon Enterprise, Inc.	\$ 105,755
646	¹ Chart Industries, Inc.	103,224
622	¹ Clean Harbors, Inc.	102,275
529	Equifax, Inc.	124,474
1,186	Fortune Brands Innovations, Inc.	85,333
261	¹ FTI Consulting, Inc.	49,642
799	Maximus, Inc.	67,523
1,165	nVent Electric PLC	60,196
306	¹ Paylocity Corp.	56,466
490	Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.	67,865
1,179	Smith (A.O.) Corp.	85,808
593	Timken Co.	54,277
813	Woodward, Inc.	96,674
	TOTAL	1,059,512
Information Technology—21.4%		
1,031	¹ Altair Engineering, Inc.	78,191
1,322	Cognex Corp.	74,059
102	¹ Fair Isaac & Co., Inc.	82,539
257	¹ Gartner, Inc., Class A	90,030
563	¹ Guidewire Software, Inc.	42,833
213	Littelfuse, Inc.	62,049
1,145	Power Integrations, Inc.	108,397
878	¹ PTC, Inc.	124,939
506	¹ Silicon Laboratories, Inc.	79,817
616	Teradyne, Inc.	68,579
	TOTAL	811,433
Materials—8.6%		
625	Aptargroup, Inc.	72,412
595	Eagle Materials, Inc.	110,920
168	Martin Marietta Materials	77,564
737	RPM International, Inc.	66,131
	TOTAL	327,027
Real Estate—1.5%		
4,137	Retail Opportunity Investments Corp.	55,891

Shares		Value
	COMMON STOCKS—continued	
	Utilities—0.9%	
1,241	Boralex, Inc., Class A	\$ 33,790
	TOTAL COMMON STOCKS (IDENTIFIED COST \$2,844,040)	3,809,210
	TOTAL INVESTMENT IN SECURITIES—100.6% (IDENTIFIED COST \$2,844,040) ²	3,809,210
	OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - NET—(0.6)% ³	(21,947)
	TOTAL NET ASSETS—100%	\$3,787,263

1 *Non-income-producing security.*

2 *The cost of investments for federal tax purposes amounts to \$2,843,939.*

3 *Assets, other than investments in securities, less liabilities. See Statement of Assets and Liabilities.*

Note: The categories of investments are shown as a percentage of total net assets at June 30, 2023.

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 (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.). Also includes securities valued at amortized cost.

Level 3—significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

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

As of June 30, 2023, all investments of the Fund utilized Level 1 inputs in valuing the Fund's assets carried at fair value.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

Financial Highlights – Institutional Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Year Ended June 30		Period Ended
	2023	2022	6/30/2021 ¹
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$11.75	\$14.69	\$10.00
Income From Investment Operations:			
Net investment income (loss)	0.02	(0.01)	(0.00) ²
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.67	(2.32)	4.72
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	2.69	(2.33)	4.72
Less Distributions:			
Distributions from net investment income	(0.01)	—	(0.01)
Distributions from net realized gain	(0.33)	(0.61)	(0.02)
TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS	(0.34)	(0.61)	(0.03)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$14.10	\$11.75	\$14.69
Total Return³	23.38%	(16.56)%	47.25%
Ratios to Average Net Assets:			
Net expenses ⁴	0.79%	0.79%	0.83% ⁵
Net investment income (loss)	0.14%	(0.06)%	(0.01)% ⁵
Expense waiver/reimbursement ⁶	6.84%	6.45%	8.25% ⁵
Supplemental Data:			
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$3,787	\$3,229	\$3,746
Portfolio turnover ⁷	20%	15%	31% ⁸

1 Reflects operations for the period from July 6, 2020 (commencement of operations) to June 30, 2021.

2 Represents less than \$0.01.

3 Based on net asset value. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

4 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

5 Computed on an annualized basis.

6 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

7 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

8 Calculated at the Fund level. Percentage indicated was calculated for the fiscal period from July 6, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

Financial Highlights – Class R6 Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Year Ended June 30		Period Ended
	2023	2022	6/30/2021 ¹
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$11.75	\$14.69	\$14.60
Income From Investment Operations:			
Net investment income (loss)	0.05	(0.02)	(0.00) ²
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.64	(2.31)	0.09
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	2.69	(2.33)	0.09
Less Distributions:			
Distributions from net investment income	(0.01)	—	—
Distributions from net realized gain	(0.33)	(0.61)	—
TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS	(0.34)	(0.61)	—
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$14.10	\$11.75	\$14.69
Total Return³	23.38%	(16.55)%	0.62%
Ratios to Average Net Assets:			
Net expenses ⁴	0.78%	0.78%	0.73% ⁵
Net investment income (loss)	0.37%	(0.13)%	(0.73)% ⁵
Expense waiver/reimbursement ⁶	4.25%	5.70%	13.36% ⁵
Supplemental Data:			
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$0 ⁷	\$0 ⁷	\$0 ⁷
Portfolio turnover ⁸	20%	15%	31% ⁹

1 Reflects operations for the period from June 11, 2021 (commencement of operations) to June 30, 2021.

2 Represents less than \$0.01.

3 Based on net asset value. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

4 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

5 Computed on an annualized basis.

6 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

7 Represents less than \$1,000.

8 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

9 Calculated at the Fund level. Percentage indicated was calculated for the fiscal period from July 6, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

June 30, 2023

Assets:

Investment in securities, at value (identified cost \$2,844,040)	\$3,809,210
Cash	68,972
Receivable for shares sold	2,360
Income receivable	1,438
TOTAL ASSETS	3,881,980

Liabilities:

Payable for portfolio accounting fees	\$52,275
Payable for auditing fees	29,819
Payable for share registration costs	8,281
Payable to adviser (Note 5)	2,447
Payable for administrative fee (Note 5)	142
Accrued expenses (Note 5)	1,753
TOTAL LIABILITIES	94,717
Net assets for 268,574 shares outstanding	\$3,787,263

Net Assets Consists of:

Paid-in capital	\$2,745,324
Total distributable earnings (loss)	1,041,939
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$3,787,263

Net Asset Value, Offering Price and Redemption Proceeds Per Share:

Institutional Shares:

\$3,787,166 ÷ 268,567 shares outstanding, no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$ 14.10
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Class R6 Shares:

\$97 ÷ 7* shares outstanding, no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$ 14.10
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* Net Asset Value per Share and Shares outstanding round to the nearest whole total.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

Statement of Operations

Year Ended June 30, 2023

Investment Income:

Dividends	\$ 31,557
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Expenses:

Investment adviser fee (Note 5)	\$ 25,479
Administrative fee (Note 5)	3,354
Custodian fees	696
Transfer agent fees (Note 2)	4,334
Directors'/Trustees' fees	510
Auditing fees	29,820
Legal fees	11,396
Portfolio accounting fees	125,992
Share registration costs	30,371
Printing and postage	19,043
Miscellaneous (Note 5)	8,073
TOTAL EXPENSES	259,068

Waiver and Reimbursement (Note 5):

Waiver of investment adviser fee	\$ (25,479)
Reimbursement of other operating expenses	(206,868)
TOTAL WAIVER AND REIMBURSEMENT	(232,347)

Net expenses	26,721
Net investment income	4,836

Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments and Foreign Currency Transactions:

Net realized gain on investments and foreign currency transactions	86,685
Net change in unrealized appreciation of investments	631,977
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency transactions	718,662
Change in net assets resulting from operations	\$723,498

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended June 30	2023	2022
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets		
Operations:		
Net investment income (loss)	\$ 4,836	\$ (2,112)
Net realized gain	86,685	91,803
Net change in unrealized appreciation/(depreciation)	631,977	(714,290)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	723,498	(624,599)
Distributions to Shareholders:		
Institutional Shares	(90,328)	(155,099)
Class R6 Shares	(2)	(4)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS	(90,330)	(155,103)
Share Transactions:		
Proceeds from sale of shares	2,817,350	162,817
Net asset value of shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	2,776	124,701
Cost of shares redeemed	(2,894,822)	(25,585)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(74,696)	261,933
Change in net assets	558,472	(517,769)
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	3,228,791	3,746,560
End of period	\$ 3,787,263	\$3,228,791

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2023

1. ORGANIZATION

Federated Hermes Adviser Series (the "Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Act"), as an open-end management investment company. The Trust consists of 12 portfolios. The financial statements included herein are only those of the Federated Hermes U.S. SMID Fund (the "Fund"), a diversified portfolio. The financial statements of the other portfolios are presented separately. The assets of each portfolio are segregated and a shareholder's interest is limited to the portfolio in which shares are held. Each portfolio pays its own expenses. The Fund offers two classes of shares: Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares. Class A Shares and Class C Shares are effective with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), but are not yet offered for sale. All shares of the Fund have equal rights with respect to voting, except on class-specific matters. The Fund's investment objective is to provide long-term capital appreciation.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements. These policies are in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Investment Valuation

In calculating its net asset value (NAV), the Fund generally values investments as follows:

- Equity securities listed on an exchange or traded through a regulated market system are valued at their last reported sale price or official closing price in their principal exchange or market.
- Fixed-income securities are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by Federated Global Investment Management Corp. (the "Adviser").
- Shares of other mutual funds or non-exchange-traded investment companies are valued based upon their reported NAVs, or NAV per share practical expedient, as applicable.
- Derivative contracts listed on exchanges are valued at their reported settlement or closing price, except that options are valued at the mean of closing bid and ask quotations.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) derivative contracts are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by the Adviser.
- For securities that are fair valued in accordance with procedures established by and under the general supervision of the Adviser, certain factors may be considered such as: the last traded or purchase price of the security, information obtained by contacting the issuer or dealers, analysis of the issuer's financial statements or other available documents, fundamental analytical data, the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition, the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded, public trading in similar securities or derivative contracts of the issuer or comparable issuers, movement of a relevant index, or other factors including but not limited to industry changes and relevant government actions.

If any price, quotation, price evaluation or other pricing source is not readily available when the NAV is calculated, if the Fund cannot obtain price evaluations from a pricing service or from more than one dealer for an investment within a reasonable period of time as set forth in the Adviser's valuation policies and procedures for the Fund, or if information furnished by a pricing service, in the opinion of the Adviser's valuation committee ("Valuation Committee") is deemed not representative of the fair value of such security, the Fund uses the fair value of the investment determined in accordance with the procedures described below. There can be no assurance that the Fund could obtain the fair value assigned to an investment if it sold the investment at approximately the time at which the Fund determines its NAV per share, and the actual value obtained could be materially different.

Fair Valuation and Significant Events Procedures

Pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Act, the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Trustees") has designated the Adviser as the Fund's valuation designee to perform any fair value determinations for securities and other assets held by the Fund. The Adviser is subject to the Trustees' oversight and certain reporting and other requirements intended to provide the Trustees the information needed to oversee the Adviser's fair value determinations.

The Adviser, acting through its Valuation Committee, is responsible for determining the fair value of investments for which market quotations are not readily available. The Valuation Committee is comprised of officers of the Adviser and certain of the Adviser's affiliated companies and determines fair value and oversees the calculation of the NAV. The Valuation Committee is also authorized to use pricing services to provide fair value evaluations of the current value of certain investments for purposes of calculating the NAV. The Valuation Committee employs various methods for reviewing third-party pricing-service evaluations including periodic reviews of third-party pricing services' policies, procedures and valuation methods (including key inputs, methods, models and assumptions), transactional back-testing, comparisons of evaluations of different pricing services and review of price challenges by the Adviser based on recent market activity. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the Valuation Committee determines the fair value of the investment in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser. The Trustees periodically review the fair valuations made by the Valuation Committee. The Trustees have also approved the Adviser's fair valuation and significant events procedures as part of the Fund's compliance program and will review any changes made to the procedures.

Factors considered by pricing services in evaluating an investment include the yields or prices of investments of comparable quality, coupon, maturity, call rights and other potential prepayments, terms and type, reported transactions, indications as to values from dealers and general market conditions. Some pricing services provide a single price evaluation reflecting the bid-side of the market for an investment (a "bid" evaluation). Other pricing services offer both bid evaluations and price evaluations indicative of a price between the prices bid and ask for the investment (a "mid" evaluation). The Fund normally uses bid evaluations for any U.S. Treasury and Agency securities, mortgage-backed securities and municipal securities. The Fund normally uses

mid evaluations for any other types of fixed-income securities and any OTC derivative contracts. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the fair value of the investment is determined in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser.

The Adviser has also adopted procedures requiring an investment to be priced at its fair value whenever the Valuation Committee determines that a significant event affecting the value of the investment has occurred between the time as of which the price of the investment would otherwise be determined and the time as of which the NAV is computed. An event is considered significant if there is both an affirmative expectation that the investment's value will change in response to the event and a reasonable basis for quantifying the resulting change in value. Examples of significant events that may occur after the close of the principal market on which a security is traded, or after the time of a price evaluation provided by a pricing service or a dealer, include:

- With respect to securities traded principally in foreign markets, significant trends in U.S. equity markets or in the trading of foreign securities index futures contracts;
- Political or other developments affecting the economy or markets in which an issuer conducts its operations or its securities are traded;
- Announcements concerning matters such as acquisitions, recapitalizations, litigation developments, or a natural disaster affecting the issuer's operations or regulatory changes or market developments affecting the issuer's industry.

The Adviser has adopted procedures whereby the Valuation Committee uses a pricing service to provide factors to update the fair value of equity securities traded principally in foreign markets from the time of the close of their respective foreign stock exchanges to the pricing time of the Fund. For other significant events, the Fund may seek to obtain more current quotations or price evaluations from alternative pricing sources. If a reliable alternative pricing source is not available, the Valuation Committee will determine the fair value of the investment in accordance with the fair valuation procedures approved by the Adviser. The Trustees periodically review fair valuations made in response to significant events.

Investment Income, Gains and Losses, Expenses and Distributions

Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade-date basis. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified-cost basis. Interest income and expenses are accrued daily. Dividend income and distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Foreign dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date or when the Fund is informed of the ex-dividend date.

Distributions of net investment income, if any, are declared and paid annually. Non-cash dividends included in dividend income, if any, are recorded at fair value. Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses are allocated to each class based on relative average daily net assets, except that select classes will bear certain expenses unique to those classes. The detail of the total fund expense waiver and reimbursement of \$232,347 is disclosed in Note 5. Dividends are declared separately for each class. No class has preferential dividend rights; differences in per share dividend rates are generally due to differences in separate class expenses.

Transfer Agent Fees

For the year ended June 30, 2023, transfer agent fees for the Fund were as follows:

	Transfer Agent Fees Incurred
Institutional Shares	\$4,334

Federal Taxes

It is the Fund's policy to comply with the Subchapter M provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and to distribute to shareholders each year substantially all of its income. Accordingly, no provision for federal income tax is necessary. As of and during the year ended June 30, 2023, the Fund did not have a liability for any uncertain tax positions. The Fund recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to tax liabilities as income tax expense in the Statement of Operations. As of June 30, 2023, tax years 2021 through 2023 remain subject to examination by the Fund's major tax jurisdictions, which include the United States of America and the State of Delaware.

When-Issued and Delayed-Delivery Transactions

The Fund may engage in when-issued or delayed-delivery transactions. The Fund records when-issued securities on the trade date and maintains security positions such that sufficient liquid assets will be available to make payment for the securities purchased. Securities purchased on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis are marked to market daily and begin earning interest on the settlement date. Losses may occur on these transactions due to changes in market conditions or the failure of counterparties to perform under the contract.

Foreign Currency Translation

The accounting records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. All assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars based on the rates of exchange of such currencies against U.S. dollars on the date of valuation. Purchases and sales of securities, income and expenses are translated at the rate of exchange quoted on the respective date that such transactions are recorded. The Fund does not isolate that portion of the results of operations resulting from changes in foreign exchange rates on investments from the fluctuations arising from changes in market prices of securities held. Such fluctuations are included with the net realized and unrealized gain or loss from investments.

Reported net realized foreign exchange gains or losses arise from sales of foreign currencies, currency gains or losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the difference between the amounts of dividends, interest and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the Fund's books and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses arise from changes in the value of assets and liabilities other than investments in securities at period end, resulting from changes in the exchange rate.

Other

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets, liabilities, expenses and revenues reported in the financial statements. Actual results could differ materially from those estimated. The Fund applies investment company accounting and reporting guidance.

3. SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST

The following table summarizes share activity:

Year Ended June 30	2023		2022	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Institutional Shares:				
Shares sold	211,443	\$ 2,817,350	12,766	\$162,817
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	231	2,776	8,863	124,701
Shares redeemed	(217,817)	(2,894,822)	(1,973)	(25,585)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM INSTITUTIONAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(6,143)	\$ (74,696)	19,656	\$261,933

Year Ended June 30	2023		2022	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Class R6 Shares:				
Shares sold	—	\$ —	—	\$ —
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	—	—	—	—
Shares redeemed	—	—	—	—
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS R6 SHARE TRANSACTIONS	—	\$ —	—	\$ —
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM TOTAL FUND SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(6,143)	\$(74,696)	19,656	\$261,933

4. FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION

The tax character of distributions as reported on the Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the year ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, was as follows:

	2023	2022
Ordinary income ¹	\$ 3,048	\$138,503
Long-term capital gains	\$87,282	\$ 16,600

1 For tax purposes, short-term capital gain distributions are considered income distributions.

As of June 30, 2023, the components of distributable earnings on a tax basis were as follows:

Undistributed ordinary income ²	\$ 9,125
Undistributed long-term capital gains	\$ 67,543
Net unrealized appreciation	\$ 965,271
TOTAL	\$1,041,939

2 For tax purposes, short-term capital gains are considered ordinary income in determining distributable earnings.

At June 30, 2023, the cost of investments for federal tax purposes was \$2,843,939. The net unrealized appreciation of investments for federal tax purposes was \$965,271. This consists of unrealized appreciation from investments for those securities having an excess of value over cost of \$1,064,014 and unrealized depreciation from investments for those securities having an excess of cost over value of \$98,743. The difference between book-basis and tax-basis net unrealized appreciation is attributable to differing treatments for partnership adjustments and the deferral of losses on wash sales.

5. INVESTMENT ADVISER FEE AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES

Investment Adviser Fee

The advisory agreement between the Fund and the Adviser provides for an annual fee equal to 0.75% of the Fund's average daily net assets. Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, the Adviser may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund for competitive reasons such as to maintain the Fund's expense ratio, or as and when appropriate, to maintain positive or zero net yields. For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Adviser voluntarily waived its entire fee of \$25,479 and voluntarily reimbursed \$206,868 of other operating expenses.

Some or all of the Fund's assets are managed by Hermes Investment Management Limited (the "Sub-Adviser"). Under the terms of a sub-advisory agreement between the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser, the Sub-Adviser receives an annual fee equal to 0.45% of the daily net assets of the Fund which it advises. The fee is paid by the Adviser out of its resources and is not an incremental Fund expense. The Sub-Adviser may from time to time, and for such periods as it deems appropriate, reduce its compensation. The Sub-Adviser agrees to share pro rata in any fee waivers, or expense assumptions and reimbursements, imposed or made by the Adviser or its affiliates.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Sub-Adviser waived all of its fee.

Administrative Fee

Federated Administrative Services (FAS), under the Administrative Services Agreement, provides the Fund with administrative personnel and services. For purposes of determining the appropriate rate breakpoint, "Investment Complex" is defined as all of the Federated Hermes Funds subject to a fee under the Administrative Services Agreement. The fee paid to FAS is based on the average daily net assets of the Investment Complex as specified below:

Administrative Fee	Average Daily Net Assets of the Investment Complex
0.100%	on assets up to \$50 billion
0.075%	on assets over \$50 billion

Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FAS may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee. For the year ended June 30, 2023, the annualized fee paid to FAS was 0.099% of average daily net assets of the Fund.

In addition, FAS may charge certain out-of-pocket expenses to the Fund.

Expense Limitation

The Adviser and certain of its affiliates (which may include FAS) on their own initiative have agreed to waive certain amounts of their respective fees and/or reimburse expenses. Total annual fund operating expenses (as shown in the financial highlights, excluding interest expense, extraordinary expenses and proxy-related expenses paid by the Fund, if any) paid by the Fund's Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares (after the voluntary waivers and/or reimbursements) will not exceed 0.83% and 0.78% (the "Fee Limit"), respectively, up to but not including the later of (the "Termination Date"): (a) September 1, 2024 and September 1, 2023, respectively; or (b) the date of the Fund's next effective Prospectus. While the Adviser and its applicable affiliates currently do not anticipate terminating or increasing these arrangements prior to the Termination Date, these arrangements may only be terminated or the Fee Limit increased prior to the Termination Date with the agreement of the Trustees.

Directors'/Trustees' and Miscellaneous Fees

Certain Officers and Trustees of the Fund are Officers and Directors or Trustees of certain of the above companies. To efficiently facilitate payment, Independent Directors'/Trustees' fees and certain expenses related to conducting meetings of the Directors/Trustees and other miscellaneous expenses are paid by an affiliate of the Adviser which in due course are reimbursed by the Fund. These expenses related to conducting meetings of the Directors/Trustees and other miscellaneous expenses may be included in Accrued and Miscellaneous Expenses on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Statement of Operations, respectively.

Affiliated Shares of Beneficial Interest

As of June 30, 2023, a majority of the shares of beneficial interest outstanding are owned by an affiliate of the Adviser.

6. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS

Purchases and sales of investments, excluding long-term U.S. government securities and short-term obligations, for the year ended June 30, 2023, were as follows:

Purchases	\$686,796
Sales	\$808,659

7. CONCENTRATION OF RISK

The Fund invests a portion of its assets in securities of companies that are deemed by the Fund's management to be classified in similar business sectors. A substantial portion of the Fund's portfolio may be comprised of entities in the Information Technology and Industrials sectors. As a result, the Fund may be more susceptible to any economic, business, political or other developments which generally affect these entities.

8. LINE OF CREDIT

The Fund participates with certain other Federated Hermes Funds, on a several basis, in an up to \$500,000,000 unsecured, 364-day, committed, revolving line of credit (LOC) agreement dated June 21, 2023. The LOC was made available to temporarily finance the repurchase or redemption of shares of the Fund, failed trades, payment of dividends, settlement of trades and for other short-term, temporary or emergency general business purposes. The Fund cannot borrow under the LOC if an inter-fund loan is outstanding. The Fund's ability to borrow under the LOC also is subject to the limitations of the Act and various conditions precedent that must be satisfied before the Fund can borrow. Loans under the LOC are charged interest at a fluctuating rate per annum equal to (a) the highest, on any day, of (i) the federal funds effective rate, (ii) the published secured overnight financing rate plus an assigned percentage, and (iii) 0.0%, plus (b) a margin. Any fund eligible to borrow under the LOC pays its pro rata share of a commitment fee based on the amount of the lenders' commitment that has not been utilized, quarterly in arrears and at maturity. As of June 30, 2023, the Fund had no outstanding loans. During the year ended June 30, 2023, the Fund did not utilize the LOC.

9. INTERFUND LENDING

Pursuant to an Exemptive Order issued by the SEC, the Fund, along with other funds advised by subsidiaries of Federated Hermes, Inc., may participate in an interfund lending program. This program provides an alternative credit facility allowing the Fund to borrow from other participating affiliated funds. As of June 30, 2023, there were no outstanding loans. During the year ended June 30, 2023, the program was not utilized.

10. INDEMNIFICATIONS

Under the Fund's organizational documents, its Officers and Directors/Trustees are indemnified against certain liabilities arising out of the performance of their duties to the Fund (other than liabilities arising out of their willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties to the Fund). In addition, in the normal course of business, the Fund provides certain indemnifications under arrangements with third parties. Typically, obligations to indemnify a third party arise in the context of an arrangement entered into by the Fund under which the Fund agrees to indemnify such third party for certain liabilities arising out of actions taken pursuant to the arrangement, provided the third party's actions are not deemed to have breached an agreed-upon

standard of care (such as willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties under the contract). 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 arisen. The Fund does not anticipate any material claims or losses pursuant to these arrangements at this time, and accordingly expects the risk of loss to be remote.

11. OTHER MATTERS

An outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus was first detected in China in late 2019 and subsequently spread globally. As of the date of the issuance of these financial statements, this coronavirus has resulted in, and may continue to result in, closed borders, enhanced health screenings, disruptions to healthcare service preparation and delivery, quarantines, cancellations, and disruptions to supply chains, workflow operations and consumer activity, as well as general concern and uncertainty. The impact of this coronavirus has resulted in substantial economic volatility. Health crises caused by outbreaks, such as the coronavirus outbreak, may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks. The impact of this outbreak, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could continue to negatively affect the worldwide economy, as well as the economies of individual countries, individual companies (including certain Fund service providers and issuers of the Fund's investments) and the markets in general in significant and unforeseen ways. In addition, governments, their regulatory agencies, or self-regulatory organizations may take actions in response to the pandemic, including significant fiscal and monetary policy changes, that may affect the instruments in which the Fund invests or the issuers of such investments. Any such impact could adversely affect the Fund's performance.

12. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On August 11, 2023, the Trustees approved the closure and liquidation of the Class R6 Shares, effective close of business August 18, 2023.

13. FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the amount of long-term capital gains designated by the Fund was \$87,282.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, 100% of total ordinary income distributions paid by the Fund are qualifying dividends which may be subject to a maximum tax rate of 15%, as provided for by the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Act of 2003. Complete information is reported in conjunction with the reporting of distributions on Form 1099-DIV.

Of the ordinary income distributions made by the Fund during the year ended June 30, 2023, 100% qualify for the dividend received deduction available to corporate shareholders.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FEDERATED HERMES U.S. SMID FUND:

OPINION ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Federated Hermes U.S. SMID Fund (the “Fund”) (one of the portfolios constituting Federated Hermes Adviser Series (the “Trust”)), including the portfolio of investments, as of June 30, 2023, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statement of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, the financial highlights for each of the two years in the period then ended and the period from July 6, 2020 (commencement of operations) to June 30, 2021, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund (one of the portfolios constituting Federated Hermes Adviser Series) at June 30, 2023, 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 its financial highlights for each of the two years in the period then ended and the period from July 6, 2020 (commencement of operations) to June 30, 2021, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

BASIS FOR OPINION

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund’s financial statements 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 Trust 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 standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Trust is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of the Trust’s internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, 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 Trust’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, 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. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of June 30, 2023, by correspondence with the custodian, brokers, and others; when replies were not received from brokers or others, we performed other auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Ernst & Young LLP

We have served as the auditor of one or more Federated Hermes investment companies since 1979.

Boston, Massachusetts
August 22, 2023

Shareholder Expense Example (unaudited)

As a shareholder of the Fund, you incur ongoing costs, including management fees and to the extent applicable, distribution (12b-1) fees and/or other service fees and other Fund expenses. This Example is intended to help you to 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. It is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the entire period from January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023.

ACTUAL EXPENSES

The first section of the table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this section, together with the amount you invested, to *estimate* the expenses that you incurred over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the first section under the heading entitled “Expenses Paid During Period” to estimate the expenses attributable to your investment during this period.

HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLE FOR COMPARISON PURPOSES

The second section of the table below provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Fund’s actual expense ratio and an *assumed* rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Fund’s actual return. Thus, you should *not* use the hypothetical account values and expenses to estimate the actual ending account balance or your expenses for the period. Rather, these figures are required to be provided to enable you to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund with other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only. Therefore, the second section of the table is useful in comparing ongoing costs only and will not help you determine the relative *total* costs of owning different funds.

	Beginning Account Value 1/1/2023	Ending Account Value 6/30/2023	Expenses Paid During Period ¹
Actual:			
Institutional Shares	\$1,000	\$1,157.60	\$4.23
Class R6 Shares	\$1,000	\$1,157.60	\$4.23
Hypothetical (assuming a 5% return before expenses):			
Institutional Shares	\$1,000	\$1,020.88	\$3.96
Class R6 Shares	\$1,000	\$1,020.88	\$3.96

1 Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized net expense ratios, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181/365 (to reflect the one-half-year period). The annualized net expense ratios are as follows:

Institutional Shares	0.79%
Class R6 Shares	0.79%

Board of Trustees and Trust Officers

The Board of Trustees is responsible for managing the Trust's business affairs and for exercising all the Trust's powers except those reserved for the shareholders. The following tables give information about each Trustee and the senior officers of the Fund. Where required, the tables separately list Trustees who are "interested persons" of the Fund (i.e., "Interested" Trustees) and those who are not (i.e., "Independent" Trustees). Unless otherwise noted, the address of each person listed is 1001 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3779. The address of all Independent Trustees listed is 4000 Ericsson Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086-7561; Attention: Mutual Fund Board. As of December 31, 2022, the Trust comprised 13 portfolio(s), and the Federated Hermes Fund Family consisted of 33 investment companies (comprising 102 portfolios). Unless otherwise noted, each Officer is elected annually. Unless otherwise noted, each Trustee oversees all portfolios in the Federated Hermes Fund Family and serves for an indefinite term. The Fund's Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about Trust Trustees and is available, without charge and upon request, by calling 1-800-341-7400, Option #4.

INTERESTED TRUSTEES BACKGROUND

Name	
Birth Date	
Positions Held with Fund	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years,
Date Service Began	Other Directorships Held and Previous Position(s)
J. Christopher Donahue* Birth Date: April 11, 1949 PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2017	Principal Occupations: Principal Executive Officer and President of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director or Trustee of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; President, Chief Executive Officer and Director, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Chairman and Trustee, Federated Investment Management Company; Trustee, Federated Investment Counseling; Chairman and Director, Federated Global Investment Management Corp.; Chairman and Trustee, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania; Trustee, Federated Shareholder Services Company; Director, Federated Services Company. Previous Positions: President, Federated Investment Counseling; President and Chief Executive Officer, Federated Investment Management Company, Federated Global Investment Management Corp. and Passport Research, Ltd; Chairman, Passport Research, Ltd.

Name	Birth Date	Positions Held with Fund Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held and Previous Position(s)
John B. Fisher*	Birth Date: May 16, 1956	TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2017	<p>Principal Occupations: Principal Executive Officer and President of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director or Trustee of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director and Vice President, Federated Hermes, Inc.; President, Director/Trustee and CEO, Federated Advisory Services Company, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania, Federated Global Investment Management Corp., Federated Investment Counseling, Federated Investment Management Company, and Federated MDTA LLC; Director, Federated Investors Trust Company.</p> <p>Previous Positions: President and Director of the Institutional Sales Division of Federated Securities Corp.; President and CEO of Passport Research, Ltd.; Director and President, Technology, Federated Services Company.</p>

* *Reasons for "interested" status: J. Christopher Donahue and John B. Fisher are interested due to their beneficial ownership of shares of Federated Hermes, Inc. and due to positions they hold with Federated Hermes, Inc. and its subsidiaries.*

INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES BACKGROUND

Name	Birth Date	Positions Held with Fund Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications
John T. Collins	Birth Date: January 24, 1947	TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2017	<p>Principal Occupations: Director or Trustee, and Chair of the Board of Directors or Trustees, of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Chairman and CEO, The Collins Group, Inc. (a private equity firm) (Retired).</p> <p>Other Directorships Held: Director, KLX Energy Services Holdings, Inc. (oilfield services); former Director of KLX Corp. (aerospace).</p> <p>Qualifications: Mr. Collins has served in several business and financial management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Collins previously served as Chairman and CEO of The Collins Group, Inc. (a private equity firm) and as a Director of KLX Corp. Mr. Collins serves as Chairman Emeriti, Bentley University. Mr. Collins previously served as Director and Audit Committee Member, Bank of America Corp.; Director, FleetBoston Financial Corp.; and Director, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (Harvard University Affiliate Hospital).</p>

Name	Birth Date	Positions Held with Fund Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications
G. Thomas Hough	Birth Date: February 28, 1955	TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2017	<p>Principal Occupations: Director or Trustee, Chair of the Audit Committee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Vice Chair, Ernst & Young LLP (public accounting firm) (Retired).</p> <p>Other Directorships Held: Director, Chair of the Audit Committee, Equifax, Inc.; Lead Director, Member of the Audit and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees, Haverty Furniture Companies, Inc.; formerly, Director, Member of Governance and Compensation Committees, Publix Super Markets, Inc.</p> <p>Qualifications: Mr. Hough has served in accounting, business management and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Hough most recently held the position of Americas Vice Chair of Assurance with Ernst & Young LLP (public accounting firm). Mr. Hough serves on the President's Cabinet and Business School Board of Visitors for the University of Alabama. Mr. Hough previously served on the Business School Board of Visitors for Wake Forest University, and he previously served as an Executive Committee member of the United States Golf Association.</p>
Maureen Lally-Green	Birth Date: July 5, 1949	TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2017	<p>Principal Occupations: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Adjunct Professor Emerita of Law, Duquesne University School of Law; formerly, Dean of the Duquesne University School of Law and Professor of Law and Interim Dean of the Duquesne University School of Law; formerly, Associate General Secretary and Director, Office of Church Relations, Diocese of Pittsburgh.</p> <p>Other Directorships Held: Director, CNX Resources Corporation (natural gas).</p> <p>Qualifications: Judge Lally-Green has served in various legal and business roles and directorship positions throughout her career. Judge Lally-Green previously held the position of Dean of the School of Law of Duquesne University (as well as Interim Dean). Judge Lally-Green previously served as Associate General Secretary of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, a member of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania and as a Professor of Law, Duquesne University School of Law. Judge Lally-Green was appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to serve on the Supreme Court's Board of Continuing Judicial Education and the Supreme Court's Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee. Judge Lally-Green also currently holds the positions on not for profit or for profit boards of directors as follows: Director and Chair, UPMC Mercy Hospital; Regent, Saint Vincent Seminary; Member, Pennsylvania State Board of Education (public); Director, Catholic Charities, Pittsburgh; and Director CNX Resources Corporation (natural gas). Judge Lally-Green has held the positions of: Director, Auberle; Director, Epilepsy Foundation of Western and Central Pennsylvania; Director, Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh; Director, Saint Thomas More Society; Director and Chair, Catholic High Schools of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Inc.; Director, Pennsylvania Bar Institute; Director, St. Vincent College; Director and Chair, North Catholic High School, Inc.; Director and Vice Chair, Our Campaign for the Church Alive!, Inc.; and Director and Vice Chair, Saint Francis University.</p>

Name	Birth Date	Positions Held with Fund Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications
Thomas M. O'Neill	Birth Date: June 14, 1951	TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2017	<p>Principal Occupations: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Sole Proprietor, Navigator Management Company (investment and strategic consulting).</p> <p>Other Directorships Held: None.</p> <p>Qualifications: Mr. O'Neill has served in several business, mutual fund and financial management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. O'Neill serves as Director, Medicines for Humanity. Mr. O'Neill previously served as Chief Executive Officer and President, Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer, Fleet Investment Advisors; President and Chief Executive Officer, Aeltus Investment Management, Inc.; General Partner, Hellman, Jordan Management Co., Boston, MA; Chief Investment Officer, The Putnam Companies, Boston, MA; Credit Analyst and Lending Officer, Fleet Bank; Director and Consultant, EZE Castle Software (investment order management software); Director, Midway Pacific (lumber); and Director, The Golisano Children's Museum of Naples, Florida.</p>
Madelyn A. Reilly	Birth Date: February 2, 1956	TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: November 2020	<p>Principal Occupations: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary of Board of Directors, Duquesne University (Retired).</p> <p>Other Directorships Held: None.</p> <p>Qualifications: Ms. Reilly has served in various business and legal management roles throughout her career. Ms. Reilly previously served as Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary of Board of Directors and Director of Risk Management and Associate General Counsel, Duquesne University. Prior to her work at Duquesne University, Ms. Reilly served as Assistant General Counsel of Compliance and Enterprise Risk as well as Senior Counsel of Environment, Health and Safety, PPG Industries. Ms. Reilly currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of UPMC Mercy Hospital.</p>

Name	Birth Date	Positions Held with Fund Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications
P. Jerome Richey	Birth Date: February 23, 1949	TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2017	<p>Principal Occupations: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Retired; formerly, Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer, University of Pittsburgh and Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, CONSOL Energy Inc. (now split into two separate publicly traded companies known as CONSOL Energy Inc. and CNX Resources Corp.).</p> <p>Other Directorships Held: None.</p> <p>Qualifications: Mr. Richey has served in several business and legal management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Richey most recently held the positions of Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer, University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Richey previously served as Chairman of the Board, Epilepsy Foundation of Western Pennsylvania and Chairman of the Board, World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh. Mr. Richey previously served as Chief Legal Officer and Executive Vice President, CONSOL Energy Inc. and CNX Gas Company; and Board Member, Ethics Counsel and Shareholder, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC (a law firm).</p>
John S. Walsh	Birth Date: November 28, 1957	TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2017	<p>Principal Occupations: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; President and Director, Heat Wagon, Inc. (manufacturer of construction temporary heaters); President and Director, Manufacturers Products, Inc. (distributor of portable construction heaters); President, Portable Heater Parts, a division of Manufacturers Products, Inc.</p> <p>Other Directorships Held: None.</p> <p>Qualifications: Mr. Walsh has served in several business management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Walsh previously served as Vice President, Walsh & Kelly, Inc. (paving contractors).</p>

OFFICERS

Name

Birth Date

Address

Positions Held with Fund

Date Service Began

**Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years
and Previous Position(s)**

Lori A. Hensler

Birth Date: January 6, 1967

TREASURER

Officer since: May 2017

Principal Occupations: Principal Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Senior Vice President, Federated Administrative Services; Financial and Operations Principal for Federated Securities Corp.; and Assistant Treasurer, Federated Investors Trust Company. Ms. Hensler has received the Certified Public Accountant designation.

Previous Positions: Controller of Federated Hermes, Inc.; Senior Vice President and Assistant Treasurer, Federated Investors Management Company; Treasurer, Federated Investors Trust Company; Assistant Treasurer, Federated Administrative Services, Federated Administrative Services, Inc., Federated Securities Corp., Edgewood Services, Inc., Federated Advisory Services Company, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania, Federated Global Investment Management Corp., Federated Investment Counseling, Federated Investment Management Company, Passport Research, Ltd., and Federated MDTA, LLC; Financial and Operations Principal for Federated Securities Corp., Edgewood Services, Inc. and Southpointe Distribution Services, Inc.

Peter J. Germain

Birth Date:

September 3, 1959

CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER,
SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE
VICE PRESIDENT

Officer since: May 2017

Principal Occupations: Mr. Germain is Chief Legal Officer, Secretary and Executive Vice President of the Federated Hermes Fund Family. He is General Counsel, Chief Legal Officer, Secretary and Executive Vice President, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Trustee and Senior Vice President, Federated Investors Management Company; Trustee and President, Federated Administrative Services; Director and President, Federated Administrative Services, Inc.; Director and Vice President, Federated Securities Corp.; Director and Secretary, Federated Private Asset Management, Inc.; Secretary, Federated Shareholder Services Company; and Secretary, Retirement Plan Service Company of America. Mr. Germain joined Federated Hermes, Inc. in 1984 and is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Previous Positions: Deputy General Counsel, Special Counsel, Managing Director of Mutual Fund Services, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Senior Vice President, Federated Services Company; and Senior Corporate Counsel, Federated Hermes, Inc.

Stephen Van Meter

Birth Date: June 5, 1975

CHIEF COMPLIANCE
OFFICER AND SENIOR
VICE PRESIDENT

Officer since: May 2017

Principal Occupations: Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer of Federated Hermes, Inc. and Chief Compliance Officer of certain of its subsidiaries. Mr. Van Meter joined Federated Hermes, Inc. in October 2011. He holds FINRA licenses under Series 3, 7, 24 and 66.

Previous Positions: Mr. Van Meter previously held the position of Compliance Operating Officer, Federated Hermes, Inc. Prior to joining Federated Hermes, Inc., Mr. Van Meter served at the United States Securities and Exchange Commission in the positions of Senior Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, Division of Investment Management and Senior Counsel, Division of Enforcement.

Name	Birth Date	Address	Positions Held with Fund Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years and Previous Position(s)
Stephen F. Auth	Birth Date:	September 13, 1956 101 Park Avenue 41 st Floor New York, NY 10178	CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER Officer since: May 2017	<p>Principal Occupations: Stephen F. Auth is Chief Investment Officer of various Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Executive Vice President, Federated Investment Counseling, Federated Global Investment Management Corp. and Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania.</p> <p>Previous Positions: Executive Vice President, Federated Investment Management Company and Passport Research, Ltd. (investment advisory subsidiary of Federated); Senior Vice President, Global Portfolio Management Services Division; Senior Vice President, Federated Investment Management Company and Passport Research, Ltd.; Senior Managing Director and Portfolio Manager, Prudential Investments.</p>

Evaluation and Approval of Advisory Contract – May 2023

FEDERATED HERMES U.S. SMID FUND (THE “FUND”)

At its meetings in May 2023 (the “May Meetings”), the Fund’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”), including those Trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Fund, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Independent Trustees”), reviewed and unanimously approved the continuation of the investment advisory contract between the Fund and Federated Global Investment Management Corp. (the “Adviser”) and the investment sub-advisory contract between the Adviser and Hermes Investment Management Limited (the “Sub-Adviser” and together with the Adviser, the “Advisers”) with respect to the Fund (together, the “Contracts”) for an additional one-year term. The Board’s determination to approve the continuation of the Contracts reflects the exercise of its business judgment after considering all of the information and factors believed to be relevant and appropriate on whether to approve the continuation of the existing arrangements. The information, factors and conclusions that formed the basis for the Board’s approval are summarized below.

Information Received and Review Process

At the request of the Independent Trustees, the Fund’s Chief Compliance Officer (the “CCO”) furnished to the Board in advance of its May Meetings an independent written evaluation of the Fund’s management fee (the “CCO Fee Evaluation Report”). The Board considered the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, along with other information, in evaluating the reasonableness of the Fund’s management fee and in determining to approve the continuation of the Contracts. The CCO, in preparing the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, has the authority to retain consultants, experts or staff as reasonably necessary to assist in the performance of his duties, reports directly to the Board, and can be terminated only with the approval of a majority of the Independent Trustees. At the request of the Independent Trustees, the CCO Fee Evaluation Report followed the same general approach and covered the same topics as that of the report that had previously been delivered by the CCO in his capacity as “Senior Officer” prior to the elimination of the Senior Officer position in December 2017.

In addition to the extensive materials that comprise and accompany the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, the Board considered information specifically prepared in connection with the approval of the continuation of the Contracts that was presented at the May Meetings. In this regard, in the months preceding the May Meetings, the Board requested and reviewed written responses and supporting materials prepared by the Advisers and their affiliates (collectively, “Federated Hermes”) in response to requests posed to Federated Hermes by independent legal counsel on behalf of the Independent Trustees encompassing a wide variety of topics, including those summarized below. The Board also

considered such additional matters as the Independent Trustees deemed reasonably necessary to evaluate the Contracts, which included detailed information about the Fund and Federated Hermes furnished to the Board at its meetings throughout the year and in between regularly scheduled meetings on particular matters as the need arose.

The Board's consideration of the Contracts included review of materials and information covering the following matters, among others: the nature, quality and extent of the advisory and other services provided to the Fund by Federated Hermes; Federated Hermes' business and operations; the Advisers' investment philosophy, personnel and processes; the Fund's investment objectives and strategies; the Fund's short-term and long-term performance (in absolute terms, both on a gross basis and net of expenses, and relative to the Fund's particular investment program and a group of its peer funds and/or its benchmark, as appropriate); the Fund's fees and expenses, including the advisory fee and the overall expense structure of the Fund (both in absolute terms and relative to a group of its peer funds), with due regard for contractual or voluntary expense limitations (if any); the financial condition of Federated Hermes; the Adviser's profitability with respect to managing the Fund; distribution and sales activity for the Fund; and the use and allocation of brokerage commissions derived from trading the Fund's portfolio securities (if any).

The Board also considered judicial decisions concerning allegedly excessive investment advisory fees charged to other registered funds in evaluating the Contracts. Using these judicial decisions as a guide, the Board observed that the following factors may be relevant to an adviser's fiduciary duty with respect to its receipt of compensation from a fund: (1) the nature and quality of the services provided by the adviser to the fund and its shareholders, including the performance of the fund, its benchmark and comparable funds; (2) the adviser's cost of providing the services and the profitability to the adviser of providing advisory services to the fund; (3) the extent to which the adviser may realize "economies of scale" as the fund grows larger and, if such economies of scale exist, whether they have been appropriately shared with the fund and its shareholders or the family of funds; (4) any "fall-out" benefits that accrue to the adviser because of its relationship with the fund, including research services received from brokers that execute fund trades and any fees paid to affiliates of the adviser for services rendered to the fund; (5) comparative fee and expense structures, including a comparison of management fees paid to the adviser with those paid by similar funds managed by the same adviser or other advisers as well as management fees charged to institutional and other advisory clients of the same adviser for what might be viewed as like services; and (6) the extent of care, conscientiousness and independence with which the fund's board members perform their duties and their expertise, including whether they are fully informed about all facts the board deems relevant to its consideration of the adviser's services and fees. The Board noted that the

Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) disclosure requirements regarding the basis for a fund board’s approval of the fund’s investment advisory contract generally align with the factors listed above. The Board was guided by these factors in its evaluation of the Contracts to the extent it considered them to be appropriate and relevant, as discussed further below. The Board considered and weighed these factors in light of its substantial accumulated experience in governing the Fund and working with Federated Hermes on matters relating to the oversight of the other funds advised by Federated Hermes (each, a “Federated Hermes Fund” and, collectively, the “Federated Hermes Funds”).

In addition, the Board considered the preferences and expectations of Fund shareholders and the potential disruptions of the Fund’s operations and various risks, uncertainties and other effects that could occur as a result of a decision to terminate or not renew the Contracts. In particular, the Board recognized that many shareholders likely have invested in the Fund based on the strength of Federated Hermes’ industry standing and reputation and with the expectation that Federated Hermes will have a continuing role in providing advisory services to the Fund. Thus, the Board observed that there are a range of investment options available to the Fund’s shareholders and such shareholders in the marketplace, having had the opportunity to consider other investment options, have effectively selected Federated Hermes by virtue of investing in the Fund.

In determining to approve the continuation of the Contracts, the members of the Board reviewed and evaluated information and factors they believed to be relevant and appropriate through the exercise of their reasonable business judgment. While individual members of the Board may have weighed certain factors differently, the Board’s determination to approve the continuation of the Contracts was based on a comprehensive consideration of all information provided to the Board throughout the year and specifically with respect to the continuation of the Contracts. The Board recognized that its evaluation process is evolutionary and that the factors considered and emphasis placed on relevant factors may change in recognition of changing circumstances in the registered fund marketplace. The Independent Trustees were assisted throughout the evaluation process by independent legal counsel. In connection with their deliberations at the May Meetings, the Independent Trustees met separately in executive session with their independent legal counsel and without management present to review the relevant materials and consider their responsibilities under applicable laws. In addition, senior management representatives of Federated Hermes also met with the Independent Trustees and their independent legal counsel to discuss the materials and presentations furnished to the Board at the May Meetings. The Board considered the approval of the Contracts for the Fund as part of its consideration of agreements for funds across the family of Federated Hermes Funds, but its approvals were made on a fund-by-fund basis.

Nature, Extent and Quality of Services

The Board considered the nature, extent and quality of the services provided to the Fund by the Advisers and the resources of Federated Hermes dedicated to the Fund. In this regard, the Board evaluated, among other things, the terms of the Contracts and the range of services provided to the Fund by Federated Hermes. The Board considered the Advisers' personnel, investment philosophy and process, investment research capabilities and resources, trade operations capabilities, experience and performance track record. The Board considered information about the Advisers' capabilities and resources with respect to environmental, social and governance ("ESG") investing, noting that in making investment decisions for the Fund, the Advisers seek to consider ESG issues with regards to the holding of either individual securities or various categories or classes of securities. The Board reviewed the qualifications, backgrounds and responsibilities of the portfolio management team primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund and Federated Hermes' ability and experience in attracting and retaining qualified personnel to service the Fund. The Board considered the trading operations by the Advisers, including the execution of portfolio transactions and the selection of brokers for those transactions. The Board also considered the Advisers' ability to deliver competitive investment performance for the Fund when compared to the Fund's Performance Peer Group (as defined below), which was deemed by the Board to be a useful indicator of how the Advisers are executing the Fund's investment program.

In addition, the Board considered the financial resources and overall reputation of Federated Hermes and its willingness to consider and make investments in personnel, infrastructure, technology, cybersecurity, business continuity planning and operational enhancements that are designed to benefit the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board noted that the significant acquisition of Hermes Fund Managers Limited by Federated Hermes has deepened Federated Hermes' investment management expertise and capabilities and expanded its access to analytical resources related to ESG factors and issuer engagement on ESG matters. The Board considered Federated Hermes' oversight of the securities lending program for the Federated Hermes Funds that engage in securities lending and noted the income earned by the Federated Hermes Funds that participate in such program. In addition, the Board considered the quality of Federated Hermes' communications with the Board and responsiveness to Board inquiries and requests made from time to time with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board also considered that Federated Hermes is responsible for providing the Federated Hermes Funds' officers.

The Board received and evaluated information regarding Federated Hermes' regulatory and compliance environment. The Board considered Federated Hermes' compliance program and compliance history and reports from the CCO about Federated Hermes' compliance with applicable laws and

regulations, including responses to regulatory developments and any compliance or other issues raised by regulatory agencies. The Board also noted Federated Hermes' support of the Federated Hermes Funds' compliance control structure and the compliance-related resources devoted by Federated Hermes in support of the Fund's obligations pursuant to Rule 38a-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, including Federated Hermes' commitment to respond to rulemaking and other regulatory initiatives of the SEC. The Board considered Federated Hermes' approach to risk management with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds and its day-to-day oversight of the Federated Hermes Funds' compliance with their investment objectives and policies as well as with applicable laws and regulations, noting that regulatory and other developments had over time led, and continue to lead, to an increase in the scope of Federated Hermes' oversight in this regard, including in connection with the implementation of new rules on derivatives risk management and fair valuation.

The Board also considered the implementation of Federated Hermes' business continuity plans. In addition, the Board noted Federated Hermes' commitment to maintaining high quality systems and expending substantial resources to prepare for and respond to ongoing changes due to the market, regulatory and control environments in which the Fund and its service providers operate.

The Board considered Federated Hermes' efforts to provide shareholders in the Federated Hermes Funds with a comprehensive array of funds with different investment objectives, policies and strategies. The Board considered the expenses that Federated Hermes had incurred, as well as the entrepreneurial and other risks assumed by Federated Hermes, in sponsoring and providing on-going services to new funds to expand these opportunities for shareholders. The Board noted the benefits to shareholders of being part of the family of Federated Hermes Funds, which include the general right to exchange investments between the same class of shares without the incurrence of additional sales charges.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that it was satisfied with the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Advisers to the Fund.

Fund Investment Performance

The Board considered the investment performance of the Fund. In evaluating the Fund's investment performance, the Board considered performance results in light of the Fund's investment objective, strategies and risks. The Board considered detailed investment reports on, and the Advisers' analysis of, the Fund's performance over different time periods that were provided to the Board throughout the year and in connection with the May Meetings. These reports included, among other items, information on the Fund's gross and net returns, the Fund's investment performance compared to

one or more relevant categories or groups of peer funds and the Fund's benchmark index, performance attribution information and commentary on the effect of market conditions. The Board considered that, in its evaluation of investment performance at meetings throughout the year, it focused particular attention on information indicating less favorable performance of certain Federated Hermes Funds for specific time periods and discussed with Federated Hermes the reasons for such performance as well as any specific actions Federated Hermes had taken, or had agreed to take, to seek to enhance Fund investment performance and the results of those actions.

The Board also reviewed comparative information regarding the performance of other registered funds in the category of peer funds selected by Morningstar, Inc. (the "Morningstar"), an independent fund ranking organization (the "Performance Peer Group"). The Board noted the CCO's view that comparisons to fund peer groups may be helpful, though not conclusive, in evaluating the performance of the Advisers in managing the Fund. The Board considered the CCO's view that, in evaluating such comparisons, in some cases there may be differences in the funds' objectives or investment management techniques, or the costs to implement the funds, even within the same Performance Peer Group.

The Board considered that the Fund's performance fell below the median of the Performance Peer Group for the one-year period ended December 31, 2022. The Board discussed the Fund's performance with the Advisers and recognized the efforts being taken by the Advisers in the context of other factors considered relevant by the Board.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that it had continued confidence in the Advisers' overall capabilities to manage the Fund.

Fund Expenses

The Board considered the advisory fee, sub-advisory fee, and overall expense structure of the Fund and the comparative fee and expense information that had been provided in connection with the May Meetings. In this regard, the Board was presented with, and considered, information regarding the contractual advisory fee rates, net advisory fee rates, total expense ratios and each element of the Fund's total expense ratio (i.e., gross and net advisory fees, administrative fees, custody fees, portfolio accounting fees and transfer agency fees) relative to an appropriate group of peer funds compiled by Federated Hermes from the category of peer funds selected by Morningstar (the "Expense Peer Group"). The Board received a description of the methodology used to select the Expense Peer Group from the overall Morningstar category. The Board also reviewed comparative information regarding the fees and expenses of the broader group of funds in the overall Morningstar category.

While mindful that courts have cautioned against giving too much weight to comparative information concerning fees charged to funds by other advisers, the use of comparisons between the Fund and its Expense Peer Group assisted the Board in its evaluation of the Fund's fees and expenses. The Board focused on comparisons with other registered funds with comparable investment programs more heavily than non-registered fund products or services because such comparisons are believed to be more relevant. The Board considered that other registered funds are the products most like the Fund, in that they are readily available to Fund shareholders as alternative investment vehicles, and they are the type of investment vehicle, in fact, chosen and maintained by the Fund's shareholders. The Board noted that the range of such other registered funds' fees and expenses, therefore, appears to be a relevant indicator of what investors have found to be reasonable in the marketplace in which the Fund competes.

The Board noted that, for the year ended December 31, 2022, the Fund's investment advisory fee was waived in its entirety. The Board reviewed the contractual advisory fee rate, net advisory fee rate and other expenses of the Fund with the Adviser and noted the position of the Fund's fee rates relative to its Expense Peer Group. In this regard, the Board noted that the contractual advisory fee rate was below the median of the Expense Peer Group, and the Board was satisfied that the overall expense structure of the Fund remained competitive.

The Board also received and considered information about the nature and extent of services offered and fees charged by Federated Hermes to other types of clients with investment strategies similar to those of the Federated Hermes Funds, including non-registered fund clients (such as institutional separate accounts) and third-party unaffiliated registered funds for which any of the Advisers or their affiliates serve as sub-adviser. The Board noted the CCO's conclusion that non-registered fund clients are inherently different products due to the following differences, among others: (i) different types of targeted investors; (ii) different applicable laws and regulations; (iii) different legal structures; (iv) different average account sizes and portfolio management techniques made necessary by different cash flows and different associated costs; (v) the time spent by portfolio managers and their teams (among other personnel across various departments, including legal, compliance and risk management) in reviewing securities pricing and fund liquidity; (vi) different administrative responsibilities; (vii) different degrees of risk associated with management; and (viii) a variety of different costs. The Board also considered information regarding the differences in the nature of the services required for Federated Hermes to manage its proprietary registered fund business versus managing a discrete pool of assets as a sub-adviser to another institution's registered fund, noting the CCO's view that Federated Hermes generally performs significant additional services and assumes substantially greater risks in managing the Fund and other Federated Hermes Funds than in its role as

sub-adviser to an unaffiliated third-party registered fund. The Board noted that the CCO did not consider the fees for providing advisory services to other types of clients to be determinative in judging the appropriateness of the Federated Hermes Funds' advisory fees.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that the fees and total operating expenses of the Fund, in conjunction with other matters considered, are reasonable in light of the services provided.

Profitability

The Board received and considered profitability information furnished by Federated Hermes. Such profitability information included revenues reported on a fund-by-fund basis and estimates of the allocation of expenses made on a fund-by-fund basis, using allocation methodologies specified by the CCO and described to the Board. The Board considered the CCO's view that, while these cost allocation reports apply consistent allocation processes, the inherent difficulties in allocating costs on a fund-by-fund basis continues to cause the CCO to question the precision of the process and to conclude that such reports may be unreliable because a single change in an allocation estimate may dramatically alter the resulting estimate of cost and/or profitability of a Federated Hermes Fund and may produce unintended consequences. In addition, the Board considered the CCO's view that the allocation methodologies used by Federated Hermes in estimating profitability for purposes of reporting to the Board in connection with the continuation of the Contracts are consistent with the methodologies previously reviewed by an independent consultant. The Board noted that the independent consultant had previously conducted a review of the allocation methodologies and reported to the Board that, although there is no single best method to allocate expenses, the methodologies used by Federated Hermes are reasonable. The Board considered the CCO's view that the estimated profitability to the Adviser from its relationship with the Fund was not unreasonable in relation to the services provided.

The Board also reviewed information compiled by Federated Hermes comparing its profitability information to other publicly held fund management companies, including information regarding profitability trends over time. The Board recognized that profitability comparisons among fund management companies are difficult because of the variation in the type of comparative information that is publicly available, and the profitability of any fund management company is affected by numerous factors. The Board considered the CCO's conclusion that, based on such profitability information, Federated Hermes' profit margins did not appear to be excessive. The Board also considered the CCO's view that Federated Hermes appeared financially sound, with the resources necessary to fulfill its obligations under its contracts with the Federated Hermes Funds.

Economies of Scale

The Board received and considered information about the notion of possible realization of “economies of scale” as a fund grows larger, the difficulties of determining economies of scale at an individual fund level, and the extent to which potential scale benefits are shared with shareholders. In this regard, the Board considered that Federated Hermes has made significant and long-term investments in areas that support all of the Federated Hermes Funds, such as: portfolio management, investment research and trading operations; shareholder services; compliance; business continuity, cybersecurity and information security programs; internal audit and risk management functions; and technology and use of data. The Board noted that Federated Hermes’ investments in these areas are extensive and are designed to provide enhanced services to the Federated Hermes Funds and their shareholders. The Board considered that the benefits of these investments are likely to be shared with the family of Federated Hermes Funds as a whole. In addition, the Board considered that fee waivers and expense reimbursements are another means for potential economies of scale to be shared with shareholders and can provide protection from an increase in expenses if a Federated Hermes Fund’s assets decline. The Board considered that, in order for the Federated Hermes Funds to remain competitive in the marketplace, Federated Hermes has frequently waived fees and/or reimbursed expenses for the Federated Hermes Funds and has disclosed to shareholders and/or reported to the Board its intention to do so (or continue to do so) in the future. The Board also considered that Federated Hermes has been active in managing expenses of the Federated Hermes Funds in recent years, which has resulted in benefits being realized by shareholders.

The Board also received and considered information on adviser-paid fees (commonly referred to as “revenue sharing” payments) that was provided to the Board throughout the year and in connection with the May Meetings. The Board considered that Federated Hermes and the CCO believe that this information is relevant to considering whether Federated Hermes had an incentive to either not apply breakpoints, or to apply breakpoints at higher levels, but should not be considered when evaluating the reasonableness of advisory fees. The Board also noted the absence of any applicable regulatory or industry guidelines on economies of scale, which is compounded by the lack of any uniform methodology or pattern with respect to structuring fund advisory fees with breakpoints that serve to reduce the fees as a fund attains a certain size.

Other Benefits

The Board considered information regarding the compensation and other ancillary (or “fall-out”) benefits that Federated Hermes derived from its relationships with the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board noted that, in addition to receiving advisory fees under the Federated Hermes Funds’ investment advisory contracts, Federated Hermes’ affiliates also receive fees for providing other services to the Federated Hermes Funds under separate

service contracts including for serving as the Federated Hermes Funds' administrator and distributor. In this regard, the Board considered that certain of Federated Hermes' affiliates provide distribution and shareholder services to the Federated Hermes Funds, for which they may be compensated through distribution and servicing fees paid pursuant to Rule 12b-1 plans or otherwise. The Board also received and considered information detailing the benefits, if any, that Federated Hermes may derive from its receipt of research services from brokers who execute portfolio trades for the Federated Hermes Funds.

Conclusions

The Board considered: (i) the CCO's conclusion that his observations and the information accompanying the CCO Fee Evaluation Report show that the management fee for the Fund is reasonable; and (ii) the CCO's recommendation that the Board approve the management fee. The Board noted that, under these circumstances, no changes were recommended to, and no objection was raised to the continuation of, the Contracts by the CCO. The CCO also recognized that the Board's evaluation of the Federated Hermes Funds' advisory and sub-advisory arrangements is a continuing and ongoing process that is informed by the information that the Board requests and receives from management throughout the course of the year and, in this regard, the CCO noted certain items for future reporting to the Board or further consideration by management as the Board continues its ongoing oversight of the Federated Hermes Funds.

On the basis of the information and factors summarized above, among other information and factors deemed relevant by the Board, and the evaluation thereof, the Board, including the Independent Trustees, unanimously voted to approve the continuation of the Contracts. The Board based its determination to approve the Contracts on the totality of the circumstances and relevant factors and with a view of past and future long-term considerations. Not all of the factors and considerations identified above were necessarily deemed to be relevant to the Fund, nor did the Board consider any one of them to be determinative.

Liquidity Risk Management Program – Annual Evaluation of Adequacy and Effectiveness

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Liquidity Rule”), Federated Hermes Adviser Series (the “Trust”) has adopted and implemented a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”) for Federated Hermes U.S. SMID Fund (the “Fund” and, collectively with the other non-money market open-end funds advised by Federated Hermes, the “Federated Hermes Funds”). The Program seeks to assess and manage the Fund’s liquidity risk. “Liquidity risk” is defined under the Liquidity Rule as the risk that the Fund is unable to meet redemption requests without significantly diluting remaining investors’ interests in the Fund. The Board of Trustees of the Trust (the “Board”) has approved the designation of each Federated Hermes Fund’s investment adviser as the administrator for the Program (the “Administrator”) with respect to that Fund. The Administrator, in turn, has delegated day-to-day responsibility for the administration of the Program to multiple Liquidity Risk Management Committees, which are comprised of representatives from certain divisions within Federated Hermes.

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

At its meetings in May 2023, the Board received and reviewed a written report (the “Report”) from the Federated Hermes Funds’ Chief Compliance Officer and Chief Risk Officer, on behalf of the Administrator, concerning the operation of the Program for the period from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023 (the “Period”). The Report addressed the operation of the Program and assessed the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation, including, where applicable, the operation of any HLIM established for a Federated Hermes Fund. There were no material changes to the Program during the Period. The Report summarized the operation of the Program and

the information and factors considered by the Administrator in assessing whether the Program has been adequately and effectively implemented with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds. Such information and factors included, among other things:

- confirmation that it was not necessary for the Fund to utilize, and the Fund did not utilize, any alternative funding sources that were available to the Federated Hermes Funds during the Period, such as the Federated Hermes Funds' interfund lending facility, redemptions in-kind, reverse repurchase agreement transactions, redemptions delayed beyond the normal T+1 settlement but within seven days of the redemption request, and committed lines of credit;
- the periodic classifications of the Fund's investments into one of four liquidity categories and the methodologies and inputs used to classify the investments, including the Fund's reasonably anticipated trade size;
- the analysis received from a third-party liquidity assessment vendor that is taken into account in the process of determining the liquidity classifications of the Fund's investments, and the results of the Administrator's evaluation of the services performed by the vendor in support of this process, including the Administrator's view that the methodologies utilized by the vendor continue to be appropriate;
- the fact that the Fund invested primarily in highly liquid investments during the Period and, therefore, was not required to establish, and has not established, an HLIM and the operation of the procedures for monitoring the status of the Fund as investing primarily in highly liquid investments;
- the fact that the Fund invested no more than 15% of its assets in illiquid investments during the Period, and the operation of the procedures for monitoring this limit;
- the fact that there were no liquidity events during the Period that materially affected the Fund's liquidity risk;
- the impact on liquidity and management of liquidity risk, if any, caused by extended non-U.S. market closures and confirmation that there were no issues for any of the affected Federated Hermes Funds in meeting shareholder redemptions at any time during these temporary non-U.S. market closures.

Based on this review, the Administrator concluded that the Program is operating effectively to assess and manage the Fund's liquidity risk, and that the Program has been and continues to be adequately and effectively implemented to monitor and, as applicable, respond to the Fund's liquidity developments.

Voting Proxies on Fund Portfolio Securities

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies, if any, relating to securities held in the Fund's portfolio is available, without charge and upon request, by calling 1-800-341-7400, Option #4. A report on "Form N-PX" of how the Fund voted any such proxies during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available via the Proxy Voting Record (Form N-PX) link associated with the Fund and share class name at [FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation](https://www.FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation). Form N-PX filings are also available at the SEC's website at [sec.gov](https://www.sec.gov).

Quarterly Portfolio Schedule

Each fiscal quarter, the Fund will file with the SEC a complete schedule of its monthly portfolio holdings on "Form N-PORT." The Fund's holdings as of the end of the third month of every fiscal quarter, as reported on Form N-PORT, will be publicly available on the SEC's website at [sec.gov](https://www.sec.gov) within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarter upon filing. You may also access this information via the link to the Fund and share class name at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.FederatedHermes.com/us).

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Mutual funds are not bank deposits or obligations, are not guaranteed by any bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the U.S. government, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency. Investment in mutual funds involves investment risk, including the possible loss of principal.

This Report is authorized for distribution to prospective investors only when preceded or accompanied by the Fund's Prospectus, which contains facts concerning its objective and policies, management fees, expenses and other information.

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If you purchased shares through a financial intermediary (bank or broker-dealer), please contact your representative to set up e-delivery. Otherwise, contact the Fund at 1-800-341-7400, Option #4.



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